Observer report for Oranda Sai Kou 2024 (RCR, MERS)

Observer: Dagmar Fischer

Date: 23.11. - 24.11.2024

Place: Wijkcentrum Schadewijk, Oss, Netherlands

Website or other source(s) of information: All information including registration, program, list of participants was available on the website of Oranda Sai Kou 2024 - Riichiclub Niji

Participants: 64 competition-players; 10 countries were participating:

Netherland (42)Germany (7) Belgium (7)Poland (2) Spain (1) Portugal (1) Romania (1) France (1) Denmark (1) United Kingdom (1)

Playing schedule: 2 days, 9 Hanchan

Location: The hall in Wijkcentrum Schadewijk was spacious enough to accommodate all players, providing ample space between them. The lighting, temperature (ideal for brain sports at 19–20°C), and acoustics were perfect.

Equipment: All games (similar sets), tables and chairs were in good condition.

Refereeing: 2 referees were available: Pieter Potmeer (non-playing referee), Ivar Bouwman (playing referee)

Complaints: None! The atmosphere was really friendly and welcoming.

Information / communication during the tournament:

All announcements were made in English, making them easy for everyone to understand. The Orga-Team personally introduced the start and end of each Hanchan. Additionally, a well-visible clock informed all players about the remaining Hanchan time. The rankings after each session were up to date and printed out.

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

Catering: Lunch was served in the meeting hall of the Wijkcentrum Schadewijk. On Saturday, various dishes such as sandwiches and salad were offered, while Sunday featured two types of hot lunches and a mixed starter plate. Additional options were available for vegetarians, vegans, and those with special dietary needs.

During the coffee breaks, delicious local snacks, fruits, and specialties were provided for free. Water, coffee, and tea were also included in the tournament fee.

Prizes: Trophies were hand over for following result:

- Ranking 1-3 and place 64 (wild card)
- Beside that, organizers, referees, and supporters were honoured.

Conclusion: A very cozy tournament in Oss.

The entire Orga-Team did a fantastic job, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere. Their dedication and attention to detail made the experience truly enjoyable for everyone involved.