



**Observer report for Haru Shanten 2018 (Riichi)**

**Observer:** Sergey PETRUSHCHENKO

**Date:** April 29th – May 1st 2018 (referee seminar on April 28th)

**Place:** Perm, Russian Federation

**Website or other source(s) of information:**

Official tournament information: <https://mahjong.click/en/tournaments/riichi/haru-shanten-2018/announcement/>

VK page with additional information for participants: <https://vk.com/vesenniyshtanten>

Results and statistics in Pantheon system: <https://gui.mjtop.net/eid89/?l=en>

**Participants:** 71 players (+ 1 substitute), 12 attendees at referee seminar

**Represented countries:** only Russian Federation (71)

**Playing schedule:** 3 days, 12 rounds (4+4+4) of 90 minutes

**Location:** Conference room in AMAKS hotel is large enough to comfortably fit 100 players, there was separate room with snacks and tea. There was a problem with AC on first day, but it was fixed on the next day.



**Equipment:** Old style soviet wooden tables, simple and reliable. Mahjong sets were among various types, but all belonging to riichi, none MCR or abridged. Some were very original, like the tiles with white backs (Haku is the same on front and back) and the black set that is the negative of the former (all colors reversed). All sets in good condition, the one that was discovered to have marked tiles was promptly replaced. Most mats were regular Junk Mats but few tables also had DIY mats made by Russian players.

**Refereeing:** Two non-player referees – Dmitry Vodilov (head) and Arthur Khanafin (assistant).

**Complaints:** None.

**Information / communication during the tournament:**

Visible clock projected from a computer on a screen. Announcements made by Arthur were clearly heard all around the tournament hall. Ranking available online in Pantheon system for all participants and other persons interested.

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

**Catering:** Snack zone with tea, cookies and small snacks. Lunch in the same hotel as tournament hall could be ordered for additional fee. Recommendations on local cafes were also available. Pub was booked for relaxed dinner on each of the tournament days.

**Prizes:** Trophies and goods prizes for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3<sup>rd</sup>), pins and souvenir coffee mugs for top10 and special categories (like yakuman, best non-yakuman hand, lowest count of discard into ron etc.). Also souvenir magnets were given to all participants.



**Conclusion:** Very nice and friendly tournament with good atmosphere. A good occasion to meet for the players from different parts of Russia.



Referee seminar attendees group photo:



Players group photo:

