



## Observer report for Reus van Rotterdam 2024

**Observer:** Marieke Verheyden (BE)

**Date:** April 20, 2024






**Place:** Denksporthuis Pijnacker, Netherlands

**Website or other source(s) of information:** All information on the website of ENMV, in Dutch as well as English

**Participants:** 72 competition players (+ 32 recreational players)

Most of the participants for this 1-day tournament are Dutch.

### Represented countries

NED	BEL	GER	FRA	ESP
				
59	10	1	1	1

**Playing schedule:** 1 day, 4 rounds of 95min+, first round started at 10 am and we finished at 6pm, everything on schedule.

**Location:** *Het Denksporthuis* is well equipped to host small mahjong and other mind game tournaments. It is located in the centre of a smaller village near Rotterdam and is accessible by public transport. Clear instructions were sent to the players 2 weeks before the tournament, e.g. about parking restrictions in the area and available alternatives. The room was light and large enough to play, not too hot nor too cold. Competition tables were set in the largest part of the room, and recreational competition on the other side. There was not a lot of spare room to move around during the breaks or to eat your lunch, and the number of toilets was rather limited for this number of players.

**Equipment:** The game sets were standardized, and the tables covered with a nice square piece of fabric. Some players missed the wind indicators and borders at the tables, but no complaints were made. The table numbers were improvised and difficult to read.

**Refereeing:** Menno Van Lienden and Twan Van Den Nieuwendijk were both playing referees, while Ad Van der Linden helped out correcting score sheets. Fortunately not many interventions were needed.

**Complaints:** None

**Information / communication during the tournament:**

Ad was the host of the day and spoke loud and clear in Dutch. He had given some necessary info in English to the 2 non-Dutch speakers beforehand. He provided us with all the necessary information before the start of the first round and made some smaller announcements between rounds, like asking the players to use their proper player number or explain how the games should be ranged after the last round. A timer was projected on the screen and visible for all players, and a large gong was used to announce when rounds started/ended. The results were projected on the screen as soon as possible and before the start of the next session. At tables with non-Dutch speaking players, some players continued speaking Dutch to each other, where English should be the standard.

**Sessions:** Recreational players had slightly shorter sessions than the competition players, which was good to spread the lunch service and the rush on sanitary.

**Catering:** In the morning, a wide array of cheesecakes and home-baked cookies/cupcakes were presented with coffee/tea on the house. For lunch there was soup, a self-service buffet with e.g. hotdogs, and a separate selection of vegetarian bread toppings and tuna salad. Some fruit was also provided, as well as apero snacks before the final prize ceremony. The card system for consumptions was a bit complicated for some.

**Prizes:** Nice handcrafted wooden trophies for individual ranking (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>), an exchange cup (Giant of Rotterdam) and some smaller gifts for the referees and observer. There were also similar trophies for individual ranking (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) for the recreational players.

**Conclusion:** Routined tournament organizers, did a great job, always a pleasure to come and play at ENMV!