

2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 11

Choctaw Casino Resort

Durant, Okla.

Event #12

No-Limit Hold'em

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

Total Entries: 345

Prize Pool: \$103,500

January 18-19, 2015



Tzu Yen Wins Choctaw Last-Chance Ring Event

12-day series concludes with Jose Montes in the Main Event winner's circle, Ben Reason dons Casino Champion honors.

Durant, Okla. (January 20, 2015) — Tzu Yen arrived at Choctaw Casino Resort Friday to take a shot in the property's \$1,675 Main Event. Yen made his presence known in the finale, playing his way well into the money before busting 84th for \$4,171. With extra cash in his pocket and some unwanted free time, he decided to give it a go in the series' last-chance ring event – Event 12, a \$365 no-limit hold'em tournament. Fast forward 24 hours and he'd be in the winner's circle reveling in a \$23,806 first prize and a gold ring after outlasting 345 players in the series closer.

"I was playing a little more aggressive (in Event 12) because of the fact I'd just busted out of the Main," Yen said. "It worked out pretty well."

Yen, a Houston semi-pro with five WSOP-related cashes totaling more than \$50,000, chose just the right time to record his breakthrough victory. Event 12 was the last of the property's ring events. The 12-day Circuit series began nearly two weeks ago and kicked off with a 4,053-entry re-entry event that set the record for the largest field in Circuit history. Texas' own Ray Henson went on to conquer the monstrous field and take home its \$197,588 paycheck.

The property's Main Event, which headlined the series and played out alongside the Event 12 final table, saw Jose Montes of Bronx, N.Y. walk with its \$352,699 first prize and a berth in the National Championship. Montes was joined at the final table by eventual Casino Champion Ben Reason. Reason finished sixth, and while many players would be disappointed as they hit the rail, he had reason to smile as he made his way to the cashier. A 25-year-old professional poker player and coach, Reason preceded his Main Event run with first, fourth and 128th-place finishes. The Main Event run earned him 35 additional points bringing his total to 117.5 and cementing his lead and Casino Championship title. He lapped the field and left little sweat heading to the 12th and final day of the series.

Event 12 was the last of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Choctaw Casino Resort. The \$365 no-limit hold'em event attracted 345 players. The total prize pool came to \$103,500 and the top 36 finishers were paid. With Yen, Henson, Montes and Reason all firmly in the winner's circle, the Choctaw Circuit series has come to a close, but don't fret. The WSOP gets right back to work Thursday at Horseshoe Casino in Tunica, Miss.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from Choctaw Casino Resort:

EVENT #1: Thomas Johnson defeated 990 players (\$365 NLH Monster Stack) for \$56,427
EVENT #2: Mark Fisher defeated 197 players (\$365 PLO) for \$15,366
EVENT #3: Ray Henson defeated 4,053 entries (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$197,588
EVENT #4: Kevin McColgan defeated 402 players (\$365 One-Day NLH) for \$26,533
EVENT #5: Ben Reason defeated 281 players (\$365 NLH) for \$20,233
EVENT #6: Stewart Yancik defeated 379 players (\$365 Six-Handed NLH) for \$27,281
EVENT #7: Johnny Donnelly defeated 241 players (\$365 NLH) for \$17,711
EVENT #8: Steve Moore defeated 281 players (\$365 NLH) for \$20,233
EVENT #9: Danny Watkins defeated 225 players (\$365 NLH) for \$16,877
EVENT #10: Bret Zorich defeated 314 players (\$580 One-day NLH) for \$36,899
EVENT #11 (Main Event): Jose Montes defeated 1,363 entries (\$1,675 NLH) for \$352,669
EVENT #12: Tzu Yen defeated 345 players (\$365 NLH) for \$23,806

Ben Reason earned Casino Champion honors following up first, fourth and 128th-place finishes in preliminary events with a sixth-place finish in the Main Event. In all, Reason carded 117.5 points and lapped the field in the 12-tournament race to the National Championship. He's set to join the Choctaw Main Event champion at a yet-to-be determined location for the season-ending event. There, they'll compete for an up-to \$2,000,000 prize pool and a gold bracelet.

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 at [@WSOP](https://twitter.com/WSOP) or check out WSOP.com.

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