

2013/2014 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 10

Horseshoe Casino

Cincinnati, OH

Event #12

No-Limit Hold'em One-Day

Buy-In: \$300(+\$65)

Total Entries: 120

Prize Pool: \$36,000

September 30, 2013



Andy Spears Bags Gold in Queen City

Law school graduate finds success on the felt, closes the book on his first gold ring.

Pavlin Karakikov comes up three spots shy of stealing Casino Champion honors.

Cincinnati, OH (September 30, 2013) — Andrew Spears earned his first gold ring in Horseshoe Cincinnati's final WSOP Circuit event. It took spears just nine hours to navigate through the 120-person field of the \$365 No-Limit Hold'em One-Day tournament and it awarded him \$10,801.

Spears is a 25-year-old law school graduate from Buffalo, NY. While his gold ring victory isn't unexpected, he admitted he doesn't dedicate as much time to the game as a lot of his friends.

"I have some friends that grind the Circuit and those that haven't won [a ring] will probably be pretty mad at me because I've only played a few tournaments," Spears confessed.

In reality, it might not only be his friends who are upset. Spears bested a final table that included five-time WSOP Circuit final tablist Ryan Tepen (fourth). Tepen, who is ringless, busted Day 3 of the Main Event just shy of the final table in 14th and late registered the one-day no-limit hold'em event. This marked his second heartbreak in just a few hours time.

Additionally, Bill Varga (sixth), made his second final table of the Circuit series in Cincinnati. Like Tepen, Varga is ringless.

Joining the trio in the late stages of play was Pavlin Karakikov. The final table appearance marked Karakikov's third of the series and he needed a second-place finish or better to take Casino Champion honors from Samuel Panzica. Karakikov began the finale toward the middle of the pack in chips and never got anything going. He exited fifth and came up a mere 7.5 points shy of Panzica's Casino Championship lead.

In the end, the headline belonged to Spears. His WSOP resume now boasts three WSOP Circuit cashes and eight WSOP cashes. The win marks his second Circuit final table.

Event 12 was the last of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Horseshoe Cincinnati. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em One-Day tournament attracted 120 players generating a \$36,000 prize pool. The top 12 players were paid.

The tournament began Monday at 12 p.m. and the final table began at about 8 p.m. It took just one hour for the finale to complete, meaning the tournament took only nine hours in its entirety.

Notes on the Event

- The 2013/2014 WSOP Circuit at Horseshoe Cincinnati marks the first major tournament series to take place in Ohio.
- Event 12 began at 12 p.m. with 120 players. Day 3 of the Main Event began at 1 p.m. with 15 players. When Event 12 concluded the Main Event was still three-handed.

Samuel Panzica took Casino Champion honors following two first-place finishes and a 30th-place finish in the Main Event. Panzica earned a plethora of points, laying claim to 110, but took the honor by just 7.5 points over Pavlin Karakikov. Panzica is now a two-time WSOP National Championship qualifier and placed 16th in last year's event for \$17,374.

All players who cashed in ring events received points that apply toward the Casino Champion's race and the season-long race to claim one of 50 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 Horseshoe Cincinnati:

EVENT #1: Cauffman Talley defeated 308 players (\$365 NLH) for \$21,716
EVENT #2: Jason Hill defeated 1,106 players (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$60,554
EVENT #3: Samuel Panzica defeated 148 players (\$365 Limit O8) for \$12,434
EVENT #4: Chris Parsons defeated 196 players (\$365 NLH) for \$15,289
EVENT #5: Darren Rabinowitz defeated 138 players (\$365 NLH Six-Handed) for \$19,664
EVENT #6: Chris Karambinis defeated 106 players (\$365 PLO Triple Chance) for \$15,902
EVENT #7: Robert Edelstein defeated 163 players (\$580 NLH) for \$22,008
EVENT #8: Samuel Panzica defeated 94 players (\$365 PLO with \$100 Re-Buys) for \$21,538
THE MAIN EVENT (EVENT #9): TBD
EVENT #10: Pavlin Karakikov defeated 203 players (\$365 NLH) for \$15,835
EVENT #11: John Robertson defeated 138 players (\$365 NLH) for \$11,589
EVENT #12: Andrew Spears defeated 120 players (\$365 NLH One-Day) for \$10,801

With the 12th tournament wrapped, the WSOP Circuit at Horseshoe Cincinnati has concluded.

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

For additional information please contact:

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About Horseshoe Casino Cincinnati:

Rock Gaming LLC and Caesars Entertainment Corporation have developed a \$400 million full-service casino in downtown Cincinnati. Horseshoe Casino Cincinnati, which opened in March 2013, is expected to attract nearly six million visits to downtown annually. The urban casino includes three outward facing restaurants to engage pedestrians and support existing businesses, cultural, nightlife and sports attractions downtown. Horseshoe Cincinnati employs 1,700 team members and features 2,000 slot machines, 87 table games, and a World Series of Poker room, along with a feature bar, a quick-casual eatery and a buffet restaurant. The casino also has partnerships with 10 local restaurants and 10 local hotels. During construction the development created more than 2,000 construction jobs. For more information please visit www.HorseshoeCincinnati.com.