2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 11 Horseshoe Baltimore Baltimore, Md. Event #9 No-Limit Hold'em Buy-In: \$300(+\$65)

Total Entries: 186 Prize Pool: \$55,800 March 4-5, 2015



## **Jason Sandling Captures Ring #2**

Jason Sandling earns his second career gold ring in only his third WSOP cash ever.

**Baltimore**, Md. (March 6, 2015) -- Jason Sandling grinded out a second gold ring late Thursday night and took home a first place prize of \$14,505. Sandling's victory came after he managed to survive a marathon final table that lasted nearly nine hours long. The main reason the final table lasted so long was because four-handed play lasted four hours long.

Sandling returned for Day 2 of the tournament with a sizable chip lead. He had more than double the chips of the second place competitor. With only 16 players remaining, the ring was in sight for Sandling. Amazingly, seven players were lost in the first hour of play and the final table was quickly reached. Sandling knocked out one of the larger stacks and added to his chip lead by the time the final table was reached.

Play continued to move swiftly with players steadily being eliminated from the tournament. When Kenneth Brannon was eliminated in fifth place that all changed. Four-handed play lasted an astounding four hours long. The chip lead was lost by Sandling during four-handed play. The players took a short 30 minute dinner break. Shortly after returning and four hours into four-handed play, a player was finally eliminated. Sandling knocked out two-time gold ring winner, Michael Ratcliff, holding ace-king against Ratcliff's queen-nine suited. The very next hand, Sandling knocked out Casey Goodin in third place with ace-king against Goodin's pocket eights. These two knockouts gave the chip lead back to Sandling.

Sandling was up against Jonathan Abla for the gold ring. Abla won his gold ring earlier this season in November at the Harrah's Cherokee stop, the same place where Sandling won his first gold ring. Sandling won his first career gold ring by taking down the Harrah's Cherokee Main Event in April of 2014 for over \$200,000.

Sandling and Abla battled it out for another two hours. Sandling never relinquished his chip lead and eventually got the best of Abla. This marks Sandling's first WSOP cash of the season and third of his career. For Abla, this marks his eighth WSOP cash of the season and fifth final table. It is safe to say Abla has secured an at-large bid to the National Championship with this runner-up finish.

Event #9 was the ninth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Horseshoe Baltimore. The \$365 no-limit hold'em tournament attracted 186 players generating a \$55,800 prize pool. The top 21 players were paid.

Day 1 began Wednesday at 5 p.m. and lasted 15 levels. Day 2 began Thursday at 3:30 p.m. with 16 players remaining. The tournament concluded Friday at 1:15 a.m.

## Notes on the event:

• This was Abla's (2nd place) and Goodin's (3rd place) second final tables of the series.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Horseshoe Baltimore's 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 56 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 the Horseshoe Baltimore:

EVENT #1: Damion Norton defeated 392 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$25,867

EVENT #2: Jesse Mills defeated 2,403 players (\$365 NLHE Re-Entry) for \$106,305

EVENT #3: Justin Liberto defeated 126 players (\$580 NLHE) for \$17,639

EVENT #4: Bill Glavin defeated 138 players (\$365 PLO) for \$11,589

EVENT #5: Austin Buchanan defeated 219 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$16,426

EVENT #6: Baruch Thaler defeated 203 players (\$365 NLHE 6 Max) for \$16,745

EVENT #7: Adel Shakerian defeated 128 players (\$365 H.O.R.S.E.) for \$10,753

EVENT #8: Jeromy Bittan defeated 140 players (\$580 NLHE) for \$19,600

EVENT #9: Jason Sandling defeated 186 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$14,505

With nine tournaments wrapped up, only three more ring events remain at the Horseshoe Baltimore series.

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