

## Observer Report 15th Belgium Open

Observer : Eveline Broers

Date : Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday 23<sup>th</sup> of February 2025

Place : Temse (Belgium)

### MERS 2 tournament

Information could be found on the website [kleine3draken.be](http://kleine3draken.be)

Information at the website was clear and complete.

### Participants

There were 96 players from Belgium (13), The Netherlands (34), Germany (14), France (30), Spain (1), Sweden (1) and Switzerland (3).

### Playing Schedule

2 days, 7 rounds of 120 minutes.

4 rounds at day 1, 3 rounds at day 2.

At the start of the rounds, the clock was set on 100 minutes. So 10 minutes before the end of a round a signal was given. At that moment the current game could be finished, no new game could be started.

### Location

The tournament took place in the Community Centre of Temse

### Equipment

Good. We played on mahjongtables with big tile mahjongsets.

### Refereeing

Non playing referee: Michel van Damme. There were no big issues.

### Complaints

Two players contacted me at the end of the tournament.

-A French player asked me to report that it was a great tournament. Good

atmosphere, enough space between the tables, good food, well organized and he especially loved the prices.

-Another French player came up with the idea to give a signal after 155 minutes, instead of the 150 the organization choosed for. That way the rounds come closer to the 120 minutes.

He also mentioned that the EMA should make it a rule, so that all the MERS2 tournaments have the same schedule.

(I told him this was suggested a year earlier by a another player. I also mentioned it in an earlier observer report. I promised him to pass this on the EMA, because more players think it will be good to have a standard time.)

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

Visible clock projected from a computer on a screen.

The results were available in time, printed and posted on walls.

### **Catering**

Lunch in the same place, served on plates. A hardworking kitchen brigade delivered a very good job.

On both days after the first round there was soup and lunch after the second round. Bread on day 1 and a very special lunch on day 2: homemade beef stew with fresh fries. A typical Belgium dish.

### **Prizes**

There were prizes for the numbers 1, 2 and 3 and a price for the last ranked player.

There was also a price for the number 15, because of the 15<sup>th</sup> audition of the tournament. And all the players who made the little three dragons received a box of chocolates.

During the tournament a box of Belgium cookies was on the table for each player because of the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### **Conclusion**

The tournament was well organized, as always. We played competitive but in an excellent atmosphere (FFF).

