



Observer report for MCR DUTCH OPEN 2024

Observer: Thomas BOUTONNET

Date: June 22th – 23th 2024

Place: Berghem, Netherlands

Website or other source(s) of information: All information on the website of SCHOON SPEL (<https://www.schoonspel.nl/>): registration, program, list of participants,...

Participants: 56 players (Netherlands 45, France 5, Germany 4, Belgium 2)

Playing schedule: 2 days, 7 rounds (4+3) of 110 minutes

Location: The [De Berchplaets in Berghem](#) is a very convenient place, with a large room large enough to host 56 players and leave enough space between them, and another large room for the breaks. The whole place is well located in Berghem, with convenient parking places around.

Equipment: All the tables were provided with similar sets of mahjong tiles, so there were no need for players to familiarize themselves with a new set at a new table.

Refereeing: Ans Hoogland was non-player referee ; if needed, Anton Kosters and Twan van den Nieuwendijk were players-referee.

Complaints: Few players were disturbed by the time allocated for a game (110 minutes), saying 115 minutes would have been a more relevant choice; there were no sign for the direction of East in the room.

Information / communication during the tournament:

Two big clocks, visible from everywhere in the room, were used for showing the time left for a game ; the start and the end of sessions were also clearly indicated. Ranking up to date between each session, printed and posted on walls.

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

Catering: Lunch in the same place and in different rooms (sandwiches, fruits), drinks and others. Dedicated lunches were provided for players with special diet.

Prizes: Trophies for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3rd).

Conclusion: Very nice tournament in Berghem. The room was well decorated with Chinese style lamps. The atmosphere was very friendly. The organiser, Olaf Sommers, made a point to use English all the time for the announcements, so the “few” non-dutch players of the tournament could be well informed.