

## **2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit**

**Season 11**

**Horseshoe Southern Indiana**

**Elizabeth, Ind.**

**Event #12**

**No-Limit Hold'em**

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

**Total Entries: 105**

**Prize Pool: \$31,500**

**October 12-13, 2014**



## **Neal Harding Wins Last Chance Ring**

**Series closer concludes with Harding redeeming a previous runner-up finish to earn \$9,450 and his first ring.**

**Elizabeth, Ind. (October 13, 2014)** — Gold ring events have officially concluded at Horseshoe Southern Indiana following Neal Harding's win the series-ending tournament. The victory, which came in a \$365 no-limit hold'em event, earned Harding \$9,450, his first gold ring and redeemed a runner-up finish he carded earlier in the series.

"[It feels] very good," Harding said of the win. "I went in as the chip leader the first time and couldn't hold the lead. I ended up coming in second. I had one other win in a non-numbered tournament [this series], so it was good to get two wins and a second."

The second-place finish Harding is referring to came in Event 5, a \$365 six-handed event. He held a convincing chip lead but succumbed to a talented final table that included 2014 Palm Beach Kennel Club Casino Champion Kristopher Bradshaw, three-time ring winner Stephen Kats and all-time Circuit cashes leader Doug Carli.

As he did in Event 5, Harding had his work cut out for him in Event 12. He faced another talented finale that included 2013 Southern Indiana Main Event champion Zal Irani and perennial Circuit casher Paul Sokoloff, but this time with a different result.

He learned from his previous shortcoming and parlayed a convincing final table chip lead into a gold ring and a fairytale ending to a Circuit series that takes place each year at his home casino.

"I love having [the Circuit] here," Harding, a Louisville resident, said. "I always come down and play it every year. It's a good series, well run. Love it."

Neal Harding is a 65-year-old semi-retired restaurateur. He previously owned a number of Hooters franchises including properties in the U.S., Mexico, Canada, England and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Two years ago he sold a number of his locations back to the parent company but still has interests in a handful of Canadian and U.S. Virgin Islands restaurants.

As far as how poker fits into his life, there wasn't much gray area.

"Poker is pure hobby. I love the competition," Harding said.

Event 12 was the 12th of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at HSI. The \$365 no-limit hold'em tournament drew 105 players generating a \$31,500 prize pool. The top 12 players were paid.

Day 1 began Sunday, October 10 at 12 p.m. and concluded following a double elimination at the 10-handed final table. Action resumed Monday at 2 p.m. with eight players remaining and concluded at about 6:30 p.m. making the total duration of the finale four and a half hours.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from HSI:

EVENT #1: David Leonard defeated 184 players (\$365 NLH) for \$14,352  
EVENT #2: John Mesplay defeated 694 entries (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$42,681  
EVENT #3: Mark Fisher defeated 186 players (\$365 NLH) for \$14,508  
EVENT #4: Joshua Turner defeated 134 players (\$365 NLH Turbo) for \$11,256  
EVENT #5: Jesse Fulmer defeated 189 players (\$365 NLH Six-Handed) for \$15,593  
EVENT #6: Jason Manna defeated 160 players (\$365 NLH) for \$12,960  
EVENT #7: Andrew Robinson defeated 88 players (\$365 PLO w/ \$100 Re-Buys) for \$25,312  
EVENT #8: Bob Chow defeated 178 players (\$365 NLH) for \$14,418  
EVENT #9: Charles Moore defeated 166 players (\$365 NLH) for \$13,446  
EVENT #10 The Main Event: Gregory Johnson defeated 360 entries (\$1,675 NLH) for \$124,200  
EVENT #11: Brian Jennings defeated 115 players (\$365 NLH) for \$10,350  
EVENT #12: Neal Harding defeated 105 players (\$365 NLH) for \$9,450

Charles “Woody” Moore captured Casino Champion honors complementing a gold ring win and an 11th-place finish with a sixth-place finish in the Main Event totaling 95 points. Remarkably, this marks Moore’s fifth-consecutive year to qualify for the National Championship – a feat accomplished by no other player.

All players who cashed in ring events received points that apply toward the Casino Championship race and the season-long race to claim one of 56 expected 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.

For more information about the WSOP Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter @WSOP or check out WSOP.com.

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