



Observer report for Vienna Riichi Open 2015 (Riichi, MERS 1)

Observer: Vojtěch TRMAL

Date: October 10th – 11th 2015

Place: Vienna, Austria

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

Participants: 36 players

Representing Countries:

Austria	Czech Republic	Slovakia	Germany
24 players	5 players	5 players	2 players

Playing schedule: 2 days, 8 rounds (4+4) of 90 minutes

Location: The apartment of the Austrian Go Association “GO7” located in the very centre of Vienna has a hall large enough to host 36+ players. Quiet and comfortable environment, with clean toilets, well equipped kitchen, adjacent room for breaks and refreshments, and even a separate smoking room.

Equipment: We played with two kinds of modern sets on junk mats and on special tables.

Refereeing: Alexander Wankmüller was a playing referee; Chang Xue was a non-playing referee.

Complaints: There was a complaint about the results not being projected between every individual pair of hanchans. To know your ranking and sum of points is an important part of strategy and tactics, especially on the second day of the tournament. There wasn't enough time to process all the results during the short break, particularly when some tables took a long time to finish their “this one and one more” games after the gong sounded.

Information / communication during the tournament:

Visible clock projected on a big LCD screen. A bell clearly informed players of the start and the end of sessions.

Sessions: Fair-play and very friendly atmosphere, sometimes not as quiet as it should be. ;)

Catering: Saturday lunch at a nearby restaurant, Sunday lunch at the venue via delivery; drinks and snacks buffet during breaks in adjacent room.

Prizes: Trophies for individual ranking (glass trophy with the corresponding wind character for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place), consolation prize for the last non-Austrian participant (free admission for the next Vienna Open Riichi Tournament), certificate for every participant.

Conclusion: Very enjoyable event with friendly atmosphere. That flaw of not being able to project the results after every hanchan can be forgiven on condition of being taken as a lesson for the future.