ARA Event Observer Report

Observer Name:
Quincy Huang

Observer State of Residence:
New Jersey

Event Name:
World Riichi League Major July 2026 Philly

Event Location:
Philly Mah-Jawn Clubhouse
123 Chestnut St Suite 204A

Event Date:
July 11-12, 2026

Number of Participants:
32

Event Schedule Summary: *(Days played, number of rounds, finalist rounds, time per round, etc.)*
2 days, 4 Hanchan each day, 8 Hanchan total, all cumulative scramble, timer is 60 minutes + 1 hand

Names of Officials/Judges:
Mike L.
James E.
Sarah A.
Tingkai (Tim) Z.

Communication to Players: *(How were announcements, standings, pairings etc. communicated to players during the event?)*
Announcements were communicated via emails and Discord messages in the event server.
Standings and pairings were displayed on the World Riichi app/Website and on the TV in the venue.
Standings were also posted in the event Discord server after each round.

Prizes:
Trophies for top 2. Medals for 3rd and 4th.

Catering:
Water, coffee, and light snacks were provided at no extra cost.

Tournament Atmosphere:

Professional, friendly, overall excellent.

Complaints and Issues:

- Player Harrison C. reported experiencing two rare Chiitoi situations during games. While acknowledging these could be coincidental, the player noted that their occurrence during an autotable tournament seems unusual and suggests adopting the practice of shuffling tiles before pushing them into the machine. The player has explicitly consented to the inclusion of their name in this report.

Observer Personal Summary:

This tournament was well organized, professional, and competitive.