

**2013/2014 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 10
IP Casino Resort and Spa
Biloxi, MS
Event #1
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 220
Prize Pool: \$66,000
September 5-6, 2013**



James Pomranky Goes Wire-to-Wire in Event 1

40-year-old Army veteran gets the best of WSOP gold bracelet winner Ylon Schwartz, records first tournament victory.

Biloxi, MS (September 6, 2013) — James Pomranky won Event 1 at the IP Casino Resort and Spa in style riding his final table chip lead all the way to the winner's circle. The victory, which marked his first major tournament score, earned Pomranky \$16,502, a WSOP Circuit gold ring and the early lead in the Casino Championship at IP Biloxi.

Event 1 was a \$365 No-Limit Hold'em tournament that attracted some of the top talent from the South and beyond. Never was that more apparent than in Pomranky's heads-up opponent, Ylon Schwartz. In addition to a gold bracelet and a 4th place finish in the 2008 WSOP Main Event, Schwartz boasts \$4.6 million in career tournament earnings.

"I'm very excited to beat a field that had some really spectacular players. I'm proud of the way I played," Pomranky said. "I've seen [Schwartz] on television a number of times and I did a lot of Internet research on him. I read an interesting article where he said his strategy was to grind away and win small pots. I kept that in the back of the mind and I saw him doing that at this table."

Pomranky took the opposite approach, getting lots of chips in the pot and putting pressure on Schwartz.

"It's a testament to him as a player," Pomranky said of Schwartz's ability to grind his way deep into the tournament. "It takes a lot of guts and it takes a tremendous amount of skill."

Admittedly, Pomranky is no professional. He plays poker for fun, but that's not to say he plays to lose. He says he has a business plan when he takes his seat at the poker table and while he's comfortable enough financially to where he doesn't have to play for an income, he does play for the money.

Pomranky is a 40-year-old veteran of the Army where he served for 22 years and was a bronze star recipient. He served two years in Iraq as a black hawk helicopter pilot and one year in Saudi Arabia in a diplomatic position. He now resides in Enterprise, AL with his wife and two children.

Event 1 was the first of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the IP Casino Resort and Spa. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em event attracted 220 entries. The total prize pool came to \$66,000 and the top 24 players were paid.

Day 1 began Thursday at 12 p.m. and lasted 20 levels. Day 2 began Friday at 2 p.m. with nine players remaining. Play finished at about 7 p.m. making the total duration of the final table five hours.

Notes on the Event

- The 220-player starting field represented an increase of about 10 percent over last year's field.
- Three-time WSOP Circuit gold ring winner and Mississippi resident David Nicholson finished 21st.
- 52 years separated the oldest player at the final table, Charles Haynes (80), and the youngest, Craig Humphreys (28).

The player who accumulates the most overall points during IP Biloxi's twelve combined gold ring tournaments will earn the title Casino Champion and receive automatic entry into the WSOP National Championship to take place at Caesars Atlantic City this spring.

All players who cash in ring events receive points that apply toward the Casino Champion's race and the season-long race to claim one of 60 at-large National Championship bids awarded to the top point earners throughout the season. More information on the points system is available on WSOP.com.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from IP Biloxi:

EVENT #1: James Pomranky defeated 220 players (\$365 NLH) for \$16,502

With the first tournament wrapped, 11 more ring events remain at IP Biloxi.

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