



**MAHJONG MISSISSIPPI**  
*Hope in Every Hand*

Dear Players,

The big weekend is almost here! We are so excited to welcome you to Meridian for the inaugural Mahjong Mississippi – Hope in Every Hand tournament. We have a wonderful few days planned and can't wait to see players from near and far gather for a weekend of Mahjong, friendship, and fun.

A weekend schedule is attached.

Here are some helpful details so you know what to expect.

**Friday Check-In**

Event check-in opens Friday at noon at the MSU Riley Center. If you will already be in town, we strongly encourage you to check in on Friday. Not only will you avoid the Saturday morning line, but you will also enjoy early access to our Vendor Marketplace, Raffle Showcase, and Passport Meridian, which offers discounts at local shops and boutiques around town.

At check-in you will receive your Player Packet, which includes your name tag, player ID, table assignment instructions, and the schedule for the day. You may even get a sneak peek inside the tournament hall so you can locate your starting table for Saturday.

**Mahj & Mingle – Friday Evening**

Our Mahj & Mingle kickoff event will take place Friday evening just a few blocks from the Riley Center. If you purchased a Mahj & Mingle ticket, you will receive a separate email with arrival and check-in instructions. It will be a fun and relaxed way to meet fellow players and start the weekend together. You will also have a chance to meet and mingle with our Featured Guest, Lynn Cooper, of the Mahjong Collective.

## **Saturday Morning**

Saturday will begin bright and early. Doors open at 8:00 AM, and we'll have coffee, fruit, muffins, cinnamon rolls, and of course Mahjong Morning Mimosas waiting for you.

Vendors will be open and our Raffle Showcase will be available for browsing. Check-in will also reopen at 8:00 AM for anyone who did not check in on Friday.

Please plan to arrive with enough time to receive your player ID and table number so that everyone can be seated and ready to begin play by 8:45 AM.

## **Tournament Play**

All Tournament and Open Play tables will rotate each round, while Reserved Tables of 4 will remain at their original table all day.

\*Pro Tip

Once you find your starting table, take a few minutes to walk the room so you can locate the tables where you will rotate throughout the day.

### **Rotations**

East - Remains at the table for entire tournament

West - Moves UP 1 table after each round

South - Moves UP 2 tables after each round

North - Moves UP 3 tables after each round

Example:

If your Player ID is 14S, you will begin at Table 14 in the South position for Round 1. South players move up two tables each round, so you would move to Table 16 South for Round 2, and so on.

## **Round Timing**

Breaks between rounds are 15 minutes, which allows time for a quick restroom stop or beverage refresh. It is very important that players return to their next table on time so we can stay on schedule. Lunch will provide a longer break to visit, shop, and relax.

Each round will run on a 60-minute timer, which will be displayed on large screens in the room.

During the break before each round, players should shuffle the tiles and build the walls. After the timer begins, the East player rolls the dice, breaks the wall, and begins play by taking the first four tiles.

East players will also help keep the table aware of how much time remains in each round.

### **Tournament Officials**

Tournament Officials will be available throughout the day to assist with questions or rule clarification. If help is needed, East players may signal for an official.

### **Rules**

A copy of the Tournament Rules is included in your player packet. The packet also contains a section that may be used as a personal scorecard if you would like to keep a personal record of your scores for each round throughout the day.

### **Scorekeeping**

Score sheets will be provided to each table and overseen by the East Player.

Each round will include a Bonus Hand Category listed on the score sheet. East will announce the category, and players can earn 5 extra points for a regular Mahjong in that category or 10 points for a concealed Mahjong.

Example: Round 1 Bonus Hand: Winds and Dragons

A player winning Mahjong with line 2: **FF 123 DD DDD DDDD** will earn 5 bonus points

A player winning Mahjong with line 8: **NN EE WWW SSS DDDD** will earn 10 bonus points

Each player will initial the score sheet before it is submitted for tabulation.

Score sheets will be collected after each round by dedicated Score Runners.

Once your table completes four games and the score sheet has been collected, you are welcome to quietly step out for a restroom or refreshment break.

### **Tournament Hall Courtesy**

We will have both social and competitive players in the same room, so we ask everyone to help maintain a quiet and respectful playing environment so tournament players can concentrate.

## **Lunch**

Lunch will be provided by local favorite Cater's Market. You'll enjoy a delicious boxed lunch featuring a Three Dot Trio of chicken salad, pasta salad, and pimento cheese, along with a beverage and a sweet treat.

## **Lunch with Lynn**

We are delighted to welcome Lynn Cooper, founder of Mahjong Collective, as our featured guest instructor and luncheon speaker.

Known for her expertise in National Mahjong League rules, tournament play, and advanced strategy, Lynn leads sold-out Mahjong camps, tournaments, and leagues that help players strengthen their game while building lasting friendships.

She will also join players at the MAHJ & Mingle event and be available throughout the tournament to offer support and strategic insight.

Check out Mahjong Collective on Instagram:

[https://www.instagram.com/mahjongcollective\\_/](https://www.instagram.com/mahjongcollective_/)

Or on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61560762213724>

Lunch will also be a wonderful time to meet new friends, visit vendors, and explore the raffle showcase.

## **Door Prizes and Raffle**

Our door prize team has done an incredible job gathering items, and we have over 60 door prizes to share throughout the day. We also have 8 raffle prizes, including a long weekend stay in Orange Beach, Alabama. The drawings for these prizes will take place immediately following the final round while we complete the tabulation of the tournament scores. Be sure to stay for the announcements—you might just be a winner!

We are so grateful for your support and the generosity of the many Hope Village supporters who made this possible.

We look forward to welcoming you to Meridian and sharing a memorable weekend of Mahjong, friendship, and community. Most importantly, every game played, every ticket purchased, and every prize shared helps support the deserving children at Hope Village for Children.

As always, please feel free to call, email, or text if you have any questions. I have truly enjoyed hearing from many of you over the past few months and look forward to meeting everyone in person very soon.

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