

Bulletin 1 Editors: Mark Horton & Ron Tacchi Saturday 12th April

Let The Games Begin



President Mr Bahjat Al Makali presiding over the Opening Ceremony

More Photographs from the Opening Ceremony













Jan Kamras

In Memoriam

The Bridge World Mourns the Passing of President Jan Kamras

The bridge community mourns the loss of its esteemed President, Jan Kamras, who passed away peacefully on March 17, 2025, after a period of illness.

Jan's unwavering dedication to the game and his tireless efforts in shaping its future defined his remarkable tenure. Even in the face of health challenges, he remained deeply committed to his role, leading with passion and resilience. His visionary leadership led to the creation



of the WBF World Tour, a prestigious ranking system recognizing excellence in bridge championships, select festivals, and tournaments. This initiative, with its trophy bearing his name, stands as a lasting tribute to his legacy.

Born in Gothenburg, Sweden, Jan was a prominent figure in the bridge world for decades. He served as Vice President of the Swedish Bridge Federation (2005 – 2016) and played a key role in shaping Sweden's national teams, captaining the Swedish National Open Team (2001 – 2010). As a player, he won the Swedish Team Championship in 2010 and was a runner-up in 2011 and 2012. His international achievements included victory in the prestigious Cavendish Teams in 2013.

Beyond Sweden, Jan's leadership extended to the European Bridge League (EBL), where he was elected to the Executive Committee in 2010 and later became President in 2018. His contributions across multiple committees were instrumental in advancing bridge governance and development in Europe and beyond.

His influence reached its pinnacle in 2022 when the WBF Executive Council unanimously elected him as President. Taking office on January 1, 2023, he continued his life's work—enhancing and promoting the game he loved.

The Bridge Federation of Asia and the Middle East extends its deepest condolences to Jan's family, friends, and the entire bridge community. His profound impact on the game will be remembered and cherished forever.

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A Message from Ben Thompson, WBF 1st Vice President

Dear friends and fellow bridge lovers

It gives me great pleasure to send you warm greetings and best wishes for the 2025 BFAME Zonal championship, the second time this important tournament has been held in Dubai. Coming from Melbourne, Australia - a city with great cultural diversity, with people from all over the BFAME zone - I greatly appreciate your rich cultural heritage, and regret that I was unable to join you this year.

There is enormous potential for growth in bridge in BFAME, from grassroots level all the way to the elite level of this zonal championship. You will soon crown some new champions, and I look forward to meeting these friends - both old and new - at the world championship in Herning later this year.



Kind Regards

Ben Thompson WBF 1st Vice President

The BFAME Council and the General Assembly

The first meeting of the BFAME Council and the General Assembly of NBO Representatives was held on March $10^{\rm th}$ at the Media Rotana Hotel, Dubai.

The meeting commenced with a warm welcome extended to all participants.

The Assembly was informed about the inclusion of Lebanon in Zone Four, a decision that had been previously approved in principle by the Council members. Final approval of WBF is awaited on the matter.

The President, Mr. Bahjat Al Majali addressed the assembly and presented his report. Sheikh Ahmed AL Midfa Chairman UAE Bridge Committee briefed the audience on all administrative arrangements at the venue.

The BFAME Secretary briefed the gathering on the organizational arrangements and the facilities available at the venue.

The treasurer's report will be presented during the next meeting, scheduled for 2000 hours on May 13th.





















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Schedule for Saturday 12 April

Note all times are UAE (GMT+4)

Open Championship

R.R (01)		Match (04), 10H00		Match (05	5), 14H00	Match ()6),	16H50
Date	Table No.	Home Team	Х	Visiting Team		Home Team	х	Visiting Team	Home Team	Х		Visiting Team
SAT	1	⁷ Sri Lanka	х	5 Jordan		² UAE	x	6 Kuwait	4 Bangladesh	х	8	Syria
	2	8 Syria	х	6 Kuwait	ſ	⁷ Sri Lanka	x	3 Pakistan	5 Jordan	х	1	India
12	3	4 Bangladesh	х	² UAE	ſ	¹ India	x	8 Syria	² UAE	х	7	Sri Lanka
12	4	3 Pakistan	х	1 India		⁵ Jordan	x	4 Bangladesh	6 Kuwait	х	3	Pakistan

Women Championship

R.R (01))	M	atch (0)4), 10H00	Match ()5), 14H00	RR(02) Mat	ch	(01), 16H50
Date	Table No.		me a m	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
SAT	5	1 Jo	rdan	х	5 Palestine	4 Pakitsan	х	² India	6 Sri Lanka	х	¹ Jordan
12	6	3 L	JAE	х	4 Pakitsan	5 Palestine	х	6 Sri Lanka	4 Pakitsan	х	5 Palestine
12	7	² Ir	ndia	x	6 Sri Lanka	3 UAE	х	¹ Jordan	² India	х	3 UAE

Senior Championship

R.R (01)			Match (0)4), 10H00	Match (05), 14H00	RR(02) Matc	h	(01), 16H50
Date	Table No.		Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
SAT	11	1	Pakistan	X	5 UAE	4 Bangladesh	X	² India	⁶ Saudi Arabia	x	1 Pakistan
12	12	3	Jordan	х	4 Bangladesh	5 UAE	х	6 Saudi Arabia	4 Bangladesh	x	5 UAE
12	13	2	India	х	6 Saudi Arabia	3 Jordan	х	¹ Pakistan	² India	х	3 Jordan

Mixed Championship

R.R (01)			Match ()4), 10Н00	Match (05), 14H00		RR(02) Match (01), 16H50			
Date	Table No.		Home Team	Χ	Visiting Team	Home Team	Х	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
SAT	8	1	UAE	х	5 Saudi Arabia	4 Jordan	х	² Pakistan	6	х	1 UAE
12	9	3	India	х	4 Jordan	5 Saudi Arabia	х	6	4 Jordan	х	5 Saudi Arabia
12	10	2	Pakistan	X	6	3 India	х	1 UAE	² Pakistan	x	3 India

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Friendship Pairs

1	67.5	Imran Ali - Shauq
2	60.9	Abdelrahim Mehilba - Mohamed Salah
3	60.8	Ravi Goenka - Subhash Gupta
4	57.9	Nuha Btikhi - Ahmad Mansour
5	57.9	Tamer Ali - Emad El Shourbagy
6	57	Sarfraz Khan - Gulzar Bilal
7	55.7	Ramesh Dalamal - Yamini Merchant
8	54.8	AMR Mekky - Tamer Abbas
9	54.3	Suman Dhanoa - Rania
10	53.8	Mohsin Mushtaq Chandna - Arslan Mansoor
11	52.8	Assem Hussami - Azzam Hallak
12	52.3	Masood Mazar - Kamran Ibrahim
13	51.1	Bader Alrefae - Ahmed Alruwayeh
14	50.2	Arun Chopra - Ravi Bhat
15	50.2	Wael Dogmoch - Suher Tabbakh
16	49.8	Khaled Mohiuddin - Shahnaz Peerzada
17	49.7	Maheesha Tambiani - Janani Wijeyeratne
18	49.1	Lina Masri - Huda Rabaia
19	48.8	Hussain Adam Ali - Ahmed Al Midfa
20	47.5	Ghalib Bandesha - Nauman Khalid Butt
21	46.7	Nermeen Noorani - Hazem Ghoneim
22	45.9	Mirelle Azzouz - Prasanita Thapar
23	42.8	Deepak Kacher - Layla Hala
24	40.2	Marwan - Fairouz
25	39.4	Assem Aziz - Islam Fayez
26	38.9	Asma - Nesreen
27	34.5	Rita Nassif - Nayla Jreige
28	29.4	Areej Dwaik - Laila

 64.1 Md Rahman CH - AHM Kumruzzaman 63.4 Rashidul GHazi - Sazid Ispahani 57.7 Shahnaz Bomboat - Rubina Hai 57.2 Azza Sawaf - Sameer Sawaf 57.2 Abdul Hakeem Sahab - Mohanned Badawoud 55.8 H H J Keerthisena - Dilanjan Soysa 55.3 Shah Zia - ul Haque - Md Zahid Hossain 54.6 Girish Bijoor - Yousuf Jan Mohammad 53.1 Elvan Edis - Timur Edis 52.8 Syed Abdul Hameed - Arif Janjua 51.4 Dewan Md Hanzala - Syed Ahmed 50.2 Abdalla - Mamoan 49.9 Sandeep Lele - Shams Kidwai 49.1 Salem Al Sabali - Omar Swayegh 47 Darshan Valrani - Vandana Valrani 46.9 Debasish Ray - Srinivasan 46.3 Rihana Saigol - Samina Raza 45.8 Fatima Raza - Rubina Agha 44.4 Najm Abid - Yasser Rahim 43.5 Numan Al Turki - Mohammad Husain 43.5 Numan Al Turki - Mohammad Husain 42.8 Samer Kousa - Roula Abbad 41.5 Monica Sachdev - Sapna Mehta 37.7 Ayijaz Azizi - Ashok Kapoor 37.1 Maha Hinedi - Gloria Lorenzo 			
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26 37.7 Ayijaz Azizi - Ashok Kapoor	24	42.8	Samer Kousa - Roula Abbad
	25	41.5	Monica Sachdev - Sapna Mehta
27 37.1 Maha Hinedi - Gloria Lorenzo	26	37.7	Ayijaz Azizi - Ashok Kapoor
	27	37.1	Maha Hinedi - Gloria Lorenzo

BBO Assignments

The BBO matches for Saturday 12 April are as follows:

Match 01 - 10.00 Open: Pakistan vs. India & Mixed: India vs. Jordan

Match 02 - 14.00 Open: Sri Lanka vs. Pakistan & Seniors: Bangladesh vs. India

Match 03 - 16.50 Open: Kuwait vs. Pakistan & Women: India vs. UAE

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Standings



At any time you can get uptodate information and results for the championships online at: www.bridgewebs.com/bfame. You can also use the QR code as shown to go direct to the site.

Also please be aware that results published in the bulletin are provisional and subject to change as a result of rulings or other matters coming to light.

The match results can be found on the last page of this bulletin.

Open Team	VPs	Position
Bangladesh	47.22	1
India	40.49	2
Pakistan	35.43	4
UAE	29.06	4
Jordan	28.7	5
Syria	23.81	6
Sri Lanka	18.51	7
Kuwait	13.78	8

Senior Team	VPs	Position
Pakistan	39.4	1
India	38.6	2
Bangladesh	27.67	3
Saudi Arabia	26.65	4
Jordan	22.73	4
UAE	21.95	6

Women Team	VPs	Position
Pakistan	43.68	1
India	41.43	2
UAE	40.05	4
Jordan	28.85	4
Sri Lanka	16.34	5
Palestine	9.65	6

Mixed Team	VPs	Position
India	47.31	1
UAE	42.07	2
Jordan	33.18	4
Pakistan	18.04	4
Saudi Arabia	15.4	5

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Morning Departure

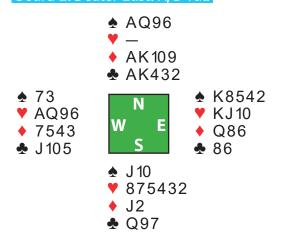
Mark Horton

ver the last 10 years or so it has become increasingly common for much of the work associated with the preparation of Daily Bulletins to be completed at home. That system is in operation for this event, as prior commitments meant that neither Ron Tacchi or I could be in Dubai. That means that it is possible that a newsworthy deal might fly under the radar! If you are involved in something significant, be it a brilliancy, a blunder, a sporting gesture, a comedy of errors or whatever, then email the details to us: markhorton007@hotmail.com and monton05mail.com and monton55mailto:monton55mail.com and monton55mailto:monton55mailt

I suggest you always mail to both of us, as we will not always be reporting on the same days.

By now I expect you are anxious to discover what happened in the opening round which featured Jordan v UAE in the Open and India and Pakistan's Mixed teams.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



Jordan v UAE

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Ghanem	Ali	Maamarbachi	El Shourbagy
-	-	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♠	Pass
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

When East led the ♠4 declarer could win with dummy's ♠J and test the clubs, claiming when the suit broke, +600.

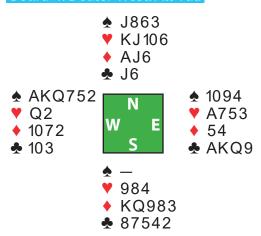
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mekky	Malkawi	Atef	Abu-Jaber
-	_	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♠	Pass
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

Here East led a dramatic ◆Q and declarer won with the ◆A and cashed winners for +180, a loss of 9 IMPs.

Ron observed that on a good day N/S might find a route to $6\clubsuit$. As the cards lie declarer might well emerge with 12 tricks.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.



India v Pakistan

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Pirzada	R Khandelwa	lMohiuddinH	Khandelwa
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	4	All Pass

North led the ♣J and declarer won with dummy's ♣A and played a spade to the ace, South discarding the ◆3. When declarer's next move was to play dummy's top clubs North ruffed and played two rounds of diamonds, South winning and returning the ♣8, which promoted the ♠J into the setting trick, -100.

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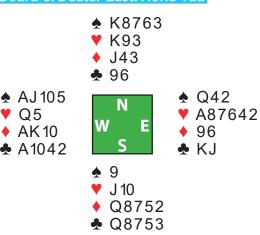


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Naidoo	Rahim	Sinha	Abid
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Here too North led the ♣J and declarer won and played a spade, South discarding the ♣4. Before going back to clubs, declarer carefully cashed two more spades. North could ruff or not but there was no way the defenders could score more than three tricks, +620 and 12 IMPs to India.

Board 8. Dealer East. None Vul.



Jordan v UAE

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Ghanem	Ali	Maamarback	niEl Shourbagy
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	All Pass

South led the ♠9 and declarer took dummy's ♠A, played a club to the king and the ♥2 for the ♥J, ♥Q and ♥K, North continuing with the ♠K followed by the ♠6. South ruffed and switched to a diamond and when declarer did not divine the position of the outstanding hearts he was one down, -50.

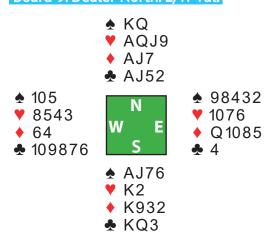
Having produced the ♥10 and ♥J, the principle of restricted choice made it unlikely that South had started with the ♥J109.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mekky	Malkawi	Atef	Abu-Jaber
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

North led the ◆4 for the queen and ace and declarer played a club to the king and ran the ♠Q, North winning and switching to the ♥3. Declarer put up dummy's ♥A and ran the ♣J. When it held he was assured of at least nine tricks, +400 and 10 IMPs for UAE.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.



Jordan v UAE

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Ghanem	Ali	Maamarbaci	hiEl Shourbagy
_	2NT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3◆*	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	6NT
All Pass			
3♣	Asking		
3♦	No five-car	d major	

East led the ♠9, +1020.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mekky	Malkawi	Atef	Abu-Jaber
-	2◆*	Pass	2NT*
Pass	6NT	Pass	7NT
Pass	Pass	Double	All Pass
2 🄷	Weak in a ma	jor or 22-23	balanced

West led the ♦6, but declarer claimed, +1790 and 13 IMPs for Jordan, who opened their account but trailed 13-35.

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India v Pakistan

Open Room

'			
West	North	East	South
Pirzada	R Khandelwali	Mohiuddinl	H Khandelwal
_	1♣*	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♣	Pass	4 •
Pass	6NT	All Pass	
1♣	16+, artificial		
2NT	14+		

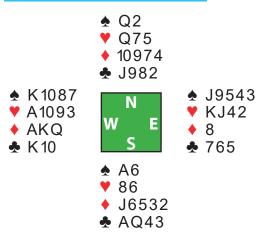
West led the ♠10, +1020.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Naidoo	Rahim	Sinha	Abid
-	2♣*	Pass	2◆*
Pass	2NT	Pass	7NT
All Pass			
2♣	Strong		
2♦	Waiting		

East led the ♠9 and +1520 meant 11 IMPs for Pakistan.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.



Jordan v UAE

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Ghanem	Ali	Maamarbach	niEl Shourbagy
-	-	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

When West led the ♥3 for the queen and king it looked like declarer would be restricted to just two tricks, but the defenders went astray, and only collected -300.

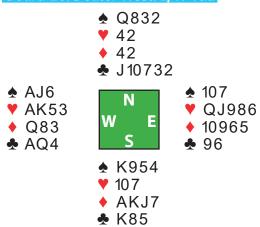
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mekky	Malkawi	Atef	Abu-Jaber
-	_	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

When East wisely responded West had an easy raise to game.

South led the ♥8 and when dummy's ♥9 held declarer played three rounds of diamonds pitching a club followed by the ♠K. With the ♠A onside that was good enough for ten tricks, +620 and 8 IMPs.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.



India v Pakistan

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Pirzada	R Khandelwal	Mohiuddin	H Khandelwal
2NT	Pass	3◆*	Double
4♥	All Pass		

North led the ◆4 and three rounds of the suit resulted in a ruff, a spade eventually becoming the setting trick, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Naidoo	Rahim	Sinha	Abid
2 ◆*	Pass	2♠*	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3◆*	Pass
4♥	All Pass		
2♦	Multi, Wk Major or strong balanced		

With no lead directing double to assist, North led the ♣J and declarer won with the ♣Q and cashed the ♥AK. After eliminating the clubs, declarer played two rounds of spades and South won and cashed the dxAK, +620 and 12 IMPs, a great start for India.

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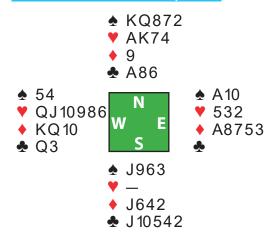
Race Against Time

Mark Horton

Thile the players were taking a well-earned break in the run up to the second round of the day, I was rushing to type up a fascinating deal from the qualifying rounds of the Italian Open Teams Championships (if Ron thinks it's a good idea we'll publish it). I finished just in time to take log on as the Open teams from Bangladesh and India and the Seniors from Bangladesh and Pakistan took their seats.

Although the opening deal was not exciting, it contained a diamond suit of ◆AJ542 opposite ◆K963. It did not matter here, but it is easy enough to block the suit if you don't pay attention to the spot cards.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



Bangladesh v India

Open Room

-			
West	North	East	South
Nandi	Haque	Roy	Hossain
_	-	1♦	Pass
1♥	1♠	Double*	3♠
4♥	4♠	5♥	Double
All Pass			
Dble	Support doul	ble	

The BBO operator recorded South as being the one to play in 5♥ doubled (that would have been approximately seven down!) which meant the play record is corrupt. Declarer finished with nine tricks, -500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kamruzzamo	Bendre	Rahman	Kushari
_	-	1♦	Pass
1♥	1♠	Double*	2♠
4♥	Double	All Pass	
Dble	Support doul	ble	

North led the ♠K and declarer won and played a heart, North winning with the ♥K as South pitched the ♣5. North switched to the ♠9 and declarer won with the ♦10 and played the ♥9, North winning and returning the ♠8 which saw South win and return the ♦6, the ruff ensuring two down, -300 but 5 IMPs for Bangladesh.

Bangladesh v Pakistan

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mazhar	J Haque	Ibrahim	K Haque
-	_	1♦*	Pass
1♥	Double	Redouble*	1♠
4 ♥	4♠	All Pass	
1♦	Can be short		
Rdbl	Support redou	ble	

West led the ◆K and when East followed with the ◆3 he switched to the ♣Q, setting up a killing ruff in the suit which ensured the demise of 4♠, -100 when East shot up with the ♠A on the first round of the suit and played two rounds of clubs.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hussein	Butt	A Haque	Bandesha
-	-	Pass	Pass
1♥	1♠	Double*	2♠
3♥	3♠	4♥	4♠
Pass	Pass	Double	All Pass

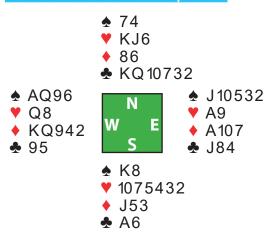
East led the ♥2 and declarer ruffed in dummy and played a spade for the queen and ace, East exiting with the ♠10. Declarer won in dummy and played the ♣J for the queen and ace and a second club, East taking the ♠K, +790 and 13 IMPs.

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Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



Bangladesh v Pakistan

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mazhar	J Haque	Ibrahim	K Haque
-	_	-	Pass
1 ◆*	2♣	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		
1♦	Can be short		

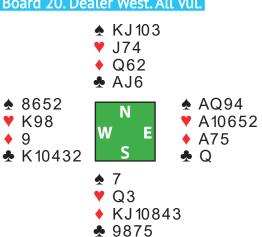
South led the ♣A and switched to the ♥2 for the queen, king and ace. When declarer continued with the ♠5 to the ♠A there were four losers, and when he tried three rounds of diamonds North's ruff took the number up to five, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hussein	Butt	A Haque	Bandesha
_	_	-	2♥
Double	4♥	4♠	All Pass

South led the ♥4 for the gueen, king and ace and declarer ran the ♠10, finishing with 11 tricks, +650 and 13 IMPs.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.



Bangladesh v India

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nandi	Haque	Roy	Hossain
Pass	1♣	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

South led the ♠7 for the king and ace and when declarer continued with the ♣Q North won and returned the ♠3, South ruffing declarer's ♠4 and switching to the \dot4 for the queen and ace. Declarer ruffed a diamond in dummy, pitched a spade on the K, ruffed a club, ruffed a diamond and then cashed the ♥K for ten tricks, +170.

On this layout he could have continued with the ♣10 securing a second overtrick.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kamruzzama	Bendre	Rahman	Kushari
Pass	1♣	1♥	2♣
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

South led the ♣9 and North won and switched to the ♠3, declarer winning with the ♠0, cashing the A, ruffing a diamond, taking the K, pitching a spade on the ♣K, ruffing a club, ruffing a diamond and pitching a spade on the ♣10 as North ruffed with the ♥J. South could score a ruff with the ♥O but declarer had the rest, +620 and 10 IMPs.

Bangladesh v Pakistan

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mazhar	J Haque	Ibrahim	K Haque
Pass	1♣	Double	1♦
1♠	Pass	3♠	All Pass

North led the ♦2 and declarer won with dummy's ♦A, ruffed a diamond and played a spade to the gueen. When that held he ruffed another diamond and played a spade for the jack and ace, South discarding the ♦3. The next trick was taken by North's ♣A and he cashed the ♠K10 and exited with the ♥4, allowing declarer to take South's ♥O with dummy's ♥K and then run the ♥8 for an overtrick, +170.

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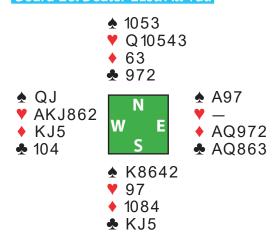
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hussein	Butt	A Haque	Bandesha
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

North led the ◆2 and having taken dummy's ◆A declarer ruffed a diamond and played a club, North going up with the ♣A and exiting with the ♣3. When dummy's ♠Q held declarer played a heart to the king, pitched a diamond on the ♣K and then played a spade to the ace. When South discarded the game was up and the contract finished three down, -300 for a 10 IMP loss.

One way to make $4 \triangleq$ is to follow with dummy's \triangleq 4 when North switched to the \triangleq 3 (it turns out that leads to an overtrick).

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.



Bangladesh v India

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nandi	Haque	Roy	Hossain
_	_	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Double
4Y	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♦	All Pass		
2♠	Fourth suit for	rcing	

I was expecting West to pass South's double, allowing partner to redouble with a firs round control in spades.

South led the $\triangle 2$ and declarer took 12 tricks, finessing in clubs and subsequently ruffing the third round in dummy, +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kamruzzama	Bendre	Rahman	Kushari
_	-	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♠4 and declarer took 10 tricks, no swing.

Bangladesh v Pakistan

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mazhar	J Haque	Ibrahim	K Haque
-	-	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠*	Pass	3NT	Pass
4	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♦	All Pass		
1♦	Could be short		

East's decision to rebid 3♣ alerted West to the possibility of a slam.

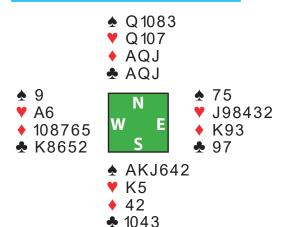
South led the ◆4 and declarer won with the ◆7 and played two rounds of clubs, South winning and switching to the ♠8. When dummy's ♠J held declarer cashed the ♥AK pitching clubs, played a spade to the ace, ruffed a spade and ruffed a heart. When South could overruff that was one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hussein	Butt	A Haque	Bandesha
-	-	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the $\triangle 4$ and that was +630 and a somewhat fortunate 12 IMP gain.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.



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Bangladesh v Pakistan

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mazhar	J Haque	Ibrahim	K Haque
-	_	-	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♠
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♥*
Pass	6♠	All Pass	
2♣	Game forcing		
4NT	RKCB		
5 ♥	2 keycards		

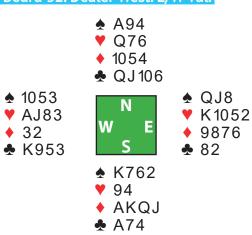
West led the ♥A and switched to the ♦5. When declarer finessed he was one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hussein	Butt	A Haque	Bandesha
_	_	_	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Here too West led the potentially catastrophic ♥A and he continued with the ♥6, declarer winning, cashing the top spades and then playing a club to the jack for +980 and 14 IMPs.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.



Bangladesh v India

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nandi	Haque	Roy	Hossain
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led the ♥3 and when declarer tried dummy's ♥Q the defenders cashed four tricks in the suit ensuring one down, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kamruzzama	Bendre	Rahman	Kushari
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led the ♥5 and declarer won with dummy's ♠A, East following with the ♠Q. Declarer ran the ♣Q and followed wit with the ♣J, West winning and and exiting with the ♠10. Declarer won, exited with a spade and waited for East's return. It was the ♦6, +400 and 10 IMPs for India leaving them winners by a single IMP.

Bangladesh v Pakistan

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mazhar	J Haque	Ibrahim	K Haque
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
2♣	Stayman		

West led the ♣3 and declarer won with the ♣A and continued clubs, West winning the third round as East pitched the ♦6. West found the killing switch to the ♥3 but when declarer called for dummy's ♥6 East put up the king and declarer finished with 10 tricks, +430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hussein	Butt	A Haque	Bandesha
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led the ♠5 for the jack and king and declarer played a club to the queen, a club to the ace and a club, West winning as East pitched the ♥2. If that was encouraging the message did not reach West, his ♠10 allowing declarer to cash out for +400 to lose an IMP.

It was a convincing win for Pakistan.

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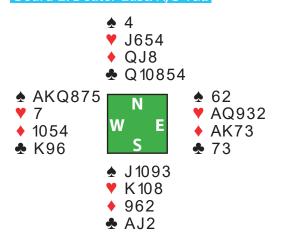


The Lunch Interval

Mark Horton

Ith play due to resume at 13.50 GMT lunch was an abbreviated affair, finishing just in time for the resumption of play. On the opening deal N/S held ♠97 ♥AQJ95 ♦10964 ♣32 facing ♠AKQ6 ♥K43 ♦K82 ♣QJ9. In our featured matches it proved impossible to reach 3NT, which could not be defeated on the layout, the theoretically unmakeable 4♥ being the popular spot.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



UAE v Syria

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hussami	El Shourbagy	Hallaq	Ali
-	-	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣*	Double	Pass	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Double
All Pass			

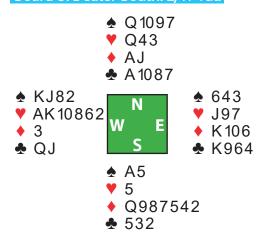
North led the ♥4 and declarer went up with dummy's ♥A and played a club, South taking the ♣A and returning the ♠3. Declarer won, cashed the ♣K, ruffed a club, ruffed a heart, cashed the ♠K, crossed to dummy with a diamond, ruffed a heart, cashed the ♠Q, went to dummy with a diamond and played a heart, scoring the ♠8 en passant for a well played +690.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mekky	Mansour	Atef	Tabakh
_	_	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

North led the ♣4 and South took the ♣A and returned the ♣J, declarer winning, ruffing a club and cashing the top spades before playing a heart to the queen, +420 but a 7 IMP loss.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



UAE v Syria

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hussami	El Shourbagy	Hallaq	Ali
_	_	-	3♦
3 🗸	3NT	4♥	Pass
Pass	5♦	Double	All Pass

West led the ♥A and switched to the ♣Q, declarer ducking, winning the next club with dummy's ♣A and playing two rounds of spades, West taking the ♠K and exiting with a diamond. Having won with dummy's ♠A and declarer apparently played a club which would lead to three down. However, the score is recorded as -300 so I suspect declarer cashed the ♠Q pitching a club. Whatever, it was a 13 IMP loss taking the score to 25-0 in favour of Syria.

With hindsight (such a wonderful thing) North would have been better defending 4♥ (and it

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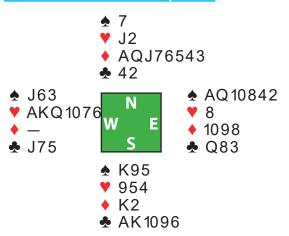


would not be unreasonable to double).

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mekky	Mansour	Atef	Tabakh
-	-	-	3♦
Double	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



UAE v Syria

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hussami	El Shourbagy	Hallaq	Ali
_	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Dace			

West led the ♥A and the defenders collected the first eight tricks, -400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mekky	Mansour	Atef	Tabakh
-	3♦	3♠	Pass
4 ◆*	Double	4♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5 ♦ *	Double
5♠	All Pass		
4	Control		
4NT	RKCB		
5♦	1 keycard		

When East decided to overcall with modest values West was awkwardly placed.

North led the ◆A and declarer ruffed, drew trumps and tried a spade to the queen, South winning and cashing two clubs, -50 and 10 IMPs for **Syria** storming ahead 43-0.

Palestine v UAE

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hindi	Hashem	El Ebiary	Al Bitar
_	3♦	Pass	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

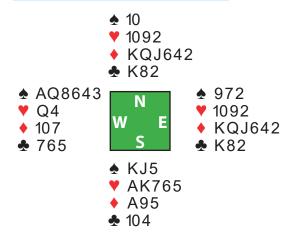
North led the ♠7 and declarer went up with dummy's ♠A, drew trumps and played the ♠J. When she failed to overtake it with dummy's ♠Q (the idea being to continue with a low club) South ducked, won the next spade and switched to the ♠2. Declarer ruffed, and played the ♣J. Apparently that was allowed to hold, +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Abugharbieh	Law	Haddadin	Aggarwal
_	4♦	Pass	5♦
5 ♥ A	ll Pass		

North led the ◆A and declarer ruffed, drew trumps and tried a spade to the queen, South winning and cashing two clubs, -50 and 10 IMPs for UAE.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.



UAE v Syria

Open Room

Орс	II KOOIII		
West	North	East	South
Hussami	El Shourbagy	Hallaq	Ali
2◆*	Pass	2♥*	Double
2♠	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
2 ♦	Multi		
2♥	Pass or correct		

When West led the ♠6 declarer was home, +400.

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Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mekky	Mansour	Atef	Tabakh
2◆*	Double	2♥*	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	
2♦	Multi		
2 ♥	Pass or correc	ct	

West led the ◆10 and declarer won with the ◆A, cashed the ♥AK and then went back to diamonds. East ruffed the third round and switched to the ◆9, West winning and returning the ◆5, one down, -50 and 10 badly need IMPs for UAE.

Palestine v UAE

2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hindi	Hashem	El Ebiary	Al Bitar
2◆*	3♦	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

West led the ♣6 and East won with the ♣J and cashed the ♣A. When West followed with the ♣7 she switched to the ♠7, one down, -50 and 10 IMPs for UAE.

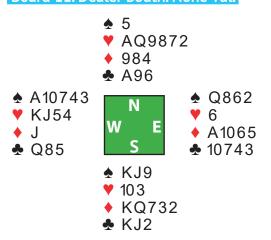
Weak major or strong unbalanced

Closed Room

	West	North	East	South
A	bugharbieh	Law	Haddadin	Aggarwal
	2◆*	Pass	2♥*	Pass
	2♠	3♦	Pass	3 🗸
	Pass	4	Pass	5♦
	All Pass			
	2 ♦ V	Veak major		
	2♥ ₽	ass or corre	ct	

East led the $\clubsuit 2$ and having won with the $\clubsuit Q$ West tried to cash the $\spadesuit A$. Declarer ruffed, cashed the $\spadesuit J$, crossed to the $\spadesuit A$, pitched a heart on the $\spadesuit K$, played three rounds of hearts, ruffing and went back to dummy with the $\spadesuit 9$ to cash two hearts, +400 and 10 IMPs for UAE, racing away at 56-5.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.



UAE v Syria

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hussami	El Shourbagy	Hallaq	Ali
-	_	-	1♦
Double	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	

South led the ◆K and declarer won, played a spade for the jack and ace and another spade, South winning with the ◆K and switching to the ♥10. North won with the ♥Q and returned the ◆8, declarer ruffing in dummy and cashing the ◆10. He tried exiting with a club but South won with the ♣J and continued with the ♥3 and the end result was four down, -800.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mekky	Mansour	Atef	Tabakh
_	-	_	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2◆*
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

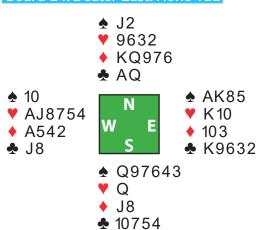
Two Hearts was a comfortable spot but it was 12 more IMPs for UAE.

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Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.



Palestine v UAE

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hindi	Hashem	El Ebiary	Al Bitar
_	_	1♣	Pass
1♥	2♦	Pass	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

West led the ♣J and after numerous adventures the contract ended up making, +110.

The big issue revolves around the bidding. If East had raised $2 \checkmark$ to $3 \checkmark$ West would have gone on to game.

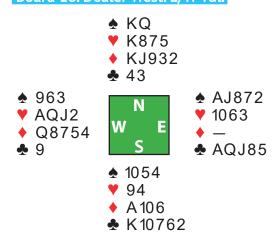
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Abugharbieh	Law	Haddadin	Aggarwal
-	-	1♣	Pass
1♥	2♦	Double*	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

North led the ◆K and declarer decided to win with the ◆A (ducking is much better). When she played back the ◆2 North won with the ◆Q and continued with the ◆6, ruffed and overruffed by South, putting paid to declarer's hopes. The contract finished three down, -150, UAE collecting an 1MP.

To make 4♥, declarer must duck a diamond, win the next round and play a club. If North wins and plays a third diamond declarer ruffs with dummy's ♥K, cashes the ♠AK and the ♠K and then plays the ♥10. North will score a heart, but declarer finished with 10 tricks.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.



UAE v Syria

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hussami	El Shourbagy	Hallaq	Ali
Pass	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

South led the ♥9 and when declarer put in dummy's ♥J North won and returned the ♥8. Declarer won with dummy's ♥Q and played a club top the queen. South won and switched to the ♠4 for the queen and ace. Declarer ruffed a club and played a spade, North winning and playing the ♥7 for South to ruff. A diamond exit meant declarer had to lose a club at the end, two down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mekky	Mansour	Atef	Tabakh
Pass	1♦	2NT*	Double
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass
2NT	Spades and cl	ubs	

North led the ♥5 and having won with the ♥Q declarer played a spade for the king and ace, cashed the ♣A and continued with the ♣Q, covered and ruffed. He ruffed a diamond and pitched a diamond on the ♣J, North discarding the ◆3. South had played the ♣7 to that trick so declarer continued with the ♣5, ruffing South's ♣10. North overruffed and exited with a heart, declarer winning with the ♥10 and cashing the ♠J. He had 11 tricks now, +620 and 13 IMPs for UAE, who had come back from 0-43 to win, 53-45.

With West as declarer only a low diamond lead threatens $4 \spadesuit$.

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Championship Rosters

		Onon			
- 1 1 1		Open		- 1	
Bangladesh		India		Jordan	
Md Moshiur Rahman	131	Rajeshwar Tewari	101	Zafer Jarrar	121
Md Asifur Rahman	132	Sumit Mukherjee	102	Aaida Abu-Jaber	122
Shah Zia-Ul Haque	133	Kaustabh Nandi	103	Clement Maamarbachi	123
Md Zahid Hossain	134	Sagnik Roy	104	Marwan Ghanem	124
Mirza Sajid Ispahani	135	Kaustubh Milind Bendre	105	Sakher Malkawi	125
A H M Kamruzzaman	136	Sayantan Kushari	106	Amr Al Nimer	126
Kuwait		Pakistan		Sri Lanka	
Khaleefah Al Ali	141	Arslan Mansoor	111	Rex Perera	151
Numan Al Turki	142	Gulzar Ahmed Bilal	112	Enaksha Perera	152
Bader Alrefae	143	Mirza Shauq Hussain	113	Dilanjan Soysa	153
Ahmad Alruwayeh	144	Mohsin Chandna	114	Jeevananda Keerthisena	154
Mohammad Husain	145	Sarfraz Ahmed Khan	115		
Hani Ibrahim Almaraghi	146	Syed Imran Ali	116		
Syria		UAE			
Ahmed Mansour	161	Hesham Atef	171		
Assem Hussami	162	Akiel Al Madi	172		
Azzam Hallaq	163	Emad El Shourbagy	173		
Wael Dogmoch	164	Tamer Ali	174		
Suhair Tabakh	165	Tamer Eissa	175		
Fares Azrak	166	Amr Mekky	176		
		Women			
India		Jordan		Pakistan	
Puja Batra	211	Bana Al Taher	201	Fatima Raza	231
Asha Sharma	212	Reem Abdelhadi	202	Rubina Agha	232
Bindiya Kohli	213	Hanan Al Salem	203	Rehana Saigol	233
Priya Balasubramanian	214	Mona Al Zaben	204	Samina Raza	234
Bharati Dey	215	Lina Almasri	205	Rubina Hai	235
Alka M Kshirsagar	216	Selva HairBedIan	206	Shanaz Bamboat	236
Palestine		Sri Lanka		UAE	
Laila Haddadin	241	Maheesha Tambiah	251	Sawsan El Ebiary	221
May Abugharbieh	242	Sucharitha Ratnatunga	252	Manju Law	222
Fairouz Zaghmout	243	Carmi Mendis	253	Maria Hindi	223
Hala Sawwaf	244	Janani Wijeyeratne	254	Anshu Aggarwal	224
Nawar Hashem	245	Badra Jayaweera	255	Rupy Walia	225
Hanan Al Bitar	246	Sarla Nagendra	256	KumKum Kumar	226

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Championship Rosters

		Senior			
Bangladesh		India		Jordan	
Sayeed Ahmed	431	Ramaratnam Krishnan	411	Ghassan Ghanem	421
Dewan Md Hanzala	432	B Prabhakar	412	Yasmin Khattak	422
Khandakar Muzharul Haque	433	Bachiraju Satyanarayana	413	Zead Sharaiha	423
Md Jahirul Haque	434	Jaggy B Shivdasani	414	Mais Al Bitar	424
Md Azizul Haque	435	Subhash Gupta	415	Hassana Zuabi	425
ATM Moazzem Hussein	436	Ravi Goenka	416	Abla Musa	426
Pakistan		Saudi Arabia		UAE	
Abdul Hameed Syed	401	Bassem Afyouni	451	Ahmed Al Midfa	441
Ghalib Bandesha	402	Abdulhakim Sahab	452	Hussain Adam Ali	442
Arif Janjua	403	Omar Bajunaid	453	Wael Agamawi	443
Kamran Ibrahim	404	Omar Swayegh	454	Arun Chopra	444
Masood Mazhar	405	Abdallah Rheimy	455	Ravi Bhat	445
Nauman Khalid Butt	406	Salem Sabali	456	Sanjay Dutta	446
		Mixed			
India		Jordan		Pakistan	
Rajeev Khandelwal	301	Jamal Abdeljalil	321	Ahsan Javed Qureshi	331
Himani Khandelwal	302	Rana Abdelhadi	322	Khaled Mohiuddin	332
Rana Roy	303	Ahmed Al Samhouri	323	Najm Abid	333
Sheetal Bansal	304	Dimah Al Taher	324	Shahnaz Pirzada	334
Priya Ranjan Sinha	305	Yana Sabbagh	325	Neelofar Aslam	335
Bindiya Naidoo	306	Mohamad Al Taji	326	Yasser Rahim	336
Saudi Arabia		UAE			
Mohamed Badaoud	341	Nemreen Qasim	311		
Eman Bamehrez	342	Elvan Edis	312		
Fayza Al Azem	343	Timur Edis	313		
Amal Rahbani	344	Humayun Sumar	314		
Khaled Kattan	345	Hazem Ghoneim	315		
Mohamed Ali Azem	346	Azza Sawaf	316		

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Results

Open Championship

1 1	
Session 1	VPs
India - Kuwait	14.8-5.2
Bangladesh - Kuwait	18.66-1.34
UAE - Jordan	15.74-4.26
Pakistan - Syria	14.18-5.82
Session 2	
Pakistan - UAE	18.97-1.03
Syria - Jordan	13.28-6.72
Bangladesh - India	9.69-10.31
Sri Lanka - Kuwait	12.55-7.45
Session 3	
Kuwait - Bangladesh	1.13-18.87
India - Sri Lanka	15.38-4.62
Jordan - Pakistan	17.72-2.28
UAE - Syria	12.29-7.71

Women Championship

Cassian 4	\/D=
Session 1	VPs
Jordan - Sri Lanka	5.2-14.8
Palestine - Pakistan	5.4-14.6
India - Saudi Arabia	2.41-17.59
Session 2	
India - Palestine	16.88-3.12
Sri Lanka - UAE	1.23-18.77
Pakistan - Jordan	9.39-10.61
Session 3	
Sri Lanka - Pakistan	0.31-19.69
Jordan - India	13.04-6.96
Palestine - UAE	1.13-18.87

Mixed Championship

VPs			
12-0			
1.79-18.21			
17.72-2.28			
8.8-11.2			
0-12			
2.97-17.03			
Session 3			
0-12			
13.04-6.96			
2.41-17.59			

Senior Championship

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Session 1	VPs
Pakistan - Saudi Arabia	13.97-6.03
UAE - Bangladesh	1.79-18.21
Jordan India	3.74-16.26
Session 2	
India - UAE	12.03-7.97
Saudi Arabia - Jordan	5.82-14.18
Bangladesh - Pakistan	4.26-15.74
Session 3	
Saudi Arabia - Bangladesh	14.8-5.2
Pakistan - India	9.69-10.31
UAE - Jordan	15.19-4.81

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