



## Observer report for Tenpai Finnish Championship 2024 (Riichi, MERS 2,5)

**Observer:** Eskild MIDDELBOE



**Date:** December 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024

**Place:** Tampere, Finland

**Website or other source(s) of information:** All information on the website of Mahjong Club Tenpai (<http://www.tenpai.net>) : registration, program, list of participants,...

**Participants:** 48 players (47 FIN, 1 DEN)

### Represented countries

FIN	DEN
	
47	1

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

**Location:** The board game café Taverna is plenty large for the 48 players, and has plenty room for the games and post-game rest/talk, without disturbing the games in progress.

**Equipment:** We played with a variety of games brought both by organizers and participants. There were no issues with any of the sets. Calculators were added to all tables on the second day.

**Refereeing:** Joni Virolainen was non-player referee.

**Complaints:** No complaints were made to the observer directly, but there were announcements during the tournament from the organizers about: 1. People not checking if the scores written on the results sheet adding up, and asking people to double-check. (Calculators were added to better facilitate this, as well as smoothen the process of writing orasu sheets) 2. Some players had been “moaning” excessively when having a bad game. This was distracting for other players, and players were asked kindly to make less noise.

### Information / communication during the tournament:

Visible clock projected from a computer onto a screen. Referee would announce verbally the start and end of sessions. Ranking up to date between each session, projected on the same screen as the clock.

**Sessions:** Excellent playing atmosphere, FFF (Fair-play, Friendly and Fun). Players were respectful, and vibe was cozy and hygge.

**Catering:** No catering provided, but there were lunch options at the venue itself. Venue being in the city center also meant there were plenty of options around to choose from for the lunch break.

**Prizes:** Trophies for individual ranking (1st, 2nd and 3<sup>rd</sup>), as well as a trophy for best Finnish player, and a trophy for best Mahjong Club Tenpai player. Chocolate was handed out for each Yakuman. (5 total!)

**Conclusion:** Very good, fun tournament in Tampere. Very well organized. I hope to come back soon and can warmly recommend it!