



Observer's report on ERMCMQ (European Riichi Mahjong Championships Qualification) (Riichi, MERS 1)

Observer: Szymon Lasota.

Date: 12 May 2013.

Place: Warsaw, Poland.

Website or other source(s) of information: All information on the tournament website www.turnieje.mahjong.waw.pl: registration, program, list of participants; 3 languages (Polish, English, Japanese).

Participants: 16 players (14 Poland, 2 Japan –but living in Poland).

Playing schedule: 1 day, 4 rounds of 90 minutes.

Location: The venue was big enough to host tournament for 80 people or even 100. There were 2 toilets at the same floor and more on the others. Easy communication from city center and railway station. There was cafeteria, but it was open only during last round.

Equipment: All mahjong sets and playing mats were high quality products imported from Japan. Tables size was fitting perfectly to size of mats.

Refereeing: There was no non-playing referee, but there was four of them (Dominik Kolenda, Jakub Tomaszewski, Szymon Lasota, Krzysztof Sasinowski), so there was no problem in solving any problems.

Complaints: None.

Information / communication during the tournament:

Visible clock on computer (visible from all 4 tables). A gong informed players 15 minutes before end of each session. Ranking up to date between each session, displayed on computer screen.

Sessions: Friendly playing atmosphere.

Catering: Lunch not included in price of tournament. Several restaurants nearby of playing venue, and organizers provided phone numbers to many kinds of restaurants, which delivered food.

Prizes: Medals and prizes (Mahjong books, magnetic go, Japanese theme board games, other gadgets) for first 4 places. Towel for tears wiping for the last place. Delegate (winner of tournament) got also official polo shirt with polish emblem & association logo and money from sponsor & PLM for cost of ERMCM. Total amount of prizes value over 1000 zł (250€) + 1000 zł funds for representative.

Conclusion: Not many players, but very friendly atmosphere, and very well organised.