



Observer report for 5th UK Riichi Mahjong Open 2014 (Riichi, MERS 2)

Observer: Philipp Martin

Date: August 16th - 17th 2014

Place: Farnham, United Kingdom

Website or other source(s) of information: All information on the ukmahjong.co.uk website : registration, program, list of participants,...

Participants: 32 players
United Kingdom: 27
Netherlands: 3
Russia: 1
Germany: 1

Playing schedule: 2 days, 8 rounds (90 minutes each)

Location: The provided room at the Bourne Club Farnham was big enough to host all 8 tables and the administrator's desk without a problem and with enough space between them.

Equipment: We played with sets and mats in good condition.

Refereeing: Gemma Collinge, Martin Lester and Ans Hoogland were available as playing referees.

Complaints: None.

Information / communication during the tournament:

Visible clock projected from a computer on a screen. A gong clearly informs players of the start and the end of sessions. Ranking up to date between each session, both on screen and printed and posted on walls.

Sessions: Excellent playing atmosphere, FFF (Fair-play, Friendly and Fun).

Catering: Lunch was served at the same venue, it included a selection of fish and meat and dessert. Fruits, sweets and water were available in the playing room for the whole duration of the tournament.

Prizes: Trophies for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3rd), the most improved player (largest positive change in rank from day one to day two) and the "winner" of day two. Smaller prizes for miscellaneous achievements.

Conclusion: Great tournament with a very friendly atmosphere. The addition of two expatriate Japanese players was a nice touch. As far as I could tell, everybody had great fun and the organisation was impeccable.