



Observer report for ERMV Valencia

Observer: Nadine König

Date: 5.-8.12.2024

Place: Valencia, Spain

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

Participants: 172 players
27 countries

Playing schedule: 3 days, 14 Hanchan rounds (5+5+4) of 90 minutes

Location: Hotel Port Azafata Valencia

Equipment: Riichi Sets, most of them in 28mm, Junkmats, Point Sticks

Refereeing: Yulong Zhao (Head Referee); Marta Bacic, Sylvain Malbec, Pierre Valat, Vitalii Balaniuk

Complaints: There have been several players who have complained about the participation of Russian players under a neutral flag since Russia is no longer a member of the EMA.

The draw was not random, which was complained by one Player.

Ukrainian players were questioned about the war between Russia and Ukraine. This was done in an inappropriate manner.

The announcements at the start of a round were not easy to understand from every seat in the room, which was due to the quality of the microphones.

The information on the monitor at the front of the room was also not visible to everyone at the back. Not everyone

There were complaints that the game lasted too long in the evenings; it would have been better to start earlier in the morning.

And not everyone like Paella, but that was the main course of every Lunch.

Information / communication during the tournament:

Visible clock projected from a computer on two screens. A gong clearly informs players of the start and the end of sessions. Ranking up to date between each session on the website.

Sessions: Excellent playing atmosphere, FFF (Fair-play, Friendly and Fun). Except some players, who were rude and aggressive in Tone, Referee was called.

Catering: Lunch was downstairs in two different rooms. It was well organized and served in time for 172 players. The quality of food was good.

Prizes: Trophies for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3rd), and for the ranked 4-10. The Top 20 Players received a set from the tournament + a mat from the ones used in the tournament.

Conclusion: It was a very well organized tournament. The atmosphere and the level of play were good. There was the option of social play, which was popular.

There was also feedback on the referee seminar.

It was handled well by Marta and Sylvain. We were 32 people in the room, including a few person already referees that were here in order to refresh the knowledge and for the debates.

So parts of the seminar were shortened because not relevant while some others were well developed because these are the topics referees usually struggled with.

We were slightly short on time due to the amount of topics to discuss and we took an extra 30 minutes to discuss about a few specific situations Marta prepared for the participants.

Overall: well handled and interesting for all of us