

Organizer response to the Toronto Riichi Open 2025 observer report:

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Toronto Riichi Open 2025 as well as to those who provided feedback.

Issues regarding refereeing can partially be attributed to the hospitalization of the original head referee, Daniel Tutor, less than two weeks prior to the tournament. Because he would be unable to be head referee, some of the time that would have been spent training was instead spent looking for and training a completely new referee. In addition, some referees ended up taking on other organizational roles that would have been held by Daniel Tutor, which reduced the time available to train. In the future, we will strive to communicate better between referees, have more training, and have more referees in case of emergency.

Players are encouraged to attempt to solve minor issues on their own, such as reminding others at the table to shuffle fully. We will strive to communicate this better to participants. We will also emphasize the open ability to call a referee should these issues not be resolved by the players (including the reminder to verbally call for a referee in addition to raising one's hand), and to tell referees about other issues so that reminders can be given to the floor before the start of hanchans.

Regarding the repeat pairings in the last two hanchans, we recognize the limitations that Good Enough Golfers may have and will look into using a different tool with ample time to test in the future.

The issue regarding the door was intended to be alleviated with a security guard from the university that we had hired. However, security never came and resulted in returning to the "@door" method that we had used last year. We have sought a refund.

Due to Toronto being quite expensive, the current Toronto Metropolitan University venue and room is our best compromise with location, expected attendance and budget. However, we will attempt to communicate more the need to be quiet and mindful of others at future tournaments. We will also consider alternate waiting areas that are further away from the playing area.

We will strive to implement these improvements to create a better (and better) experience at the Toronto Riichi Open 2026.