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**Observer report for Rode Lotus Tournament 2017 (MCR, MERS 1)**

**Observer:** Ad van der Linden

**Date:** September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Place:** Leuven, Belgium

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**Website or other source(s) of information:** All information of the Rode Lotus website (<http://www.rodelotustournament.be>) including: registration, program, list of participants, hotel, etc.

**Participants:** 40 players

**Represented countries:** Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany

**Playing schedule:** 1 day, 4 rounds of 100 minutes

**Location:** Excellent playing room in Leuven

**Equipment:** Well equipped materials (tables, tiles etc).

**Referee:** Rudi Kopmanis was the non-playing referee

**Complaints:** None.

**Information / communication during the tournament:**

Visible clock projected on a large projection screen. A gong clearly informs players of the start and the end of sessions. Ranking up to date between each session, printed and put on the wall

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

**Catering:** Breakfast included and a lunch, drinks, cakes, sweets and others between rounds.

**Prizes:** Trophies for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3<sup>rd</sup>)

**Conclusion:** Very nice tournament in Leuven. Well organized, friendly and competitive. A recommendation for European players in 2018.