

**2013/2014 World Series of Poker Circuit  
Season 10  
Lodge Casino  
Black Hawk, CO  
Event #2  
No-Limit Hold'em  
Buy-In: \$500(+\$80)  
Total Entries: 145  
Prize Pool: \$72,500  
April 25-26, 2014**



## **Vornicu Wins Fourth Ring**

**Valentin Vornicu becomes the 13th player in history to win four WSOP Circuit gold rings.**

**Black Hawk, CO (April 26, 2014)** - There is nothing easy about winning four WSOP Circuit gold rings. Valentin Vornicu accomplished that feat today beating Stephan Hesse heads-up in Event 2 - \$580 No-Limit Hold'em. It is quite an accomplishment. Making Vornicu's accomplishment even more amazing is that he is only a part time player. Vornicu says he visits only about five of the WSOP Circuit stops per year.

The 30-year-old resides in San Diego, California. Vornicu teaches math and runs a summer math camp for kids who want to participate in the United States Mathematical Olympiad.

"I was confident in my ability. I am confident in my ability against any opponent," said Vornicu about his thoughts heading into Day 2. "I felt like, given my chip stack and experience, I was coming in with the idea that there was no other result than me winning this."

Heading into Day 2 only three players remained. Vornicu started Day 2 as the overwhelming chip leader. He knocked Keith Wright out in third early in the day. Vornicu held a 6:1 chip lead over Hesse when heads up play began, but Hesse would not go down easy. Hesse was chasing his third WSOP Circuit gold ring. Hesse doubled up a few times but was never able to obtain the chip lead from Vornicu. After an hour of heads-up play Vornicu sent Hesse to the rail and laid claim to his fourth ring.

With this victory, Vornicu has become the leader in the Casino Championship race, but more importantly, he adds 50 points to his National Championship total, which should solidify him an at-large bid to the National Championship in Atlantic City. Last year, Vornicu earned a seat at the National Championship by winning Casino Champion at Harrah's Rincon in San Diego.

At the end of Day 1 Vornicu was the chip leader but ended up falling just short of the money.

"I just lost a couple of coolers and flips and ended up basically bubbling," said Vornicu. "That was pretty painful, so hopefully this year I am not going to do that and just final table." Vornicu was able to come out on top of a tough final table that included the likes of Stephen Hesse (second), Woody Moore (fourth), Ross Bybee (fifth) and Pavlin Karakikov (ninth). The players at the final table had a combined eight WSOP Circuit rings coming in to event.

Event 2 was the second of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Lodge Casino in Black Hawk, CO. The \$580 No-Limit Hold'em tournament attracted 145 players generating a \$72,500 prize pool. The top 15 players were paid.

Day 1 began Friday at 11 a.m. and last 21 levels. Day 2 began Saturday at 2 p.m with three players remaining. The tournament concluded at 4 p.m. at the beginning of level 24.

Notes on the event:

- This is Vornicu's fourth WSOP Circuit gold ring, second this year.
- Two-time Circuit winner Stephen Hesse finished second.
- This was Charles "Woody" Moore's 41st WSOP Circuit cash.
- This is Vornicu's ninth WSOP Circuit final table. According to Vornicu, he has been involved in an all-in in the first hand of every WSOP Circuit final table he has reached.
- There were a combined eight WSOP Circuit rings held between all of the final table players coming in to the event.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Lodge Casino 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: Chad Donnelly defeated 269 players (\$365 NLH) for \$19,773

EVENT #2: Valentin Vornicu defeated 145 players (\$580NLH) for \$20,299

With the second tournament wrapped up, ten more ring events remain at the Lodge Casino.

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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