



Observer report for Riichi Dutch open 2018 (Riichi, MERS 2)

Observer: Marcus Völker

Date: November 10th – 11th 2018

Place: Doesburg, The Netherlands

Website or other source(s) of information: roodevijven.nl. All relevant information was available in English and Dutch on that website.

Participants: 64 players

BEL: 4, GER: 13, ITA: 1, NED: 44, POL: 2

Playing schedule: 2 days, 8 rounds (4+4) of 90 minutes

Location: A big venue on the Camping IJsselstrand camping grounds. The main playing area comfortably seated the 64 players. Accommodation in chalets on the camping grounds was available at very reasonable rates and organised by the tournament organisers, so there were no problems even for non-Dutch speaking players.

Equipment: The sets, mats, tables and chairs were all of good quality

Refereeing: There were four playing referees. Head referee was Reyly Brands. Originally, he was supposed to be a non-playing referee, but due to sudden illnesses, this was not possible.

Complaints: The lighting was a bit dim on some tables.

Information / communication during the tournament:

Visible clock projected from a computer on a screen. A gong clearly informed players of the start and the end of sessions. Ranking was updated after each Hanchan, printed and posted on walls.

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

Catering: Lunch (soups, bread and slaatje) was served on both days and there were snacks from Dutch cuisine (bitterballen and kroketten) available in the breaks. Water bottles were also available, and other drinks could be purchased at the on-venue bar.

Prizes: Statue-style trophies for the first four ranks

Conclusion: A great tournament in the Netherlands. I especially liked the venue, as the accommodation was top-notch and cheap, and we could get breakfast and dinner on the camping grounds, which was very convenient, as well as an opportunity to socialise with the other players.