



Observer report for Graz Open 2017 (Riichi, MERS 1)

Observer: Henrik LETH

Date: April 29th – 30th 2017

Place: Graz, Austria

Website or other source(s) of information: All information on the website of Ryan Pin (<https://ryanpin.lima-city.de/>): registration, program, list of participants, etc.

Participants: 28 players from 6 countries

Austria 16, Slovakia 6, Germany 2, Poland 2, France 1, Denmark 1

Playing schedule: 2 days, 8 hanchans (4+4) of 90 minutes.

Location: The Technical University of Graz.

Equipment: Games and tables of adequate quality.

Refereeing: Alexander Wankmüller was non-playing referee (and had a backup most of the time).

Complaints: None. I had no comments from the players in my capacity as EMA Observer.

Information / communication during the tournament: Visible clock projected from a computer on a screen. A (computer) gong clearly informs players of the start and the end of sessions. Ranking up to date between each session also projected on the screen. Seating posted so everyone could see who they would play in each hanchan.

Sessions: Excellent playing atmosphere, FFF (Fair-play, Friendly and Fun).

Catering: Pre-ordered lunch in town (two different places). Asian restaurant for dinner Saturday evening for anyone who wanted to join. Coffee, tea and delicious cakes in the breaks.

Prizes: Trophies for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3rd). Last player can participate for free in next year's tournament.

Conclusion: Just like the two previous years (that I know of), it was a very friendly and nice tournament in Graz. Everyone, both foreigners and Austrians, seemed happy with the tournament.