



## **Observer report for UK Hors D oeuvres MCR tournament (MCR, MERS 1.5)**

**Observer:** Joël RATSIMANDRESY

**Date:** August the 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018

**Place:** Godalming, UK

**Website or other source(s) of information:** All information on the website dedicated of the two tournament styles (there were a riichi tournament organized during the next weekend): registration, program, list of participants, individual seating chart (provided prior the event)...

**Participants:** 20 players

### **Represented countries:**

UK: 9

FR: 5

CH: 2

AT: 1

GE: 1

HU: 1

SP: 1

**Playing schedule:** 1 day, 4 rounds of 105 minutes

**Location:** The place is large enough to host players and leave enough space between them with a rest area on the side and at the rear (actually, the place accepted an attendance of 68 players the weekend after).

**Equipment:** We played with homogenous sets and tables. Actually there were riichi sets but as explained the organisation, the amount of MCR players in the UK could not justify them to buy specific MCR sets for one tournament.

**Refereeing:** Axel ESCHENBURG was non-player referee.

**Complaints:** Not a single one (Europe is facing a period of heat trouble so adjusting the air-conditioning to the number of players was one but it was handled right after the first round so not that complaint).

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

Visible clock projected from a computer on a screen. A buzzer clearly informs players of the start and the end of sessions. The results was projected on screens in different rooms of the place and on the website dedicated to the tournament.

**Sessions:** Excellent playing atmosphere, FFF (Fair-play, Friendly and Fun). Due to the first MCR tournament in the UK, the organisers asked the “experimented” players to be “nice and patient” with “new” players. Actually, no one complained to me in both ways neither about behaviour nor bad attitude (maybe about the speed - but personally, the four winds had been played twice out of the four rounds - or some exotic calls but from what I heard, the referee was not solicited for those types of things).

**Catering:** Lunch (hot meals) and beverages (water, coffee, tea...) were provided. Complimentary drinks was available on site (the place has its own bar and kitchen).

**Prizes:** Trophies and gifts for individual ranking (From the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 1<sup>st</sup> position) and a special prize for the player who collected the highest points in one hand.

**Conclusion:** Very nice tournament providing fun but serious atmosphere for a premiere. Actually it relied on the few UK MCR players and the support of a few RCR players who both provide the logistics (live website for instance) and compose a well experimented organising team. The next step will be to grow the pool of UK MCR players. Meanwhile, people from abroad were and will be happy to join them to complete tables (this tournament got a 0.5 point bonus for the number of participating countries which is not that common for a first tournament based on my experience).

*Joël Ratsimandresy, Paris (08/06/2018)*