

# Observer report for Danish Open 2010

**Observer:** Olivier Boivin

**Date:** may 15/16, 2010

**Place:** Copenhagen

**Website or other source(s) of information:**

A very complete webpage dedicated to the tournament on the "Mahjong Danmark" website, with the participants list frequently updated.

**Participants:** 48 : 19 Danish, 16 French, 6 Dutch, 3 German, 3 Sweden and 1 Swiss.

**Playing schedule:**

Welcome ceremony on Friday with social playing and a special drink for the 50<sup>th</sup> (!! ) participation of Anton in a MERS tournament.

6 rounds of 2 hours. 4 on Saturday, 2 on Sunday followed by the award ceremony.

The schedule was exactly right on time thanks to a efficient gong and gongman !

**Location:**

Room was in a school for young kids, large enough to host all the tables and leaving enough space between them. The rest room was nice and separate from the playing room; unisex WC but nobody has complained about.

**Equipment:**

Nice mahjong sets: good quality, good size, all identical except the colour (green and blue) to avoid mixed tiles between tables. Nice Chinese mahjong tables (except 2) cleverly disposed under the ramp lights. Some chairs were with small wheels, not really disturbing.

A good idea: a different colour for the East chair.

**Refereeing:** Anders Labich.

One issue about breaking accidentally the wall after the deal, even if the case was not exactly the one described in point 2.8, the sanction (dead hand) applied was considered a little bit severe for the foul. The game was not "started" (East doesn't have discarded its first tile – but players have all opened their hands) and another wall could have been build. As I'm not a referee myself, I can just report this fact and invite the referees of the different countries to discuss this case during a refereeing session.

**Complaints:** None, except this refereeing issue.

**Information / communication during the tournament:**

Before the start of the first round, there has been an explicit information speech during which I was announced as the EMA observer, so everyone knows to who they can complain if needed.

The timer was very well visible, all the results (printed copy) were available within a short time, all the players could check them before the start of the next round.

**Sessions:** Excellent playing atmosphere, FFF (Fairplay, Friendly and Fun).

**Catering:** Lunch was nice (sandwiches with different varieties for everyone); drinks (soft and beers, tea, coffee) were free and unlimited.

The Chinese buffet that was proposed Saturday evening was cheap and really good.

**Prices:**

- Nice T-shirts of the Danish Open 2010 for each participant (additional T-shirt of "Mahjong Danmark" can be bought).
- Trophies for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, and for the best team, games from Daja mahjong for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Special Price for a special Quizz (consist in made some prognostics on guess some tournament results) which was as difficult as original.

**Conclusion:** An excellent tournament that you absolutely have to try! But train yourself first, because Danish players are -almost- unbeatable!