



Observer report for Irish Riichi Championship 2025

Observer: Benoit DESSORT

Date: August 23rd – 24th 2025

Place: Cork, Ireland

Website or other source(s) of information: <https://mahjong.ie/cork-2025/>

Participants: 40 players

Playing schedule: 2 days, 8 rounds (5+3) of 75 minutes

Location: The “Crow’s Nest” is a nice a spacious place for a tournament this size and also has a separate space for people to sit, chat and eat.

Equipment: We played with clean sets of tiles, most of them being of AMOS brand, on “junkmat™” mats.

Refereeing: Maksym Ivanov was non-player referee.

Complaints: None.

Praises: The subsidized accommodations proposed by the tournament once more had a lot of success, proposing a cheap and convenient housing solution for people coming from abroad.

Information / communication during the tournament:

Visible clock projected from a computer on a screen. This screen wasn’t available the first day due to technical issues, but the laptop screen was put up to a place where everyone could see it.

Sessions: Excellent playing atmosphere, the (rare) chombo settlements were done without any trouble.

Catering: Lunch in the side area was comprised of a catered assortment of sandwiches, tapas and salads, along with a variety of drinks. Vegetarian needs were fulfilled and overall quality was really good.

Other: Social play got organized in an arcade game pub, with great ambience to chat and goof around, allowing players to know each other better and bond over a drink.

Prizes: Trophies for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3rd), and a prize for the best comeback (rank increase during day 2)

Conclusion: Excellent tournament with one of the best mood overall. People serious but not aggressive.