



## **Observer report for Reach the Dragon (RCR, MERS 1)**

**Observer:** Romain HERDIER

**Date:** December 9<sup>th</sup> 2017

**Place:** Mulhouse, France

**Website or other source(s) of information:** All the information was available on the club's website, <https://sites.google.com/site/mahjongalsacelorraine/>, in French and English

**Participants:** 20 players

**Represented Countries:** France only

**Playing schedule:** 1 day, 5 rounds

**Location:** The playing room was easy to access by road, and near public transports. It was comfortable and big enough for the five tables with plenty of space.

**Equipment:** We played with four tiny sets (tile size : 28x20x16mm) and one set from the OEMC 2014. Two tables were equipped with junk mats.

**Refereeing:** Bryan Manchez was non-player referee.

Several subjects of low importance were brought to him, there were no big conflicts. All were resolved quickly. There were a lot of questions about ruling points, score verification, and precisions about etiquette. When there was too much noise (which happened rarely), silence was always asked and obtained.

**Complaints:** - Some concerns rose when the lunch setup began at 12.40pm (the 3<sup>rd</sup> hanchan was planned for 1pm. Nevertheless we were able to begin at 1.15pm without feeling pressured, and had the prize ceremony at 6.30pm as planned.

- Two sets had a void back, and no pattern for the white dragon. Some concerns about confusions and cheating risks rose, but it was very quickly resolved by the players who agreed to show the two sides of the White dragon tiles.

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

Clock displayed on a computer screen. Starts and endings were orally announced by the referee. Ranking was displayed between the sessions on the same computer.

**Sessions:** Very pleasant atmosphere, with friendly veterans opened to inform the numerous less experienced players about the rules, mechanics, differences from MCR, and spirit of riichi.

**Catering:** Lunch in the same place (homemade spaghetti Bolognese), several snacks before the beginning and between each sessions.

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

**Conclusion:** Very friendly and pleasant tournament. We were tight on the schedule but managed to maintain it. A successful first experience for the club, who have experience in organizing MCR tournaments (MERS or not), but it is the first riichi one they organized.