



**2012/2013 World Series of Poker Circuit  
Season Nine  
Harvey's Lake Tahoe  
Stateline, NV  
Event #1  
No-Limit Hold'em  
Buy-In \$300 (+65)  
Total Entries: 266  
Prize Pool: \$79,800  
November 8-9 2012**

## **Miner for a Ring of Gold**

***Carson City's John Miner Goes Wire-to-Wire at Final Table and Wins First-Ever WSOP Circuit Gold Ring Victory***

***Opening Event at Harvey's Lake Tahoe Draws Strong Turnout, Despite Early Winter Snowstorm***

**Stateline, Nevada (November 9, 2012)** – If classic rocker Neil Young were to re-write his famous song, “Heart of Gold” – he might want to change the first lyric.

Indeed, a poker player named John became a “Miner for ring of gold,” by winning the opening tournament event held at Harvey's Lake Tahoe. Miner topped a respectable field size totaling 266 entrants, which was a slight increase from last year's attendance. The tournament was a \$365 buy-in No-Limit Hold'em event, the first of 12 gold ring events on the Lake Tahoe schedule.

For his impressive victory, Miner earned \$19,547 – his biggest poker win ever. He also collected the coveted WSOP Circuit gold ring – his first.

Miner is a 45-year-old self-employed man from nearby Carson City, NV. He was watched at the final table by his wife Tracie.

The victory was impressive considering Miner had never been in this position before. He played like a seasoned veteran, pretty much dominating Day Two of the two-day poker competition. In

fact, Miner had more than a 2 to 1 chip lead when the final table started and was never in serious danger of going bust.

The runner up was Jarod Ludemann, from Wells, MN who was making his third WSOP Circuit appearance. He earned \$12,080 in prize money.

The top 27 players were paid. Among the cashers was Mark “Bonsai” Bonsak, who took fourth place. He's a gold ring winner who's made two Main Event final tables in recent years here at Harvey's Lake Tahoe.

.....

The top-ten finishers were as follows:

#### FINAL RESULTS

1	John Miner	CARLSON CITY	NV	US	\$19,547.00
2	Jarod Ludemann	WELLS	MN	US	\$12,080.00
3	Gerald Cohen	ORINDA	CA	US	\$8,728.00
4	Mark Bonsack	CLE ELUM	WA	US	\$6,423.00
5	Robert Kosten	SEBASTOPOL	CA	US	\$4,812.00
6	Jamie McCarrel	LAFAYETTE	CA	US	\$3,667.00
7	Robert Pinney	LIVE OAK	CA	US	\$2,841.00
8	Kia Zolfaghari	SAN FRANCISCO	CA	US	\$2,237.00
9	William Ellis II	BLUE SPRINGS	MO	US	\$1,789.00
10	David Miller	SOUTH LAKE TAHOE	CA	US	\$1,453.00

#### Tournament Notes

- This was the opening event of the Harvey's Lake Tahoe series.
- Day One began with 266 starters for the noon start. By the end of 14 hours of play at 2 am, only 14 remained. The survivors returned for Day Two and played another hour before the final table session began.
- Attendance was up slightly from the opening event last year, which drew 260 players.

- William “Ace” Ellis was the end of Day One chip leader. He ended up finishing in ninth place.
- When the final table began, John Miner enjoyed a substantial chip lead. He was up by a 2 to 1 margin over every other player at the table.
- The runner up was Jarod Ludemann, from Wells, MN.
- Gold ring winner Mark “Bonsai” Bonsak finished in fourth place.
- The final table went about five hours, which is about the average time span of play for WSOP Circuit events.

John Miner takes the early lead in the Casino Champion race for the Harvey's Lake Tahoe series.

The player who accumulates the most overall points in Lake Tahoe's twelve combined gold ring tournaments will earn the title “Casino Champion” and shall receive automatic entry into the \$1 Million 2012-13 WSOP Circuit National Championship. The qualifier will join the winner of the \$1,675 buy-in Main Event (Nov. 18-20), who also wins an automatic seat.

All players who cash in gold ring events receive points that apply to both the Casino Championship race (good for Lake Tahoe events only) and the season-long race to claim one of the 60 at-large National Championship bids to be awarded to the top point earners throughout the season. More information on the points system is available on WSOP.com.

The 2012-13 WSOP Circuit at Harvey's Lake Tahoe runs through November 20, 2012.

.....

For more information on the World Series of Poker Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter at @WSOP or check us out on WSOP.com.

For additional information, please contact:  
Nolan Dalla (WSOP Media Director) at: [nolandalla@gmail.com](mailto:nolandalla@gmail.com)