



Observer report for Baden MCR open 2025 (13th) - SISICUP II

Observer : Marion HOARAU

Date : 08-09 November 2025

Place : Groß-Enzersdorf, Austria

Website or other source(s) of information : All information on the website of the tournament : registration, program, list of participants, list of teams as well as several mails to give useful informations.

Participants : 48 players from 11 countries : Austria, France, Italy, Swenden, Switzerland, Poland, Germany, Hungary, Slovakia, Portugal and Belgium.

AUT	ITA	SWE	HUN	FRA	SVK	SUI	POR	POL	GER	BEL
										
15	9	8	7	3	1	1	1	1	1	1

Playing schedule : 2 days, 7 rounds (4+3) of 115 minutes

Location : The tournament will take place in Hotel am Sachsengang in Groß Enzersdorf. They are several restaurants around.

Equipment : We played with nice shiny new tiles mahjong sets.
2 colors : blue and green.

Refereeing: Timur Hahn (referee player) and Martin Scheichenbauer (referee player).

Complaints : There were a few comments regarding of the tournament

- The tables didn't had any edges and making the mixture less easier.
- One of the tables creaks, making concentration more difficult.
- There were no non-playing referees. One of the referees was not EMA-certified.
- Almost all rounds started later because there was confusion about the tournament schedule between the one displayed and the one on the players' routes (no clear announcement of the changed schedule).
- The score sheets were not practical cause it wasn't in english and also there wasn't column "winner" ; « loser » and « total » on the scoresheet and this has led to problems in the calculations or the allocation of points.

- Standings were not posted between every round.
- No one inform when it left 15 minutes during the session.
- For some players, language barrier plus lack of knowledge regarding rules was a problem.
- The courses had not been checked and 2 players met twice.
- There were no more choices at lunch on day 1 for players arriving little bit later.
- Award ceremony was 30 min delayed.
- During one of the session, protocol change for 4 players.
Explanation of the situation : the score was wrong (at hand 14) but each player was okay to play hand 15 so they built the wall and rolled the dice before the final gong. So the hand 15 was valid to start. And the player holding the sheet can correct the score. But finally one of them asked to not playing because the score was wrong before starting the hand 15 and called the referee.
 The decision of the referee was to cancel the hand 15. The 3 other players didn't understand why because everyone was okay to play the hand 15.

Information / communication during the tournament : Visible clock projected from a computer on a screen. A gong clearly informs players of the start of sessions.

Sessions : There was a scheduling problem in the timetables and some sessions started later. The atmosphere was positive.

Catering : Lunch in the same place at the hotel restaurant with starter and main course. The dessert was proposed later. Typical meals were proposed.
 Coffee and tea were proposed between each break.
 Natural and sparkling water were made available for all the participants. And the organizers assigned each player a number for the bottles (it was a good idea to find his bottle).
 The organizer proposed to have an optional dinner (Greek restaurant) on Saturday night.

Prizes : Prize for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3rd) and also for 4th to 10th.
 Prize for the best top 3 Austrian players (national ranking).
 Trophy for the winner of the Sissi Cup (Budapest MCR 2025 and Baden MCR 2025) and prize for the 2nd and 3rd.
 Small gifts for the best player and the least good of each session and for the last player in the tournament.
 Gifts for observer and referees.

Conclusion : Johanna Bernkopf welcomed us very well and proposed to play on Friday night. The main room was comfortable (spacious enough).
 The tournament went okay despite having problems mentioned below. Johanna worked hard to fix all the problems but some things need to be worked on for the next edition.