



Observer report Poteto Riichi Taikai 2017 (RCR, RERS-1)

Observer: Martijn Klaar

Date: March 11th 2017

Place: Poznań, Poland

Website or other source(s) of information: All information on the website <http://poteto2017.riichi.pl>: registration, program, list of participants, tips on travelling and accomodation, afterparty (!), etc.

Participants: 36 players

Represented countries: Belarus: 2; Germany: 1; Poland: 31; The Netherlands: 2.

Playing schedule: 1 day, 4 hanchans of 90 minutes.

Location: Centrum Wykładowo-Konferencyjne Politechniki Poznańskiej, room 051. Room was large enough to accommodate us and properly lit. Wi-Fi available.

Equipment: High quality Japanese mahjong sets and junkmats on all tables. Scoring done on paper, score sheets provided (however no space for point penalties/chombo).

Refereeing: Nicole Haasbroek (NL) and Piotr Powalowski (PL) acted as playing referees.

Complaints: None.

Information / communication during the tournament: Visible clock projected on a large screen. One of the non-playing organizers informed players at the beginning and at the end of the sessions. Only after the first hanchan the ranking was provided (projected onto a screen).

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

Catering: A hot meal was served on campus. Authentic Polish dishes (very tasty!). A bottle of water was provided for free, other drinks/snacks available at the vending machines nearby on campus.

Prizes: Trophies for individual ranking (1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th) and additional books and board games. Mrs. Katarzyna Chabelska, President of the Asian Cultural Centre Foundation, very generously handed out additional Asian themed board games to the winners. As a souvenir, each participant was given a certificate with their name and ranking on it.

Possible Learning Points: **1)** provide ranking after every hanchan (only after the first hanchan a ranking provided). Informing players on their current position is vital as it determinates their strategy in the upcoming hanchans. **2)** abandon the practice of keeping score on paper and comply to EMA requirements by using tenbo. Keeping score on paper was a problem for some players; correcting these mistakes took up valuable playing time.

Conclusion: A very nice and relaxed tournament. This was the first time 'Poznański Klub Mahjonga' organized an event like this; hopefully this is the start of a tradition!