



2012/2013 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season Nine
Palm Beach Kennel Club
Palm Beach, Florida
Event #9
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In \$1,00 (+175)
Total Entries: 161
Prize Pool: \$161,000
February 22, 2013

Zohair Karim Wins First Gold Ring

Orlando Poker Player and Business Owner Pockets \$43,471

2007 World Champ Jerry Yang Cashes (12th Place)

Poker Action Continues at Palm Beach with Ninth Gold Ring Event

West Palm Beach, FL (February 22, 2013) – Zohair Karim won the latest WSOP Circuit gold ring, which was played out at the Palm Beach Kennel Club in West Palm Beach.

The 26-year-old business owner and poker player topped a 161-player field in the \$1,120 buy-in No-Limit Hold'em tournament that was played over two days. Karim collected \$43,471 plus his first WSOP Circuit gold ring. This was Karim's third time to cash here at Palm Beach at this series, which now places him into an excellent position in the Casino Champion race.

Karim has enjoyed success at the WSOP in Las Vegas, as well. He's cashed four times, including a 54th-place finish in the 2011 Main Event Championship, which paid \$160,000. Karim has also posted several deep runs in other major tournaments played here in Florida.

Karim was born in Pakistan, but he's lived in the U.S. most of his life. He and his family own a video store in Orlando.

Following his first WSOP-related victory, Karim was thrilled with the outcome. He also praised at least one of his fellow competitors, bracelet winner David Diaz, who made it to the final table. Karim noted that Diaz was, "the best player in the field when we got to Day Two." Karim also related the hand where he was able to bust Diaz. Once that happened, the player known to his friends simply as "Zo" enjoyed a smooth ride to the finish line.

Jason Mullen, a poker pro from Satellite Beach, FL finished as the runner-up. He was eliminated on the final hand of the tournament with two pair (sevens and fives), which was topped by Karim's better two pair (tens and sevens).

Among those who cashed were – as previously mentioned – David Diaz (Memphis, TN), a WSOP gold bracelet winner from 2011. He took fifth place.

Another notable who cashed was three-time WSOP Circuit gold ring winner Maurice Hawkins (Coral Springs, FL). He finished in seventh place.

However, the biggest name on the payout board was undoubtedly Jerry Yang, the 2007 World Poker Champion. Yang cashed for the second time here at the Palm Beach Kennel Club, taking 12th place in this event.

The final table finishers were as follows:

1st	Zohair Karim	ORLANDO, FL	\$43,471
2nd	Jason Mullen	SATELLITE BEACH, FL	26,864
3rd	Michael O'brien	ST JOHNS, NL, CANADA	\$19,338
4th	Peter Kavouras	MONTREAL, QC, CA	\$14,173
5th	David Diaz	MEMPHIS, TN,	\$10,571
6th	Joseph Gray	MARQUIS, SK, CANADA	\$8,023
7th	Maurice Hawkins	CORAL SPRINGS, FL	\$6,192
8th	Mark Kerness	MIAMI, FL	\$4,857
9th	Jack Rolnitzky	WEST BLOOMFIELD, MI	\$3,874

Tournament Notes

- This was the ninth gold ring event of this year's WSOP Circuit being played at the Palm Beach Kennel Club. That means this series is now three-quarters of the way completed.
- The two-day tournament began with 161 players. After 13 hours of play on Day One, there were 29 survivors. Then, the final 29 played down to the winner.
- Jason Mullen was the runner-up. He is a 30-year-old poker pro from Satellite Beach, FL. Mullen collected a consolation prize totaling \$26,864.
- The final table included one gold ring winner – Maurice Hawkins. He finished 7th.
- The final table included one gold bracelet winner – David Diaz. He finished 5th.
- The final table went about eight hours.

As the most recent gold ring winner, Zohair Karim now jumps into serious contention in the Casino Champion race for the Palm Beach series. He accumulated 50 points for his victory and has a total of 60 points. Samuel Panzica still leads the race with 65 points, while Karim is tied with the event's runner-up, Jason Mullin, for second place.

The player who accumulates the most overall points in the Palm Beach Kennel Club's twelve combined gold ring tournaments will earn the title Casino Champion and shall receive automatic entry into the \$1 Million 2012-13 WSOP National Championship Presented by Southern Comfort 100 Proof. The qualifier will join the winner of the \$1,675 buy-in Main Event (February 23-25), 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 Palm Beach Kennel Club 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 the Palm Beach Kennel Club runs through February 25, 2013.

.....

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