



## **Observer report for Aachen Tournament 2017 (MERS 1)**

**Observer:** Radka PERNICOVA

**Date:** August 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> 2017

**Place:** Aachen, Germany

**Website or other source(s) of information:** All information on the website:  
<http://dmjl.de/veranstaltungen/aktuelle-turniere/aachen-riichi-open-2017/>  
Registration had been made via email.

**Participants:** 24 players (NED 7, GER 7, FRA 4, SVK 2, GBR 2, CZE 2)

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

**Location:** In the historic city center, second floor of a student community centre. One room was for playing, the second room for resting and coffee breaks.

**Equipment:** 5 from 6 set of mah-jong were the exactly the same. The last one had small differences.

**Refereeing:** Waldemar Laube was a non-playing referee.

### **Complaints:**

- 1) There were some minor issues regarding the seating of players, some players played with other players repeatedly.
- 2) One of the tables had not the typical junk-mat and people didn't have a space on the table for riichi sticks.
- 3) One of the sets had unusual tiles. Players didn't know it at the beginning of the game (only in the first hanchan).

After complains #2 and #3, the organization team decided to change it for regular set at the second day of the tournament.

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

There was a visible clock on the computer. A gong clearly informed players of the start and the end of sessions. Between each session, the ranking had been updated, printed, and posted on walls.

**Sessions:** Ordinary FFF (Fair-play, Friendly, and Fun) is not sufficient to describe the atmosphere, I would like to emphasize the overall amenity of the venue and pleasant feelings one had at the tournament.

**Catering:** There were soft drinks, coffee, and tea for each coffee break, as well as snacks, biscuits, and fruits. Lunches: on Saturday a buffet, on Sunday everybody could order lunch from restaurant menu.

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

**Conclusion:** Very nice tournament in Aachen. Especially the social playing before, during, and after the event itself was great!