



Observer report for Berlin Riichi 2023 (Riichi, MERS 4)

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Date: June 10th – 11th 2023

Place: Berlin, Germany

Website or other source(s) of information: All information on the website <https://berlin-mahjong.club/yakitori-open/>

Participants: 84 players

Represented countries

GER	FRA	POL	UKR	DEN	NED	GBR	FIN	SWE	AUT	---	ESP	BEL
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30	13	10	8	5	4	3	3	2	2	2	1	1

Playing schedule: 2 days, 8 rounds (4+4) of 75 minutes + 1 game

Location: Sportschule des Landessportbundes Berlin e.V. is large enough to host 84 players and leave enough space between them.

Equipment: We played with new games and tables.

Refereeing: Julian Nowakowski and Junyu Wang were non-playing referees.

Complaints:

- The first day there was not enough space in the lunch room. That was fixed the second day.
- There was no transparent draw for player numbers. The table setting was predetermined.
- The use of an automatic counting system (Pantheon Tournament System) led to discussion. In particular, predetermining East. There were players who started on East more often than average and players who did not start on East at all.
- There were no printed scorecards on the tables.
- There were no presents for the referees and EMA observer. It is not an obligation, but it is an acknowledgment of the effort made.

Information / communication during the tournament:

The clock was visible on the smartphone that was also used to record the scores. The results were immediately processed by Pantheon Tournament System in the standings.

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

Catering: Lunch was a Japanese dish brought by a caterer. Attention was paid to special dietary requirements. Lunch was served on another floor in the same building.

Prizes: Trophies for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3rd), and for the highest score of each round. A special prize for number last.

Conclusion: A very nice tournament in Berlin. It was the first time for the organization and they did a splendid job.