



Observer report for UK Open Riichi Mahjong Championship 2025

Observer: Niklas Johansson

Date: August 2nd – 3rd 2025

Place: Guildford, United Kingdom

Website or other source(s) of information: All information on a website ukrc2025. Registration, fee, schedule, address to venue and list of participants.

Participants: 72 players

Countries represented: United Kingdom: 64 players, Spain: 2 players, Sweden: 1 player, Germany: 1 player, Belgium: 1 player, Ireland: 1 player, Hong Kong: 1 player, Singapore: 1 player.

Playing schedule: 2 days, 8 rounds (4+4) of 90 minutes

Location: The Guildford Masonic Centre. A spacious and comfortable venue, featuring a charming outdoor wooden deck that overlooks the British countryside - a perfect and relaxing spot to unwind between games.

Equipment: We played using junk mats and standard mahjong sets, all in excellent condition.

Refereeing: John Duckworth as a non-playing Head referee + 2 playing referees.

Complaints: None

Information / communication during the tournament: A visible clock was projected onto a large screen, with a clear gong sound and announcement marking the end of each round. Scores were displayed both on-screen and on the tournament website.

Sessions: A competitive yet light-hearted atmosphere, defined by fairness, friendliness, and fun.

Catering: Lunch and dessert were included and served at the venue. Beer and soft drinks for purchase.

Prizes: Trophies for individual ranking (1st, 2nd, and 3rd), and for best British player. Extra prizes for biggest hand and greatest recovery day 2.

Conclusion: A very nice tournament in Guildford with a lot of new players. Let's hope more international players will participate next time as UK Mahjong org. are such great hosts.