

## 2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 11

Horseshoe Casino

Hammond, Ind.

Event #7

No-Limit Hold'em Six-Handed

Buy-In: \$500 (+\$80)

Total Entries: 292

Prize Pool: \$146,000

October 21-22, 2014



### Ron Slucker Outlasts Chris Karambinis in \$580 Six-Handed

**Five-hour heads-up battle ends with amateur Slucker denying two-time ring winner Karambinis his third. Slucker pockets \$37,960 and a \$1,675 Main Event seat.**

**Hammond, Ind. (October 22, 2014)** — Ron Slucker gave a lesson in endurance at the Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, Ind. Wednesday night. The Chicago resident faced off against Chris Karambinis in Event 7 of the World Series of Poker Circuit, a \$580 six-handed tournament. The pair went back and forth in a five-hour heads-up battle that saw Slucker, an amateur, get the best of two-time ring winner Karambinis. For his efforts, Slucker went home with \$37,960, his first gold ring, 50 points toward the Casino Championship and a seat in the \$1,675 Main Event.

“It’s pretty amazing,” Slucker said. “You go in there with 292 people and just hope you can be one of the last men standing.”

A David versus Goliath battle, the heads-up matchup between Slucker and Karambinis was decidedly one-sided on the rail. Karambinis, the seasoned pro and start-of-day chip leader, commanded the late stages of play and his rail grew in size with each pot he raked. Slucker, meanwhile, had no rail to speak of and was admittedly the less experienced player.

“When you play against a pro who has two rings already and everyone knows him, it can be a little intimidating,” Slucker said. “He had an entire posse there and they didn’t give me a chance. If you were listening to the comments today I should have just left hours ago.”

Despite it’s five-hour time stamp, heads-up play was quite uneventful. Slucker clung to life doubling through Karambinis three times. Eventually, play stretched so deep into the structure levels got the best of the stacks and less than 45 big blinds were in play. It was then that Slucker edged out Karambinis for the chip lead and soon sent him to the rail in a classic race situation.

“I just think it’s fun,” Slucker said of his experience. “It’s cool that they bring events like this to Chicago. I think it’s well run. It’s fun to compete and that’s what I’ll remember. It’s like a good golf shot. You can play bad all round, then you have one good shot and remember it. That’s where I am. I played well and I want to try it again.”

Joining Slucker and Karambinis in the late stages of play were a number of other notable Chicago area pros. Two-time ring winner Robert Edelstein was the first elimination on Day 2,

busting 11th. Jeffrey Manza followed soon after in eighth while 32-time Circuit casher Yossi Azulay hit the rail fourth. It was Slucker who would eliminate ring winner Fadi Hamad third.

“Beating the ‘A’ list is a lot better than beating the ‘B’ list,” Slucker said of his talented competition.

Slucker lives in Chicago with his wife of seven years and two children. He works in event promotions and marketing and owns his own agency.

“I’ve owned the business for 11 years and it gives me the flexibility to sort of come and go as I want,” Slucker said. “I’m glad I came to [this tournament].”

Event 7 was the seventh of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Horseshoe Hammond. The \$580 no-limit hold’em six-handed event attracted 292 players. The total prize pool came to \$146,000 and the top 30 finishers were paid.

The tournament began Tuesday, October 21 at 12 p.m. and Day 1 wrapped following Level 21. Day 2 began Wednesday at 2 p.m. with 11 players remaining. It took a little over an hour to reach the six-handed final table. From there, play concluded just after 11 p.m. making the total duration of the finale eight hours including a five-hour heads-up battle.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from Horseshoe Hammond:

EVENT #1: Robert Hankins defeated 1,959 entries (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$92,562

EVENT #2: John Peterson defeated 393 players (\$580 NLH) for \$42,122

EVENT #3: Nicola Ditrapani defeated 375 players (\$365 NLH) for \$24,748

EVENT #4: Sean Troha defeated 154 players (\$580 PLO) for \$20,789

EVENT #5: James Hull defeated 366 players (\$365 NLH) for \$24,161

EVENT #6: Ari Engel defeated 128 players (\$580 HORSE) for \$17,921

EVENT #7: Ron Slucker defeated 292 players (\$580 NLH Six-Handed) \$37,960

The player who accumulates the most overall points during Horseshoe Hammond’s 12 combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP National Championship set to take place this spring at a yet-to-be-determined location.

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 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](http://WSOP.com).

For more information about the WSOP Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter at [@WSOP](https://twitter.com/WSOP) or check out [WSOP.com](http://WSOP.com).

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