



## **Observer report for Tri Nitro Tournament 2015 (Riichi, MERS 1)**

**Observer:** Martin REP

**Date:** December 12~13, 2015

**Place:** Puteaux, France

**Website or other source(s) of information:** All information on the website of [TNT Tri Nitro Tiles](#) : registration, program, list of participants,...

**Participants:** 23 players

**Represented countries:** France (18), Great-Britain (4), the Netherlands (1)

**Playing schedule:** 2 days, 7 rounds (4+3) of 90 minutes

**Location:** The 'Salle des Associations', the home of the TNT club, is a cosy space. The number of players was limited to 40, but since there were just 6 tables, there was room enough for everyone.

**Equipment:** On the tables, mahjong mats were used. We know these mats, e.g. from the World Riichi Mahjong Championship; they may be a bit small, but this never was a problem since genuine Japanese sets were used. (Japanese tiles are rather small.) The mats have a nice soft surface. The scores were kept by using sticks. For the sticks, there were places in the open spaces of the border, so most of the time the in-between scores could be determined easily.

**Refereeing:** Kevin Chau was non-player referee.

**Complaints:** None.

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

Visible clock projected from a computer on a screen. A gong clearly informed players of the start and the end of sessions. Ranking up to date between each session thanks to the beamer.

**Sessions:** Excellent playing atmosphere.

**Catering:** In the adjacent room (sandwiches). The organizers had taken care of a simple French breakfast (coffee and brioches). There was a fine lunch, consisting of sandwiches and salads. Moreover, there was an abundance of sweets, French cheese, drinks (wine, soft drinks, etc.) TNT did a great effort to please all players!

**Prizes:** Presents for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3<sup>rd</sup>). The winner won herself a wild card for the European Riichi Championship, next year in the United Kingdom. The gifts for the top-three players were a camera, a drone (!) and a tablet.

**Conclusion:** It is always great to come and play in Paris or Puteaux. The French players do their utmost to give everyone a good time. Moreover, they are excellent players, which makes participating even more fun.

*Martin Rep*

*Bussum, the Netherlands*

*December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015*