



## Observer report for Riichi Copenhagen Open 2016 (Riichi, MERS 1)

**Observer:** Annika Ridell

**Date:** January 16th – 17th 2016

**Place:** Copenhagen, Denmark

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

**Participants:** 20 players

Represented countries:

DEN	GBR	SWE	GER	FRA
15	2	1	1	1

**Playing schedule:** 2 days, 8 rounds (5+3) of 90 minutes

**Location:** The Haraldsgade-location is good for playing mah-jong tournaments. The room can be divided into a playing area and an area for lunch and refreshments. With only 20 players there is not any problem with noise between the areas. It can easily fit more players. A pizzeria, a Chinese buffet-restaurant and a supermarket is nearby. Also bus transportation is quite convenient.

**Equipment:** Good quality of games and tables. Every player received their own schedule with whom to meet in each round. The referee had extra sticks (red 10000-sticks) that could be borrowed in case of bankruptcy.

**Refereeing:** Jesper Nøhr was non-player referee.

**Complaints:** None.

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

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

**Catering:** Lunch in the same place (sandwiches), drinks and others. Fruit and other things between sessions.

**Prizes:** Trophies for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3<sup>rd</sup>).

**Conclusion:** Very friendly tournament in Copenhagen. A bit strange that only 20 players came although the danes are known to organise nice tournaments. Could it be because it was January (and maybe not so nice for tourism) or the upcoming rule changes? This was almost the last chance of seeing red fives and Nagashi Mangan 😊.

Good quality on the games with a lot of skilled players might have scared away some beginners but I can assure others that it was not that scary! Possibilities to stay and play in the evening were appreciated.