

OEMC 2007

Open European Mahjong Championship 2007 Newsletter 3

April 2007

Dear mahjong friends in Europe and around the world!

We have experienced an overwhelming interest in the OEMC 2007 this spring since the registration has opened which is great and wonderful, but also heart-breaking each time we've had to let down interested players. The number of participants has been increased from 128 to 136, and we are happy that it has become possible to invite Russian and Swiss participants, who until recently were countries where we had no contacts.

The previously mentioned memorial mahjong sets have been manufactured in China and are now underway, but shipping takes several weeks. We hope to very soon be able to post pictures of the tiles, which will be for sale at the OEMC 2007 and also available before that through our sponsor mah-jong-shop.com who has been very professional and pleasant to work with.



Competitors and Teams

Registration is closed. 136 contestants from 20 countries (16 of which are European) will participate in the OEMC 2007. The preliminary list of competitors at OEMC 2007 is available at the website oemc.mahjong.dk, though a few details especially regarding the Danish and Chinese teams are still open. Several countries have already formed four-player teams. For the remaining countries and players we ask that you **please form four-player teams, or for single players tell us any wishes you might have, before May 7th.**

Referees

Head referee Uwe Martens, president of European Mahjong Association and Deutsche Mah-Jongg Liga, has with help from the national organizations recruited a strong team of referees from across Europe:

- Uwe Martens, Germany, Head of Referees
- Norbert Zsomboki, Hungary
- Magarete Stollwitzer, Austria
- Wil Meijer-Kal, Netherlands
- Gao Yuting, China, Honourary Referee

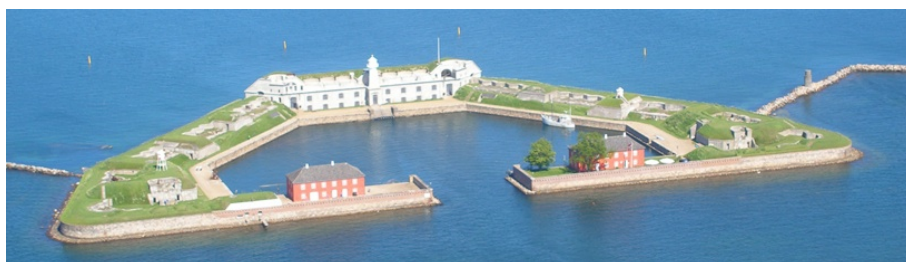
Mr. Gao Yuting will not be acting referee as such, but will be available for consultation on rules issues and will be helping the referee team out if any uncertainty on rule questions arise.

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Banquet and Midsummer's Bonfire

Saturday evening we will gather at Langelinie where the statue of the Little Mermaid is situated. After a very short sailing trip we arrive at the old coast fort Trekroner which today houses a restaurant.

Trekroner means *Three Crowns* and three crowns are what adorn the Swedish coat of arms (the Danish coat of arms is decorated with three lions). Originally Trekroner was a large naval vessel built in 1601; in fact King Christian the Fourth's finest ship. Naming it Trekroner after the heraldic symbol that Sweden and Denmark contested the right to, was a very political act, signalling that the Danish king thought himself the rightful king of Sweden. After the ship was decommissioned from the navy, it was not scrapped, but instead sunk in order to provide a foundation for a coast fort. Construction of today's coast fort Trekroner (situated 200 m south of the original) began in 1786, but was not finished until 1828 after a time of financial difficulties and war with England.



Trekroner. Old coast fort which formed part of the fortification of Copenhagen.

After we've had dinner at the restaurant at Trekroner, a Midsummer's bonfire will be lit on the island. It is an old festival which is called sankthans after St. John the Baptist (who is known in Danish as Johannes Døberen or Skt. Hans). The traditions are far from religious in nature though, but include a bonfire, usually with an effigy of a witch, the burning of which is meant to avert witches and other evils. After the bonfire is lit, as tradition prescribes, there will be a speech and songs.



Midsummer's Bonfire. In Copenhagen on June 21–24 2007 the Sun will rise at 04:28 and set at 21:55. The length of the days: 17 hours and 27 minutes. We hope you will enjoy with us the summer solstice and the long light summer nights.

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Programme

Thursday 21 June 2007

- 16:00–18:00 Check-In & Draw Lots
- 16:30–18:00 Welcome Reception

Friday 22 June 2007

- 08:30–09:00 Daily Check-In
- 09:15–09:30 Opening of OEMC 2007
- 09:30–11:30 First Session
- 11:30–12:00 Break
- 12:00–13:00 Lunch
- 13:00–15:00 Second Session
- 15:00–15:30 Break
- 15:30–17:30 Third Session
- 18:15–20:45 *General Assembly of the European Mahjong Association¹*

Saturday 23 June 2007

- 08:30–09:15 Daily Check-In
- 09:30–11:30 Fourth Session
- 11:30–12:00 Break
- 12:00–13:00 Lunch
- 13:00–15:00 Fifth Session
- 15:00–15:30 Break
- 15:30–17:30 Sixth Session
- 19:00–22:30 Banquet and Midsummer's Bonfire

Sunday 24 June 2007

- 08:30–09:15 Daily Check-In
- 09:30–11:30 Seventh Session
- 11:30–12:00 Break
- 12:00–13:00 Lunch
- 13:00–15:00 Eighth Session
- 15:00–16:00 Break
- 16:00–17:00 Award Ceremony and Closing of OEMC 2007
- 17:00–17:30 Time to say Goodbye

¹For more information: <http://mahjong-europe.org/ga/2007/>

OEMC 2007

Time: 21–24 June 2007

Place: Idrætsfabrikken, Valdemarsgade 14, Copenhagen, Denmark

Rules: Mahjong Competition Rules

Web site: <http://oemc.mahjong.dk/>

Tournament format: 136 contestants. 8 sessions of 120 minutes. Individual competition with prizes for the 3 highest ranked, plus a prize for the highest ranked European. Team competition where each player is part of a team of four players whose individual results are added. Team prizes for the best 3 teams.

Referees:

- Uwe Martens (Head of Referees), um@dmjl.de
- Norbert Zsomboki, Hungary
- Magarete Stollwitzer, Austria
- Wil Meijer-Kal, Netherlands
- Gao Yuting (Honourary Referee), China

Organization: The OEMC 2007 Committee appointed by Mahjong Denmark

- Tina Christensen (Chairman), tina@mahjong.dk, +45 2125 9153
- Anders Łabich (Treasurer), labich@mahjong.dk, +45 3122 1157
- Henrik Leth, hleth@mail.dk, +45 2070 2435
- Jesper Willemoes Hansen, carrier@worldonline.dk

Sponsor: Mah-jong-shop.com



The organizing committee strives to make the OEMC 2007 a great and wonderful mahjong event, which means plenty of mahjong playing in an atmosphere of friendship and sportsmanship with time in the evenings and lunch breaks for socializing with the all the mahjong players coming from around the world.

Best regards,
Tina Christensen

