2013/2014 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 10 Harrah's Resort Atlantic City, NJ Event #3

Buy-In: \$500 (+\$80) Total Entries: 192 Prize Pool: \$96,000 December 2-3, 2013

No-Limit Hold'em



## Brian O'Donoghue Joins Three-Ring Club

Less than six months after carding a six-figure runner-up finish at the WSOP, New York pro O'Donoghue earns his third Circuit ring.

**Atlantic City, NJ (December 3, 2013)** — If there was a theme to the Event 3 final table at Harrah's Resort it would have been "Three Rings in Three Hours". That's how long it took 29-year-old New York pro Brian O'Donoghue to join the elite company of three-time Circuit winners Tuesday night in a \$580 No-Limit Hold'em event.

O'Donoghue came out on top of the 192-player field to earn \$24,597, 50 points toward the Casino Championship and, of course, his third ring.

"The other [rings] were nice. The first one's always nice and it's always nice to get a second one. Now what do I need? Four more to catch [Chris Reslock]?" the battle-tested veteran said after his win.

His candidness about the \$25,000 score might be justified given the context of his recent results. Less than six months ago he recorded a final table and six-figure runner-up finish at the WSOP. In that event, O'Donoghue bested a 2,247-player field in a \$1,500 event only to come one spot shy of an additional piece of gold jewelry. For the performance though, he went home with a \$338,745 consolation prize.

"It's been a good year," he told the WSOP with a smile.

O'Donoghue came to the final table at Harrah's Resort with the chip lead and admitted he felt confident through the duration of the finale, but one opponent stood out. Fellow two-time ring winner John Holley started the final day of play second in chips and well within reach of O'Donoghue's lead.

In a stroke of misfortune for Holley, and perhaps a stroke of fortune for O'Donoghue, Holley's pocket aces were drawn out by his opponent's pocket 10s when a 10 fell on the turn eliminating Holley third.

Prior to the Event 3 final table, Holley and O'Donoghue were fellow two-time ring winners, friends and Atlantic City housemates, but at least one of those things changed after the final

table.

Any way you spin it, the pair was the cream of the final table crop, laying claim to four Circuit rings, almost \$900,000 in WSOP earnings and 33 WSOP-related cashes between the two of them. In the end, it was appropriate to see one of the roommates in the winner's circle.

Event 3 was the third of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Harrah's Resort. The \$580 No-Limit Hold'em tournament attracted 192 entries generating a \$96,000 prize pool. The top 21 players were paid.

Day 1 began Monday at 12 p.m. and reached the nine-handed final table following less than 19 levels of play. The finale began Tuesday at 3 p.m. and ended at about 6 p.m.

## **Notes on the Event**

- Tim Fiorvanti, a senior writer at BLUFF, earned free entry into Event 3 simply by opening a new account on WSOP.com. He finished short of the money, exiting just before the dinner break.
- WSOP.com launched its real-money gaming client in New Jersey on November 21. A mobile app for iPhone and iPad users followed about two weeks later.
- New WSOP.com sign ups at Harrah's Resort receive entry into a \$250,000 freeroll set to take place in January, a \$10 account credit and entry into a drawing for a seat in the follow day's ring event.
- Satellites into Harrah's Resort ring events are available on WSOP.com.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during Harrah's Resort's twelve combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives 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 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 Harrah's Resort:

EVENT #1: Raymond Papperman defeated 383 players (\$365 NLH) for \$25,282 EVENT #2: Tod Liang defeated 483 entries (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$31,159 EVENT #3: Brian O'Donoghue defeated 192 players (\$580 NLH) for \$24,957

With the third tournament wrapped, nine more ring events remain at Harrah's Resort.

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