

2013/2014 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 10

Horseshoe Casino

Council Bluffs, IA

Event #4

No-Limit Hold'em

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

Total Entries: 151

Prize Pool: \$45,300

April 13-14, 2014



Jeremy Roldan Steamrolls Event 4

21-year-old student and poker pro bests the likes of eight-time Circuit winner Alex Masek to earn his first ring and \$12,231.

Council Bluffs, IA (April 14, 2014) — Jeremy Roldan began the Event 4 final table with a modest stack of 153,000 chips and sat toward the bottom half of the counts. At just 21 years old and facing off against the likes of all-time Circuit ring leader Alex Masek and chip leader Fadi Hamad, Roldan's odds of winning could only be described as slim.

As play progressed though, his prowess on the poker table started to make itself known. The part-time student part-time pro conducted himself deliberately and aggressively as player after player hit the rail – most notably, Masek.

Masek was making his second final table appearance of the Council Bluffs series having finished third in the opening \$365 event. Although he began toward the bottom of the counts, with a resume like his he could never be counted out. In the end, it took pocket aces and pocket queens all-in in a three-way pot to bust his K-10 and send him to the rail.

The eighth-place finish was good for Masek's 34th Circuit cash and a \$1,367 score.

Following Masek's elimination, notables Jason Bond exited seventh, Hamad fifth and Tyler Chaffin third. When heads-up play against Andrew Van Wyhe began, Roldan held a substantial chip advantage but surrendered roughly a half dozen pots in a row to Van Wyhe bringing him with shouting distance of a comeback – but it proved to be Roldan's day. The hiccup was short lived as he sent Van Wyhe to the rail second, earning his first ring, \$12,231 and 50 points toward the Casino Championship in the process.

"It feels really good, kind of surreal and unbelievable right now," Roldan said. "I'm sure I'll get over it in a few days."

The up-and-comer got his start at casinos in Oklahoma and Canada that permitted 18 year olds to play their games. He had experienced little success and decided to concentrate the majority of his efforts on his schoolwork as of late. At just 21 years old, Roldan is wise beyond his years and recognizes the importance of life off the felt.

“In reality, I think it’s very important to keep a balanced life,” Roldan admitted. “If you’re going to be a student, commit to that. If you’re going to play poker for a living, do it with balance. I feel like I’ve found that balance and so far so good.”

So far so good for the young pro, indeed.

Event 4 was the fourth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Horseshoe Council Bluffs. The \$365 No-Limit Hold’em tournament attracted 151 entries generating a \$45,300 prize pool. The top 18 players were paid.

Day 1 began Sunday at 2 p.m. and last 18 levels. Day 2 began Monday at 2 p.m with 10 players remaining and it took just 15 minutes to reach the nine-handed final table. Play concluded at 5 p.m. making the total duration of the finale just under three hours.

Notes on the event:

- Eight-time ring winner Alex Masek began Day 2 eighth in chips and was eliminated in eighth place. The deep run marked his second final table of the Council Bluffs series.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during Horseshoe Council Bluffs’ twelve combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP National Championship set to take place at Bally’s Atlantic City May 22-24, 2014.

All players who cash in ring events receive points that apply toward the Casino Championship 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 Council Bluffs:

EVENT #1: Jeff Esposito defeated 183 players (\$365 NLH) for \$14,275

EVENT #2: Bruce Waltke defeated 178 players (\$365 NLH Turbo) for \$14,416

EVENT #3: Stephen Kats defeated 499 players (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$32,181

EVENT #4: Jeremy Roldan defeated 151 players (\$365 NLH) for \$12,231

With the fourth tournament wrapped, eighth more ring events remain at Horseshoe Council Bluffs.

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