



**Observer report Swedish Open 2017 (RCR, RERS-2)**

**Observer:** Nicole Haasbroek

**Date:** April 9th - 10th 2017

**Place:** Linköping, Sweden

**Website or other source(s) of information:** All information on the website <http://lirma.studorg.liu.se>: registration, program, list of participants, tips on travelling and accomodation, etc.

**Participants:** 24 players

**Represented countries:** China: 2; Denmark: 6; Ukraine: 4; United Kingdom: 3; Sweden: 7; The Netherlands: 2.

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

**Location:** Linköpings Universitet, C-huset, room U4/U6. Room was large enough to accommodate us and properly lit. Wi-Fi available.

**Equipment:** Japanese mahjong sets and home-made junkmats on all tables. Tenbo were used and extra could be borrowed from the referee.

**Refereeing:** Jasper Germeys as a non-playing referee on the first day, and as a playing referee on day two (substituting for an ill player).

**Complaints:** None.

**Information / communication during the tournament:** Timetable and seating displayed one of the white boards in the room. Visible clock projected on the white board. The referee informed players at the beginning and at the end of the sessions. Ranking up to date between each session and projected on the white board. Ranking also available online in real time: <http://yazphier.no-ip.org/sm2017/SORMC2017.html> (interactive!).

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

**Catering:** Lunch in a cafeteria on campus on the first day, on the second day DIY on the premises - various soft drinks, coffee, tea, snacks and sweets were available during tournament. There was the option of having a hot meal together at the end of the first day (at an additional fee).

**Prizes:** Trophies for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3rd) and an additional keychain. Best Swede got an invitation (card) to the WRC2017 in Las Vegas.

**Possible Learning Points:** Even though there were no complains about playing on the home-made junkmats, it was not an ideal situation. The cloth and wooden square weren't properly secured and sometimes the whole contraption came loose, distracting players. I acknowledge the large investment for store-bought junkmats, so I suggest asking future players to bring theirs to the tournament. Asking players to help out by bringing extra mahjong sets is already common practice, so this won't be too much of a stretch.

**Conclusion:** An extremely nice tournament in Linköping. Couldn't believe this was run by just one person. A lot of high level players competed, making this a very interesting event. Personally, I couldn't get enough: maybe eight or nine hanchans next year?