



## **Observer report for Italian Championship 2013 (MCR, MERS 2)**

**Observer:** Henrik LETH

**Date:** October 12th – 13th 2012

**Place:** Milan, Italy

**Website or other source(s) of information:** All information on the website of Federazione Italiana Mah Jong: registration, program, list of participants...

**Participants:** 100 players from 7 countries

Italy 61, France 20, Suisse 6, Austria 5, Russia 3, Denmark, 3, The Netherlands 2

**Playing schedule:** 2 days, 6 rounds (3+3) of 120 minutes

**Location:** The venue (Università Europea degli Sport della Mente) had a large hall where there was good room for the 25 tables. There were other board gamers playing tournaments (I assume), but there was space enough for all of us.

**Equipment:** Fine. We played with OEMC 2011 mahjong sets (with numbers).

**Refereeing:** Marco Milandri was playing referee (and I was called upon in a couple of instances).

**Complaints:** Well, I was not announced as EMA Observer at the tournament, so I would not expect any. I only heard one minor complaint when I talked to other players, though, and that was the number of ringing mobile phones. I heard 1-3 of them in each session myself, and it was a bit disturbing (but sort of what I expected in Italy ☺).

### **Information / communication during the tournament:**

Visible clock (in-built system). A gong clearly informed players of the start and the end of sessions. Ranking up to date between each session projected on screen together with the text sessions' seating.

**Sessions:** Relaxed and pleasant playing atmosphere.

**Catering:** Only lunch Sunday, but it was possible to buy sandwiches at the venue. The lunch Sunday was very nice but took a bit longer than the scheduled 1 hour, so the last session was about 10 min late – though it didn't seem to cause problems for anyone.

**Prizes:** Trophies for best session scores and best 10 individual ranking. No team competition.

**Conclusion:** Very nice tournament in a good atmosphere and with nice prices.