2013/2014 World Series of Poker Circuit Harrah's Cherokee Event #10 No-Limit Hold'em - Turbo Buy-In: \$1,000 (+125) Total Entries: 157 Total Prize Pool: \$157,000 April 10-11, 2014

John Gallaher Wins Second Gold Ring in Event 10

Optometrist from Tennessee pockets over \$42K in Cherokee's largest buy-in preliminary event.

Cherokee, North Carolina (April 11, 2014) – In his home game, they refer to John Gallaher as Dr. Donk. On the World Series of Poker Circuit, however, this optometrist by profession is anything but.

Gallaher is now the proud owner of not one, but two Circuit rings. On Friday evening, he conquered the final table of Event 10: \$1,125 No-Limit Hold'em to pocket \$42,392 and his second piece of WSOP-related jewelry.

"I'm just a part time poker player," said Gallaher after his victory. "My friends back home call me 'Dr Donk'. It's funny. I can't beat them in our home game. I tell them every time I do something good and they're always like 'Dang, Gallaher, how do you do this!?"

Despite friendly nicknames, Gallaher's success on the Circuit doesn't lie. He bested a field of 157 total entries to claim this victory. A total of 29 players returned for the start of Day 2 and the field included the likes of two-time Circuit ring winner Andrew Rothfolk, as well as 2012/13 Harrah's Cherokee Main Event champion John Bowman. Rothfolk fell just before the money and Bowman was eliminated in tenth place as the official final table bubble boy.

"It was a very nice final table," said Gallaher. "Sometimes you'll get a final table and you'll have a couple of people whose attitudes aren't good, but this was definitely a nice final table. That makes it more enjoyable, no doubt."

One by one the players at the final table fell victim to their competition and all of the while Gallaher remained active and allowed his chip stack to trend upward. Meanwhile, ring winner Katherine Bowen was looking for her Circuit second trophy. Her hopes were ultimately dashed, however, as she fell in fifth place for \$10,309.

Gallaher eventually found himself heads up with Colin "D" Richardson for the ring and the title. Gallaher began heads up with the chip lead but that lead changed hands several times thanks to double ups by each player. Eventually, Gallaher got the best of his opponent and seized victory.

"I ran extremely well," said Gallaher. "I also played very well. The combination of that is pretty powerful. I was happy with how I played. "

After his victory, Gallaher made note that he truly felt at home playing in mutli-table tournaments, as opposed to the cash game grind.

"Cash is too much of a grind," said Gallaher. "I know tournaments are a grind but it's a pot at the end of the rainbow kind of thing. You know you're grinding for a purpose whereas in cash you may grind for 8 to 10 hours and have nothing good or bad to show. It's all about patience. It's basic but patience is what it takes to win."

Patience paid off for this doctor, who may finally be able to shake the moniker of 'Dr. Donk' with his friends, as he's now a two-time Circuit champion.

Final table results were as follows: 1st – John Gallaher - \$42,392 2nd – Colin Richardson - \$26,197 3rd – Karthik Ramakrishnan - \$18,857 4th – Randy Burnette - \$13,821 5th – Katherine Bowen - \$10,309 6th – Donald Nester - \$7,823 7th – Curtis McLaughlin - \$6,038 8th – Brooke Harrison - \$4,737 9th – Brandon Horton - \$3,777

Notes on the Event

- This is John Gallaher's second WSOP Circuit ring. He won his first in Southern Indiana during the 2012/13 series in a \$580 No-Limit Hold'em event.

- Katherine Bowen, who finished fifth, was denied her second Circuit ring. She has a total of 33 cashes on the Circuit.

- Day 2 began with 29 returning players and played down to a champion.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Harrah's Cherokee gold ring tournaments will earn the title Casino Champion and receive automatic entry into the WSOP National Championship to take place on May 22-24 at Caesars Atlantic City this spring. Gallaher earned 50 points for his victory and is now in contention for the Casino Championship title.

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 Cherokee:

EVENT #1: Mark Saporito defeated 700 players (\$365 NLH) for \$43,048. EVENT #2: Kevin Sherrill defeated 894 players (\$365 NLE) for \$52,295 EVENT #3: Harold Mahaffey defeated 257 players (\$365 PLO) for \$18,888 EVENT #4: Kaivon Hakimi defeated 1,665 players (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$85,185 EVENT #5: Bruce Nguyen defeated 484 players (\$365 NLH) for \$31,216 EVENT #6: John Feore defeated 427 players (\$365 NLH) for \$31,216 EVENT #7: Chris Shaw defeated 433 players (\$365 NLH) for \$28,578. EVENT #8: Nilesh Choudhary defeated 446 players (\$365 NLH) for \$29,429 EVENT #9: Osagyefo Greene defeated 353 players (\$365 NLH Turbo) for \$24,355 EVENT #10: John Gallaher defeated 157 players (\$1,125 NLH) for \$42,392.

With the completion of this event, there are just two more rings to be crowned at Harrah's Cherokee, including Event 11: \$1,675 No-Limit Hold'em Main Event. The Main Event kicks off today.

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