

**2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit  
Season 11  
Harrah's Cherokee  
Cherokee, N.C.  
Event #7  
No-Limit Hold'em  
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)  
Total Entries: 480  
Prize Pool: \$144,000  
Dec. 3-4, 2014**



## **Kier Collects Gold in Cherokee**

**Amateur poker player, Jim Kier, wins Event #7 to earn his first WSOP Circuit gold ring and \$30,962.**

**Cherokee, N.C. (December 4, 2014)** -- Jim Kier won Event #7 – \$365 No-Limit Hold'em. It was no easy field to get through though. Event #7 drew 480 entries, the largest field at the series excluding the re-entry event. The amateur poker player from Charleston, S.C. managed to successfully navigate through the large field all the way to the finish line.

Kier found himself on the outside looking in at the beginning of Day 2. He began the day sitting in 15th place out of 19 remaining players, with only 12 big blinds in front of him. Kier's chances of winning may have been slim heading into Day 2, but that didn't last for long. Kier started Day 2 on a rampage. During the time it took the field to be reduced from 19 to 9 players, Kier increased his stack enough to become the chip leader. He was not just the chip leader though; he was a massive chip leader with a third of the chips in play. In fact, Kier had more chips than the six shortest stacks combined when the final table began.

"Nothing crazy, just trying to pick the right moments. Trying not to get wrapped up into big hands unless I felt pretty confident going into it, said Kier about his mentality heading into the final table as the chip leader. "I caught a lot of cards. I can't dispute the luck factor. I was hitting everything in the last hour."

The IT consultant was excited about winning the gold ring. He says winning a ring is something that he has been trying to do for several years now, despite not being able to play in that many tournaments. This was the third tournament Kier has played in at this series and he plans to play in the Main Event as well.

Event #7 was the seventh of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Harrah's Cherokee in Cherokee, N.C. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em tournament attracted 480 players generating a \$144,000 prize pool. The top 54 players were paid.

Day 1 began Wednesday at noon and lasted 21 levels. Day 2 began Thursday at 2 p.m. with 19 players remaining. The tournament concluded at 8:30 p.m. Thursday.

Notes on the event:

- Kelly Andrews (third place) collected his second third place finish of the series and now sits as the current leader in the Casino Championship race with 60 points.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Harrah's Cherokee twelve combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP National Championship set to take place at the end of the year.

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 Harrah's Cherokee:

EVENT #1: Karthik Ramakrishnan defeated 1,930 players (\$365 NLHE Re-entry) for \$91,166

EVENT #2: Nhat Truong defeated 183 players (\$365 PLO) for \$14,275

EVENT #3: Jonathan Abila defeated 404 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$26,660

EVENT #4: Steven Snyder defeated 381 players (\$365 NLHE 6 Max) for \$27,430

EVENT #5: Raymond "Trey" Walton defeated 323 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$22,773

EVENT #6: Michael Bramlett defeated 398 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$26,275

EVENT #7: Jim Kier defeated 480 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$30,962

With the seventh tournament wrapped up, only five more ring events remain at Harrah's Cherokee.

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:

Isaac Hanson (WSOP Media Coordinator) at [ijhanson13@gmail.com](mailto:ijhanson13@gmail.com).