

DC Riichi Response to DCO 2026 ARA Report

General Response

We had a handful of things that did not go perfectly, but tried to do the best we could with setbacks we were encountering and challenges we faced. There are several things that we have our eyes on in order to improve events put on by DC Riichi in the future, and we are actively listening to any and all feedback to provide the best attendee experience we can. Below we would like to provide extra clarity to some of the disruptions that occurred in order to show our dedication to providing a great experience. Please note that this will not cover everything that appears in the observer report, and more information can be found within DC Riichi's post event report.

Hanchan Delays

While delays are commonplace, they can still be frustrating. As the event went on we created new ways to handle challenges that were causing delays, such as moving players to the extra table set up when a set was marked, or staggering the start times of tables in order to try and get as many games to finish on time as possible. Our opening ceremonies ran longer than intended and we are looking to streamline the etiquette and rules presentation as well as the opening ceremonies to try and start the first hanchan on time for future events. For next year we are also planning on having additional event announcements be at a more reasonable slot and time in an effort to reduce schedule strain as much as possible, as well as improve established procedures from this year on staggering the start of tables so one table's issues will not affect the rest.

Issues With A Specific Judge

There were several issues regarding a specific judge throughout the event as outlined, and after each incident was brought to the head TO he corrected them and the judge corrected their behavior. That being said, the judge was at fault for every incident that occurred and this continued into later hanchans. We apologize for the frustrations caused by them, and will be working on stricter guidelines and processes for judges in the future. In addition, we will not be allowing them to judge events for DC Riichi until at least the latter half of 2027 with a strict requirement that they have proven their etiquette, procedures, and rulings align with DC Riichi's standards.

Noise Complaint For Another Table

When we received this complaint, we did inform the table mid hanchan between rounds to make calls audible and clear while remembering that other tables are playing and not to be too loud. Additionally, to the player in question the Head Judge specifically talked to them after that round to ask them to be mindful about how loud they were being while making calls.

Blocks Side Event

We apologize that the event was cancelled, and are actively planning ways in which we can improve side event scheduling and experience for our players to give them more for their ticket. As a consolation, if anyone would like to send their creations to DC Riichi's #general chat in their discord or email it to info@dcriichimahjong.com and our staff will rate it.

Speakers By Back Tables

With so many people in a large room, a speaker system is necessary to make sure everyone can understand any updates on the tournament and announcements for the event. We had a singular speaker set up provided by a DC Riichi staff member. While the quality of the speaker was high, only having one in the room meant we still needed to speak loudly for the entire room to hear our announcements, which was uncomfortable for those who were close to the speaker. For future events we will incorporate a different speaker set up that will be less disruptive while still being audible for the entire room.