

**2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit
Foxwoods Resort Casino
Event #6
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$365
Total Entries: 255
Total Prize Pool: \$76,679
August 18-19, 2014**

Matt Smith Wins His First Circuit Ring at Foxwoods

Amateur wins \$18,787 in \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Event

Mashantucket, Conn. (August 19, 2014) – The World Series of Poker Circuit stop at Foxwoods is now half-way done, as six of the twelve events are complete. The latest winner is Matt Smith, of Wilbraham, Mass. Smith won the \$365 No-Limit Hold'em tournament (Event #6) for \$18,787 and his first WSOP Circuit ring.

The tough final table included established pros Bob Lauria (2nd place - \$11,601), and Eric Siegel (4th place - \$6,173). Smith, an amateur poker player who makes his living in investment management, held his own against the pros, and was confident throughout the final table, even after facing an early setback heads up. When Smith and Lauria started heads-up play, Smith held a large chip lead, about 2-1, but Lauria quickly doubled up. Smith said later, "I really just wanted to keep playing. I thought I had an edge heads up, so I didn't want to play huge pots, and it seemed like he wanted to. I just wanted to keep playing." His strategy obviously worked, and within 30 minutes, he was the champion.

The win is a big deal for the 27-year old Smith. He said he's been playing a long time, and is finally enjoying the fruits of his labor. "It feels awesome! I played an event on Saturday, and I cashed for 36th place, and I was disappointed," he said after his victory. "I'm just really excited right now. It's my first ring, my first big victory, so I'm really pumped."

The tournament was played over two consecutive days, starting on Monday. Only 9 survivors took seats on the second day of action, played on Tuesday. It took only a four and half hours on Day 2 to reach heads-up play. After a 30 minute break, it was another about another 30 minutes before Smith held all the chips. The final playing session began at 1 p.m. local time. Play finished at 6:30, making the total duration of the final table about five and a half hours.

Notes on the Event

- 2nd-place finisher Bob Lauria fell just short of his second career WSOP Circuit ring. [He won his first in 2009](#) at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.

At the conclusion of Event 6, Michael Nye is still the frontrunner in the Foxwoods Casino Champion ranks with 52.5 points. Matt Smith also has 52.5 points, but Nye holds the tie-breaker

(money earned). The player who accumulates the most overall points in Foxwoods's twelve gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives an automatic entry into the 2015 WSOP National Championship. The winner of the Foxwoods Main Event earns an automatic entry to the WSOP National Championship as well. All players who cash in ring events will receive points that apply to both the Casino Champion race and the season-long race to claim one of the 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 Foxwoods so far:

EVENT #1: James Watt defeated 588 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$35,235.
EVENT #2: Bassioni Hammouda defeated 143 players (\$1,125 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$40,199.
EVENT #3: Bill Delsanto defeated 140 players (\$365 Omaha Hi-Lo Eight-or-Better) for \$11,788.
EVENT #4: Joseph Delgobbo defeated 451 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$29,158.
EVENT #5: William Kopp defeated 352 entries (\$580 No-Limit Hold'em Re-entry) for \$40,836.
EVENT #6: Matt Smith defeated 255 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$18,787.

With the 6th tournament now wrapped up, there are still six more gold ring events before the WSOP Circuit at Foxwoods concludes on August 25.

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