



Observer report for Prague Open *Ryuu lisou* 2016 (Riichi Tournament, MERS 2)

Observer: Daniel Široň

Date: 18. – 19. 6. 2016

Place: Prague, Czech Republic

Website or other source(s) of information: All information was shared through the website of the main organizer: registration, schedule, list of participants, advices for accommodation, navigation to the venue and so on.

Participants: 28 players from 8 countries

Represented countries

GER	CZE	AUT	RUS	SVK	FRA	ITA	GBR
							
7	7	5	3	2	2	1	1

Playing schedule: 2 days, 8 hanchans in total

Location: There was a new location compared to the first two editions of this tournament. The room was smaller, than in the previous years, but more than sufficient for the registered number of players. Also although the room was in the underground part of the building it was well lit, and generally the location was a good choice for this tournament.

Equipment: Tournament was played on very good riichi tables, and with riichi sticks.

Refereeing: Martin Diviš was at the end a playing referee – which was caused by a late cancellation of 1 player, but was the best option, as it allowed keeping 28 players on the tournament.

Complaints: No serious issues, only some really minor – one table had wrong count of sticks, but this was corrected very quickly after the end of the round, and didn't cause any big problem.

Also the last round had to be redrawn, but even after the redraw it was possible to meet multiple players for the second time in this last round (although mathematically it is possible to avoid such situation in case of 28 players & 8 rounds).

Information / communication during the tournament:

Visible clock projected from a computer on a wall. A gong clearly informed players of the start of the last 15-minutes period of each hanchan. Ranking up to date between each session, also projected on a wall.

Sessions: Excellent playing atmosphere, keeping the main principles of playing – fairness, friendliness, and fun. Referee therefore didn't have to deal with any complicated rules situation.

Catering: Lunch was provided for both days in the nearby restaurant – choice of was quite big, and the food itself was really very tasty. Drinks and small snacks were also available in a separate room next to the playing room.

Prizes: Glass trophies (with beer packet as a bonus) for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3rd place).

Conclusion: As always a very good tournament in Prague – it`s one of the places, where I always look forward to returning, and which I recommend for a visit to every player .