

2012-2013 World Series of Poker Circuit Season Nine Harrah's Tunica

Event #4

No-Limit Hold'em

Buy-In: \$365 Total Entries: 306

Total Prize Pool: \$91,800

**January 27 – January 28, 2013** 

# Aaron Kerns Wins Event #4 at Harrah's Tunica

## Three consecutive events go to amateurs early in the series

# Indiana retiree boosts pension to the tune of \$21,571 and a WSOPC gold ring

TUNICA, MS - Legions of recreational players make the trek each year to try their hand at the Harrah's Tunica WSOP Circuit Events. While their sights are set on winning, many simply come for the high entertainment value that comes with playing in a WSOPC event.

As a result, these amateurs attract waves of pros eager to take a seat at the felt with their less experienced counterparts. Natural order dictates that the big fish feed on the little ones, however through four events here at Harrah's, it's the sharks who should be worried.

Amateurs have claimed a third consecutive WSOPC gold ring during this year's Circuit Series here in Tunica with the latest going to 43-year-old Aaron Kerns, a retired businessman from Sullivan, IN. Kerns, who cashed in his first major tournament only last year during the WSOP Circuit Events at Harrah's St. Louis appears to have quickly mastered the tournament learning curve en route to his first WSOPC gold ring and \$21,571 in prize money.

Event #4, \$365 No-Limit Hold'em drew 306 players and generated a total prize pool of \$91,800. After over an hour of money bubble round-for-round play on day one, play ended for the night with 33 in-the-money finishers returning at 3 pm on day two to play down to a winner.

After four hours of play, it was down to the final table with Jeff Hoffman, a retiree and professional bowler from Wichita Falls, TX at the top of the chip count. Kerns was not far behind. Event #4's final table was a true rarity, as none of the final nine was a full-time pro.

Name	Hometown	Seat	Chip Count
David Reed	Ontario, CA	1	422,000
Jeff Hoffman	Wichita Falls, TX	2	540,000
Ron Brassard	Epsom, NH	3	228,000
Bobby Byram	Holland, MO	4	67,000
Pete Sullivan	Roscoe, IL	5	359,000
Sean McDonald	St. Louis, MO	6	295,000
Stuart Breakstone	Baton Rouge, LA	7	194,000
Steven Williams	Little Rock, AR	8	446,000
Aaron Kerns	Sullivan, IN	9	534,000

The final table lasted seven hours with Kerns eliminating 65-year-old retired police chief David Reed of Ontario, CA in heads up play. Second place paid \$13,339.

With four events now in the books, Kerns joins earlier event winners Sean Maurer and Lee Sawyer in second place in the Casino Champion points race here at Harrah's Tunica. John Holley, a professional fisherman and poker pro from Destin, FL took sole possession of first after adding a cash in Event #3 to his win in the opening event.

The Casino Champion is the player who earns the most points through the 12 events at Harrah's Tunica. This player will earn an automatic seat to the WSOP Circuit National Championship to be held May 21 – May 23 at Harrah's New Orleans. More information about the WSOPC National Championship can be found <a href="here">here</a>. An explanation of the points system can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

8 events are still to come. See the complete Harrah's Tunica Circuit schedule and event results <u>here</u>. The WSOP Circuit Events at Harrah's Tunica runs through February 4<sup>th</sup>. You can find the complete 2012-2013 WSOP Circuit schedule <u>here</u>.

## Final table results

1	Aaron Kerns	SULLIVAN, IN, US	\$21,571
2	David Reed	Ontario, CA, US	\$13,339
3	Jeffrey Hoffman	WICHITA FALLS, TX, US	\$9,688
4	Ronald Brassard	NASHUA, NH, US	\$7,156
5	Steven Williams	LITTLE ROCK, AR, US	\$5,372
6	Sean Mcdonald	SAINT LOUIS, MO, US	\$4,097
7	Peter Sullivan	ROSCOE, IL, US	\$3,174
8	Stuart Breakstone	MEMPHIS, TN, US	\$2,495
9	Bobby Byram	OSCEOLA, AR, US	\$1,991

## **ABOUT HARRAH'S TUNICA**

Harrah's Tunica is located 20 minutes south of Memphis, Tennessee and was originally opened in 1996 as Grand Casino. On May, 23, 2008 Paula Deen cut the official grand opening ribbon at Harrah's Tunica featuring the first of its kind Paula Deen Buffet and an interactive gaming floor that is the largest in the region. Spanning over 2,000 acres Harrah's Tunica features the Links at Cottonwoods championship golf course designed by Hale Irwin, Willows Sporting Clays and Hunting Center, the Mid-South Convention Center offering over 65,000 square feet of indoor meeting space, three elegant hotels totaling 1356 hotel rooms, the 200-space Mid-South RV Resort, Bellissimo Spa and Salon, and a 2,400 seat event center that features headline entertainment.

### **ABOUT THE WSOP**

The World Series of Poker (WSOP) is the largest, richest and most prestigious gaming event in the world awarding millions of dollars in prize money and the prestigious gold bracelet, globally recognized as the sport's top prize. Featuring a comprehensive slate of tournaments in every major poker variation, the WSOP is poker's longest running tournament in the world, dating back to 1970. In 2012, the event attracted 74,766 entrants from 101 different countries to the Rio in Las Vegas and awarded over \$222 million in prize money. In addition, the WSOP has formed groundbreaking alliances in broadcasting, digital media and corporate sponsorships, while successfully expanding the brand internationally with the advent in 2007 of the World Series of Poker Europe. The WSOP Circuit Tour is entering its ninth season in 2012-13. For more information on the World Series of Poker, please visit www.WSOP.com.

#### **ABOUT SOUTHERN COMFORT**

Southern Comfort®, a fruit, spice, and whiskey flavored liqueur, was created in New Orleans by bartender M.W. Heron in 1874. Today, it is enjoyed by friends in over 100 countries around the world and continues to grow as an icon brand. Please visit us at SouthernComfort.com and facebook.com/southerncomfort.

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