

Observer report for: 2011 Riichi Mahjong Oranda Sai Kou

Observer: Ian Fraser

Date: 17 and 18 September 2011

Place: den Hommel, Kennedylaan, Utrecht

Website or other source(s) of information:

Good website info and simple application process. Also email invitation.

Participants:

Country	number of players
Netherlands	34
France	21
Great Britain	3
Germany	4
Russia	1
Portugal	1
Finland	1
Danmark	1
Sweden	1
Canada	1
Total	68

Playing schedule: 9 rounds of 90 minutes

Location: Utrecht

Equipment: High quality, uniform sets and playing tables.

Referee: 1 non playing referee (Janco Onnink). 1 playing referee (Sjef Strik).

Complaints: Excellent playing conditions at den Hommel, although the room used for Day One was a little small for the number of participants.

30 mins for lunch was felt by some to be too short a break.

Information / communication during the tournament:

Very good in general. More obvious data about session starting times would be welcome.

Good display (projected onto screen) of time left in sessions. Results per round posted promptly between sessions and also projected to screen between rounds

Sessions:

9x 90 min with 15 minute warning of session due to end. Finish current hand then play one more. This was a very good system.

Catering:

Satisfactory and varied buffet lunch, and tea&coffee available consistently. Water also supplied but not replenished when empty.

Prices:

€45 (€22.50 per day) represented satisfactory value.

Conclusion:

Well run tournament with excellent playing conditions and equipment.