

ARA Event Observer Report

Observer Name: Dustin Fries

Observer State of Residence: Maryland

Event Name: PML Open 2025

Event Location: 39352 Fremont Boulevard

Event Date: 10/11/2025 - 10/12/2025

Number of Participants: 64

Event Schedule Summary:

8 Rounds of Swiss scramble with 60 minutes + 1 hand across two days

After that, everyone played two sets of two games matching on placement, time increased to 75 minutes + 1 hand.

Names of Officials/Judges:

Bichen W.

Jimmy W.

Garrett C.

Communication to Players:

Standings and pairings were listed on <https://www.scoremj.com> Judges communicated announcements to players as normal.

Prizes:

People could choose their own prize from a wide selection of Mahjong pillows, shirts, candy, and other items with higher placement getting first pick and lower placements getting later picks. Trophies and Medals were provided to the top 8 or so.

Catering:

Water bottles and a variety of candy was provided.

Tournament Atmosphere:

Relaxed atmosphere but still a highly competitive environment, added camera pressure if you happen to be on the streaming table, which is also nice to review games after.

Complaints and Issues:

No unusual complaints that I heard in particular from other players. I did notice that the swiss pairing algorithm was not working as intended for the first few hanchan and communicated that to the staff and that was fixed by day 2.

Observer Personal Summary:

A great tournament as usual, looking forward to coming back next year.