



## Observer report for Vienna Autumn Riichi Open 2019 (RCR, MERS 3)



**Observer:** Łukasz GRZYBOWSKI

**Date:** October 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> 2019

**Place:** Vienna, Austria

**Website or other source(s) of information:** All information on the website of Mahjong Austria (<https://riichimahjong.at/neuigkeiten-terminen/vienna-autumn-riichi-open-2019/>): registration, agenda, list of participants, fee. The website lacked information about the referee and ema observer, the MERS calculation is also outdated.

**Participants:** 40 players

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

**Location:** GO7 club apartment which can hold maximum of 48 players. The place has a kitchen, 2 toilets and 2 separate smaller rooms for players to hang out after their finished their games.

**Equipment:** Junkmats or non-automatic mahjong tables and quality mahjong sets on each table, sticks including green ones for 500p, red sticks for players in debt.

**Refereeing:** Alexander Wankmüller was non-player referee.

**Complaints:** None.

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

Visible clock projected from a computer on a screen. Referee or tournament staff informing players of gong. Ranking up to date between each session projected onto screen.

**Sessions:** High level of gameplay with inclusion of many top ranked European players. Small problem with people speaking a language not whole table could understand, which could lead to potentially hinting.

**Catering:** Traditional Austrian dishes in a restaurant for both days.

**Prizes:** Trophies and bags of sweets for individual ranking (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) and a voucher for free entry to the next tournament for the lowest ranked foreign player..

**Conclusion:** As always excellent quality tournament in Vienna with lots of very experienced players from top places in Europe. I hope however the Austrian website's tournament page could be updated with the not so recent changes in MERS qualification.