



2010 World Series of Poker Presented by Jack Link's Beef Jerky
Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada

Official Report
Event #50
Pot-Limit Omaha
Buy-In: \$5,000
Number of Entries: 460
Total Net Prize Pool: \$2,162,000
Number of Places Paid: 45
First Place Prize: \$508,090
June 28-30, 2010

TOURNAMENT HEADLINES

Victory by Chance

Chance Kornuth Wins WSOP Gold Bracelet in Event 50

Colorado Poker Pro Wins Pot-Limit Omaha Championship

Kornuth Collects \$508,090 in Prize Money

Through 50 WSOP Events -- WSOP Attendance Increases 25 Percent from Last Year

OVERVIEW

Chance Kornuth was the winner of the \$5,000 buy-in Pot-Limit Omaha championship at the 2010 World Series of Poker. This marked his first career WSOP gold bracelet victory. Kornuth exploded upon the scene at the Rio and came out of nowhere to collect \$508,090 in prize money. This was only his second time to cash at the WSOP. His Las Vegas winnings up to this point had amounted to a grand total of \$2,005.

The final duel was an all-Colorado battle. Kornuth, age 24, is from Denver. He attended college in Boulder at the University of Colorado. The runner up was [Kevin Boudreau](#), from Colorado Springs, CO. He earned a very respectable consolation prize amounting to \$313,792.

THE CHAMPION – CHANCE KORNUTH

The \$5,000 buy-in Pot-Limit Omaha champion (Event #50) is Chance Kornuth, from Denver, CO.

Kornuth is 24-years-old.

Kornuth is a professional poker player.

Kornuth attended the University of Colorado (Boulder) for three-and-a-half years. He studied architectural engineering. Kornuth left college to play poker but may go back later and finish his degree. He was close to graduating when he left school.

Kornuth collected \$508,090 for first place. He was presented with his first WSOP gold bracelet.

According to official records, Kornuth now has one win, one final table appearance, and two cashes at the WSOP. His career WSOP earnings now total \$510,095.

WINNER QUOTES

On whether or not the name 'Chance' had something to do with his chosen profession: "Now, I don't think so. I just found a game that I happen to enjoy and was fortunate enough to be good at it."

On playing at his first WSOP final table and the atmosphere: "If I had to say one word, it was intense. It was just awesome. The fans were great. Other than a few arguments (in the crowd), everyone at the table got along great. It was really fun."

On the crowd being very vocal at times, and even distracting to the players at the final table: "I do think that my competitive spirit is one of the reasons I like this game a lot. It really helps in this game, having that extra drive."

On being skilled at Pot-Limit Omaha: "I think this is by far my best game. But I also like to think that tournaments and No-Limit (Hold'em) are very good for me, as well."

On whom he wishes to thank for his success: "I want to thank both of my parents for their support. And, definitely my brother. All my family and friends."

On students dropping out of college to play poker for a living: "I definitely think dropping out is a bad thing. I think college has a very specific purpose. I think you go not only to get an education and to determine which career path you want to choose but also to become worldly, and try to deal with other people. That's what I got out of college – becoming more worldly."

THE FINAL TABLE

The final table included only one former WSOP gold bracelet winner – Robert Mizrachi (1 win).

The final table began nine-handed.

The final table included players from three different nations – Argentina (1 player), Great

Britain, (1 player) and the United States (7 players).

The runner up was Kevin Boudreau, from Colorado Springs, CO. This was his fourth time to cash this year, and fifth cash overall. Boudreau earned a very respectable consolation prize amounting to \$313,792.

The third-place finisher was Danny Smith, from Folsom, CA. He is a 26-year-old poker pro. This was Smith's biggest career cash, worth \$226,923 in prize money.

The fourth-place finisher was Ted Martin, from New York, NY. He is a portfolio manager. Martin is a graduate of Brown University. He is a serious recreational player. This was Martin's second time to cash at the WSOP and biggest poker payout ever, worth \$165,825 in prize money.

The fifth-place finisher was Scott Mandel, from Chicago, IL. He finished second in the \$2,500 Pot-Limit Omaha tournament held at the WSOP Circuit at Hammond (Indiana), last year. Mandel collected \$122,455, which was his best WSOP performance, to date.

The sixth-place finisher was Julian Gardner, from Manchester, England. His best showing was a second place finish in the 2002 WSOP Main Event, won by Robert Varkonyi. Gardner now has 14 in-the-money finishes and nearly \$1.7 million in WSOP earnings following his \$91,387 payout in this tournament.

The seventh-place finisher was Eric Liu, from San Francisco, CA. He came in tenth last year in the WSOP Europe Main Event championship. This marked his sixth time to cash at the WSOP. Liu earned \$68,902 in prize money.

The eighth-place finisher was former gold bracelet winner Robert Mizrachi, from Miramar, FL. This was Mizrachi's fifth time to cash this year – which includes three final table appearances. His gold bracelet win took place in 2007 in the \$10,000 buy-in Pot-Limit Omaha championship. This time, Mizrachi added \$52,471 to his poker bankroll.

The ninth-place finisher was Jose-Nacho Barbero, from Buenos Aires, Argentina. This was his eighth time to cash at the WSOP – which is the most by any Argentine poker player. Indeed, South America now produces many fine poker players. The WSOP expects many more final table appearances and wins by players from this region of the world. Barbero received \$40,364 in prize money.

The final table began at 8:30 pm and ended at 4:10 am, for a duration of about 7 hours and 40 minutes.

OTHER IN-THE-MONEY FINISHERS

The top 45 finishers collected prize money. Former WSOP gold bracelet finishers who cashed in this event included – Robert Mizrachi (8th), Jason Mercier (16th), Joshua Tieman (21st), Ayaz Mahmood (22nd), and Annette Obrestad (36th).

Annette Obrestad, best-known as the winner of the inaugural WSOP Europe Main Event championship in 2007, is having a strong debut WSOP. This marked her fourth time to cash this year.

The defending champion was Richard Austin, from Louisville, KY. He entered this year's tournament but did not finish in-the-money.

ODDS AND ENDS

This is the 878th gold bracelet event in World Series of Poker history. Note: This figure includes every official WSOP event played, including tournaments during the early years when there were no actual gold bracelets awarded. It also includes the 11 gold bracelets awarded to date at WSOP Europe.

The official WSOP gold bracelet ceremony takes place on the day following the winner's victory (or some hours later when the tournament runs past midnight). The ceremony takes place inside The Pavilion, which is the expansive main tournament room hosting all noon starts this year. The ceremony begins at the conclusion of the first break of the noon tournament, usually around 2:20 pm. The national anthem of the winner's nation is played. The entire presentation is open to public and media. Video and photography are permitted by both public and members of the media.

Kornuth requested that the national anthem of the United States be played at his WSOP gold bracelet ceremony, held Thursday, July 1st, 2010.

EVENT HISTORY (POT-LIMIT OMAHA RECORDS)

The players with the most WSOP gold bracelets (wins) in Omaha events (all variations) are – T.J. Cloutier, Scotty Nguyen, and Phil Ivey (tie), currently with three wins each.

The player with the most career WSOP cashes in Omaha events (all variations) is Brent Carter, currently with 21.

The players with the most WSOP gold bracelets (wins) in Pot-Limit Omaha are – “Amarillo Slim” Preston, Johnny Chan, and Phil Ivey (tie), currently with two each.

The player with the most career WSOP cashes in Pot-Limit Omaha is Chau Giang, currently 16.

TOURNAMENT PLAY

The tournament was played over four consecutive days, from June 28-30, 2010.

There were 460 entries. The total prize pool amounted to \$2,162,000. The top 45 finishers collected prize money.

Attendance increased significantly from last year, when there were 363 entrants.

Chance Kornuth ended up winning the tournament when he was dealt Qc 9d 8h 6h against Kevin Boudreau's As Kh Kc 4s. The final board came Jd 8c 2h 8s 3c, giving Kornuth trip eights and the victory.

Kornuth is to be classified as a professional player, since he has been playing full time for about two years.

2010 WSOP STATISTICS

Tournament attendance is up significantly from this same point last year. Last year, through

50 events, there were 45,704 entries. Thus far this year, there have been 57,460 total entries, an increase of 25.7 percent.

Prize money is also up from last year's figures. Last year, through 50 events, the amount of prize money won was \$96,020,279. This year's prize money currently stands at \$99,296,815 – which represents an increase of about 3 percent.

Through the conclusion of Event #50, the nationalities of gold bracelet winners have been:

United States (34)
Great Britain (5)
Canada (5)
Hungary (2)
New Zealand (1)
France (1)
Russia (1)
Norway (1)

Through the conclusion of Event #50, the national origin (birthplace) of winners has been:

United States (27)
Great Britain (5)
Canada (5)
Vietnam (2)
China (2)
Hungary (2)
New Zealand (1)
France (1)
Lebanon (1)
Russia (1)
Mexico (1)
Bangladesh (1)
Norway (1)

Through the conclusion of Event #50, the breakdown of professional poker players to semi-pros and amateurs who won gold bracelets is as follows:

Professional Players (36): Michael Chow, Michael Mizrachi, Praz Bansi, Josh Tieman, Peter Gelencser, James Dempsey, Men "the Master" Nguyen, Matt Matros, Yan R. Chen, Steve Gee, Carter Phillips, Jason DeWitt, Eric Buchman, David Baker, Richard Ashby, Dutch Boyd, Sammy Farha, David Warga, Will Haydon, Matt Keikoan, Mike Ellis, Luis Velador, Ayaz Mahmood, Phil Ivey, Luigi Kwaysser, Scott Montgomery, Steven Kelly, Steve Jelinek, Dean Hamrick, Ian Gordon, Gavin Smith, Jesse Rockowitz, Chris Bell, Sigurd Eskeland, Chance Kornuth

Semi-Pros (6): Frank Kassela, Tex Barch, Miguel Proulx, Jeffrey Papola, Frank Kassela, Mike Linn

Amateurs (8): Duc Pham, Aadam Daya, Pascal Lefrancois, Simon Watt, Vanessa Hellebuyck, Jeff Tebben, Konstantin Puchkov, Harold Angle

Through the conclusion of Event #50, here is the list of repeat WSOP gold bracelet winners:

Praz Bansi
Men "the Master" Nguyen
Russ "Dutch" Boyd

Sammy Farha
David Warga (* his first WSOP win was in a non-open event)
Matt Keikoan
Luis Velador
Phil Ivey
Frank Kassela (two wins this year)

Through the conclusion of 2010 World Series of Poker -- Event #50:

Youngest Winner – Steven Kelly (21)
Oldest Winner – Harold Angle (78)
Female Winners (open events) – None
Multiple-Event Winners (this year) – Frank Kassela

-- by Nolan Dalla

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