Belgium Honour Division 2026 – 2027

Round 9, October 24, 2026

UAE 1 vs BBC 3, Closed room (UAE 1 is EW)

Board 8 W / none	♠ 4 2 ♥ J ♦ K Q 9 5 4 ♣ Q 8 4 3 2	
♠ A K 10 5 ♥ A Q 7 3 2 ♦ 10 8 6 ♣ 6		♠ Q J 9 7 3 ♥ K 5 ♦ A 7 ♣ A J 10 5
	♠ 8 6 ♥ 10 9 8 6 4 ♦ J 3 2 ♣ K 9 7	

West Bahbout	**North** Voldoire	**East** De Donder	**South** Bigdeli
1♥	pass	1♠	pass
3♠	pass	4♦	pass
4♥	pass	4NT	pass
5♦	pass	7♠	pass
pass	pass		

Contract 7♠ by East
Lead ♠6
In tricks 1 and 2 declarer drew trumps, ending in dummy.

Play

	W	N	E	S	W	N	E	
1.				♠6	♠A	♠2	♠3	Spades by E and W
2.	♠K	♠4	♠7	♠8				might be different
3.	♥2	♥J	♥K	♥4				
4.			♥5	♥8	♥A	♦4		
5.	♥3	♦5	♠3	♥6				
6.			♣A	♣7	♣6	♣2		
7.			♣5	♣9	♠x	♣3		
8.	♥7	♦9	♠Q	♥9				
9.			♣J	♣K	♠x	♣4		
10.	♥Q	♣8	♦7	♥10				
11.	♦6	...						

This is the three card ending, declarer has played a small diamond from dummy:

Board 8 W / none	♠ – ♥ – ♦ K Q ♣ Q	
♠ – ♥ – ♦ 10 8 6 ♣ –		♠ 9 ♥ – ♦ A ♣ 10
	♠ – ♥ – ♦ J 3 2 ♣ –	

For some reason or another, South puts his cards on the table when it's North's turn to play. The TD is summoned, and one of the first questions asked is to South, why he opened up his cards. His answer was just "I don't know".

South showing his cards can be considered being a claim (Law 68A: '... or when he shows his cards ...'), although not stating how many tricks he was going to make. To make it possible for South to win a trick, North has to discard his remaining diamond when East plays his last spade. This means Law 70D2 applies: "The Director does not accept any part of a defender's claim that depends on his partner selecting a particular play from among alternative normal* plays."
* For the purpose of Laws 70 and 71, "normal" includes play that would be careless or inferior for the class of player involved.

For North, who also has to make a discard on the last spade, it is now clear East has no more diamonds and he has to keep his club.

Ruling
South's claim depends on Norths discard, so this claim cannot be accepted.
The claim made it clear for North to have to discard his ♦K (after having played ♦Q to trick 11), to win the last trick with the ♣Q.
The score on the board is 7♠ by East making 13 tricks, +1510 EW.

Tilburg, October 26, 2026,
Marc van Beijsterveldt