



## **Observer report for French open 2023 (MCR, French Championship)**

**Observer:** Caroline ARNAUD

**Date:** April 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> 2023

**Place:** St Pierre , Réunion Island (France)

**Website or other source(s) of information:** All information on the dedicated website : registration, program, list of participants,...

**Participants:** 60 players

**Represented Countries :** All the 60 players belonged to the French Federation (Réunion Island and mainland).

**Playing schedule:** 2 days, 7 rounds (3+4) of 110 minutes – 6 round-robin and the last on high-to-high (tables arranged by the ranking of the 6<sup>th</sup> game).

**Location:** Guan DI Temple, in a covered playground under the temple. The venue is large enough to host the 60 players and leave plenty of space between them. There is also room for the tables for the snacks, buffet and to eat seated.  
The location was really quiet.

**Equipment:** The sets we played with were not new but overall OK. Some spare seats were available if needed.

**Refereeing:** Jean-Michel MORISSE was non-player referee.

**Complaints:** The high to high final was a little tricky in the communication and in the calculation of the final ranking leading to some misunderstanding.  
Some explanations before announcing the podium had to be given to the involved players.

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

At the beginning, the referee reminded the players of some points : new rules about the end of the game, when to start the game....

Visible clock projected from a computer on a screen. A gong clearly informs players of the start and the end of sessions. Referee gave informations about the remaining time on a regular basis. Ranking up to date between each session, not printed and posted on walls but visible on the computer screen.

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

**Catering:** Lunch in the same place (restaurant style Chinese buffet by a professional cook), drinks and others.

Breakfast the 2 days : bread and jam and pastries.  
Pastries, hot and cold drinks during the breaks.

**Prizes:** Trophies and prizes for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3<sup>rd</sup>), and one more for the French Champion (provided by the French federation).

**Conclusion:** Very nice tournament in the heavenly site of the temple of St Pierre Réunion.

Staff and helpers were really welcoming and involved.

Catering came in large portions and tasty.

It is a pity that no players from foreign countries managed to attend this tournament (despite some having registered earlier but couldn't finally make it to the tournament).