



## Observer report for Yuki no Taikai 2024 (Riichi, MERS 1.5)

**Observer:** Manuel Tertre





**Date:** January 27<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Place:** Oss, Netherlands

**Website or other source(s) of information:** Information on the website of the organizing club Schoon Spel. Place, schedule, max. capacity and players list. More information on the web page would be nice, as the country of participants, the referees and the food provided (because it was!).

**Participants:** 56 players

### Represented countries

NED	BEL	GER	FRA
			
45	9	1	1

**Playing schedule:** 1 day, 4 rounds of 75 minutes. 30-min break between rounds and 45 min for lunch break.

**Location:** We played in a room of the social center Ontmoetingscentrum Meteor. The room was wide (enough to walk between tables with ever having to ask for space), and we took breaks in the main hall, with no external disturbance. The place is only 25 minutes walk from Oss central station or 10 minutes by bus.

**Equipment:** We had good quality MCR-size tables with a junkmat on it. The tile sets, junkmats and sticks were the same each table. A recap, scoresheet and all-last sheet was provided.

**Refereeing:** Olav Sommers and Menno Deij were playing referees.

**Complaints:** One remark from a player: the language at the table was not English even though he didn't speak Dutch. One personal feedback: Players using rulers should be extra careful when manipulating their tiles. I was sometimes able to see the tiles of one player that placed the 13 tiles in front of her, then on the ruler, before bringing it closer ; this can be prevented by placing the tiles directly on the ruler from the wall. Once, the player used the ruler to fix the wall (with tiles on it) and realized too late that this made her hand clearly visible to me for a split second.

**Information / communication during the tournament:**

Time was displayed on a digital clock, clearly visible to anybody. The scores were printed and displayed on the wall at each round.

**Sessions:** Definitely FFF, one non-playing staff was taking care of any issue with the ventilation or with the sun rays.

**Catering:** Food was provided at every break (breakfast, lunch and snack), we got voucher at the registration to get coffee/snacks at the bar. Other drinks or food could be bought there. The lunch was a simple buffet: mixed salad, toasts, eggs, blue cord/croquettes, fruits, with enough food for everyone.

**Prizes:** Custom snow globes for the top 3. Wine bottles for the referees and for the observer.

**Conclusion:** In contrast with the cold weather of January, the organizing team was warmful and cheerful. They did an amazing job to ensure the best experience to the players. I have good memories for this tournament and I will be glad to come back at their next one.