

# Open European Mahjong Championship

## Happy X-mas!

In our first newsletter we told about our plans for the Open European Mahjong Championship. In our next newsletter, we hope we can reveal the date of the tournament and the names of the main sponsors. But since this will not be before New Year, we thought it would be a good idea to combine our Season's Greetings with some good news about the championship. By the way: if you missed the first newsletter, you can still read it online (be sure you have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed; if you don't, your pc will automatically start downloading that free program when you follow the link below).

Happy X-mas!

*Martin Rep, editor*

Newsletter # 1online:

[http://www.mahjongnews.com/ecmj/Nieuwsbrief\\_1.pdf](http://www.mahjongnews.com/ecmj/Nieuwsbrief_1.pdf)

## The Italians

Also in Italy, enthusiasm has risen for the ECMJ. A couple of Dutch players visited Kong's, an Italian mahjong club in Forli, this autumn. They gave an instruction in the Chinese Official Sport Rules to Marco Mordenti (former mahjong champion of Italy) and some of his friends. The better part of the recent newsletter of the *Federazione Italiana Mah-Jong* (FIMJ, Italian Mahjong Federation) is dedicated to this visit. In the article, the Italian mahjong players are called up to practice the rules so that Italy can delegate a real strong delegation to the EC. The FIMJ is perhaps the largest European mahjong league, with over 200 individual members and ten associated mahjong clubs. For those who can read Italian, or who are just curious: an online copy of the newsletter *Mah-Jong news* (!) can be found at [http://www.mahjongnews.com/ecmj/FIMJ\\_Mahjong\\_News.pdf](http://www.mahjongnews.com/ecmj/FIMJ_Mahjong_News.pdf)

Website of FIMJ: [www.fimj.it](http://www.fimj.it)

## The Germans

In Germany, Uwe Martens recently has founded the Deutsche Mah-Jong Liga. At the moment, the members are mostly players who live near the northern German town of Bremen, but Uwe also has contact with players in other parts of the country, and even with players in Austria and the German speaking part of Switzerland. Last month, eleven DMJL players attended the Golden Dragon Tournament (Hong Kong style) in Nijmegen, the Dutch city where the European Championship is to take place. Uwe and his friends are determined to send an even larger *Mannschaft* to the European Championship.

Website of DMJL: [www.dmjl.de](http://www.dmjl.de)

## The Dutch

In The Netherlands, preparations for the tournament are in full swing. In order to make a real good organization of the championship possible – and for a number of other reasons – the Dutch mahjong players are preparing themselves to unite in an official national mahjong

league. The inaugural meeting of the *Dutch Mahjong Federation* will probably take place begin February, 2004. After the meeting, an instruction in the Chinese Official Sport Rules will be given, combined with a first tournament. Recently, a similar instruction was given to the Amsterdam mahjong club The Kong Robbers.

Website of Dutch Mahjong Federation:

[www.mahjongfederatie.nl](http://www.mahjongfederatie.nl) (still under construction)

## The French, and...

There are initial contacts with other European countries. These contacts are to be extended and maintained in the near future. Our mahjong friends of the *Association Mah-Jong France* have welcomed the idea of the ECMJ, as have individual players from Finland, Sweden, Scotland and even from Russia. But on the other hand, we are still looking for mahjong players in Spain and Greece. There must be... If anyone knows any addresses of mahjong organizations of individuals in these countries, please e-mail us. ([ecmj@mahjongnews.com](mailto:ecmj@mahjongnews.com))

## The EMOC



Tina Christensen, our Danish counterpart, has made a setup for the European Mahjong Organizing Committee. Shortly, she will get in contact with representatives of the national mahjong leagues in Europe to take their

seats in the providential EMOC. An outline of the organization can be found at

<http://www.phys.au.dk/~tina/euromahjongassoc.html>

Tina will be glad with any feedback. Please e-mail her at [tina@mahjong.dk](mailto:tina@mahjong.dk).

## Chinese Official Rules online

Many people ask about the Chinese Official Rules. We have now put them online, as a PDF-document. You can download them and read them if you have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed.

You will find the Official International Rulebook on the website of Mahjong News:

[www.mahjongnews.com/pdf/Official International Rulebook English.pdf](http://www.mahjongnews.com/pdf/Official International Rulebook English.pdf) (English version)

[www.mahjongnews.com/pdf/Official International Rulebook Japanese.pdf](http://www.mahjongnews.com/pdf/Official International Rulebook Japanese.pdf) (Japanese version)

Later on, a Power Point Presentation with an explanation of the rules will be put online.