



Observer report for MCR Moscow Open 2020 (MCR, MERS 2,5)

Observer: Vitaly Novikov

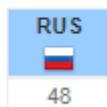
Date: February 22-23, 2020

Place: Moscow, Russia

Website or other source(s) of information: All necessary information provided on the tournament website (http://mahjong.ru/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=476). The website was constantly up-dated and was available in English and Russian.

Participants: 48 players from Russia

Represented countries



Playing schedule: 2 days, 8 rounds (4+4) of 120 minutes applying new rule of continuing play until the current hand is finished after the bell rings.

Location: Hotel Golden Ring in the center of Moscow, Conference Hall "Vladimir", 1st floor, the room is large enough to host 48 players and leave enough space between them. Lighting at the tables was good.

Equipment: Mahjong sets in good condition. We played at square tables with felt mats on top.

Refereeing: Pavel Anokhin (chief referee, playing), Andrey Chichigin (non-playing referee).

Complaints: None.

Information / communication during the tournament:

Visible clock projected from a computer on a screen. A gong clearly informs players of the start and the end of sessions. Ranking promptly updated between each session.

Sessions: Excellent playing atmosphere, FFF (Fair-play, Friendly and Fun). For the first session, players were seated at random and for the next rounds table seating was based according a 'best against best' schedule, where players with the best scores are assigned to the same tables, but playing with the same opponents twice is avoided.

Catering: Coffee, tea and snacks available during short breaks. Lunch could be found at the numerous places (cafes, restaurants) around the hotel.

Prizes: Trophies and prizes for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3rd), and many more prizes for various nominations (the last place, the largest in points discard to mah-jong hand, best winning series of deals, 4th place, the largest in points hand which failed to win session, etc.).

Conclusion: Very nice tournament in Moscow, very good organization.