



Observer report for Valencia Riichi (MERS 3.5*)

* According to the new 2018 ranking system. MERS weight is subject to change depending on the number of players registered and the countries participating. Breakout of the current weight:

- 2-days tournament: 2 points.
- More than 40 players: 0.5 points.
- 10 countries represented: 1 points.

Observer: Sophie DELAUCHE

Date: March 30-31 2024

Place: Valencia, Spain

Website or other source(s) of information: All information on the following dedicated website [Mahjong Valencia Riichi 2024 \(mahjong-valencia.es\)](http://mahjong-valencia.es)

Participants: 48 players (1 couldn't come and has been substituted)

Represented countries :

ESP	FRA	POL	BEL	SUI	POR	GER	GBR	SWE	CAN
									
17	8	7	4	3	3	2	2	1	1

Playing schedule: 2 days, 9 rounds of 75 minutes

Tournament Format:

The tournament format was a mixed format Round-Robin + Swiss System. Round-Robin will be used on the first day (first 5 hanchans) and Swiss System on the second day (last 4 hanchans)

On the Round-Robin system, players will play with random players without playing with the anyone more than once. On the Swiss System, players will play with other players based on their current ranking. Therefore, they possibly repeat playing with some players more than once.

Location: The tournament has taken place in **Hotel Port Azafata Valencia**, a 4-star hotel with lots of services, located in the outskirts of Valencia. The hotel facility room is large enough to host more than 60 players and leave enough space between them. The room is very nice and well ventilated.

Equipment: We played with mats and games on tables that were of excellent conditions.

Refereeing: Yulong Zhao and Arnaud Wolf (both from France; both playing)

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 up to date between each session, appearing clearly on screen.

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

Catering: Lunch and optional dinner in the same place (3 courses meal), drinks and others.

Prizes: Trophies for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3rd), prizes for players ranked 4 to 7 and gifts for referees and observer which was a kind attention.

Conclusion: Very nice tournament in Valencia as usual. Excellent organisation!