



OBSERVER REPORT

for



MCR OPEN DANISH CHAMPIONSHIP 2025



MCR / MERS 4.5 (3 days = 3, 10 countries = +1, 64 players = +0.5)

Observer: Gérard HÊCHE 

Date: May 30th – June 1st 2025

Place: Haraldsgade 69, Copenhagen, Denmark

Source of information: All information was available in English and regularly updated on the [Mahjong Danmark webpage](#) : general information, registration, details for payment, venue, schedule, list of participants and teams...

The draw was conducted by computer and sent to participants five days before the event. Participants had the opportunity to attend the club's regular Thursday evening meeting.

Represented countries : 64 players, divided as follows:

-  20 players from Sweden
-  12 players from France
-  8 players from Denmark
-  5 players from Italy
-  5 players from Switzerland
-  4 players from Germany
-  3 players from China (2 EMA guests )
-  3 players from Spain
-  2 players from Netherlands
-  2 players from Poland

Playing schedule: The tournament spanned three days and consisted of 11 rounds (4+4+3), each lasting 115 minutes, with additional time allowed to complete the current hand after the gong if 16 hands had not yet been played.

Location: The tournament took place at the Copenhagen Mahjong Club, just a short walk from a metro station or bus stop. The venue featured both a gaming area and a separate space for breaks, providing ample room for all participants. In the gaming area, located on one side of the room, a large sign with the character 東 indicated the first "East" position. During play, players were comfortably accommodated, with sufficient space between tables. Outside of game sessions, players could relax on sofas and access a designated snack area. Four restrooms were available, which was adequate for a tournament of this size.

Equipment: Games were played with high-quality sets on bordered tables. Each table was equipped with a clipboard for the score sheet and a wind-of-the-round indicator. The score sheet used is now fully in line with current European standards, as it includes three columns to record the value of the mahjong, the winner, and the discarder.

Refereeing: Initially, Anders LABICH was supposed to serve as the referee, but due to a last-minute commitment, he was replaced by Morten ANDERSEN as non-playing head referee. Sebastian LAVALLÉE served as non-playing assistant referee.

Information / communication during the tournament: General information was provided to all participants during the tournament's opening ceremony. This included welcome messages to the players, the tournament schedule, the names of the referees and the event observer, as well as other rules and instructions related to the event. A visible clock showing the time remaining in each session was projected from a computer onto two walls, ensuring it could be seen from every table. A gong clearly signaled the beginning and end of each session. Individual and team rankings, updated within minutes after each session, were printed and displayed on the wall in two different spots around the room.

Sessions: Sessions started on time with all participants present. The playing atmosphere was very pleasant, and no issues arose during the games. Although the room occasionally became a bit noisy with chatter, it never lasted long.

Catering: A warm lunch with a vegetarian option was served at a nearby Chinese restaurant on all three days. Coffee, tea, water, fruit, cookies, and chips were available for free during the breaks, while soft drinks and beer were sold at a low cost.

Prizes: Trophies were awarded for both individual (1st, 2nd and 3rd place) and team rankings (1st, 2nd and 3rd place) . This tournament also determined the Danish MCR Champion, who received a large trophy.

Complaints: Essentially none. Only one player mentioned that the assistant referee was not certified according to the EMA website.

Conclusion: The Danes have once again demonstrated their expertise in organizing major tournaments. Copenhagen proves to be an ideal location for events of this scale, being a large, safe city with an international airport well connected to the rest of Europe. The overall skill level of the players was high, and the presence of a few prestigious guests from Asia was greatly appreciated (though, unfortunately, there were no participants from Singapore this year). Registration fees were reasonable and reflected the high quality of the services provided.

The organising team announced that this three-day tournament will be held again next year, and I strongly encourage everyone to participate.

Chavannes-près-Renens, Switzerland, 2nd June 2025

G. Hêche