



## **Observer report for Swedish Open 2012 (MCR, MERS 2)**

**Observer:** Tina Christensen

**Date:** September 15-16 2012

**Place:** Gothenburg, Sweden

**Website or other source(s) of information:** All information on the website of Svenska Mahjongförbundet : registration, program, list of participants.

**Participants:** 24 players (18 Sweden, 6 Denmark)

**Playing schedule:** 2 days, 5 rounds (3+2) of 120 minutes

**Location:** The venue was nice for a small tournament, if a little bit out of the way. There was only one toilet, so there was some queue, but it was manageable. It was possible to sleep at the venue if you brought a sleeping bag; very convenient for players without a big budget.

**Equipment:** Most tables were nice lipped mahjong tables; one was a bridge table, not lipped, but with good surface and size. Tiles were different from table to table and a little unstable on the smooth nylon surface. Not optimal, but not problematic either.

**Refereeing:** Jonas Thorén and Kai Nilsson were non-playing referees and handled all situations professionally, swiftly and smoothly.

**Complaints:** None.

### **Information / communication during the tournament:**

Visible clock on a screen. A gong clearly informs players of the start and the end of sessions. Ranking up to date between each session was shown on a big tv screen.

**Sessions:** Friendly atmosphere. Several beginners in the tournament meant that it was only rarely that all 16 hands were played.

**Catering:** Lunch was not included. Players walked 15 mins to a lunch restaurant. Since the weather was nice, it was quite refreshing, but lunch options should maybe have been communicated more clearly.

**Prizes:** Medals for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3<sup>rd</sup>), and medals for the best team. Trophy for the Swedish champion.

**Conclusion:** Nice and friendly tournament, very well organised.