2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 11

Foxwoods Casino

Mashantucket, CT

Event #9

No-Limit Hold'em

Buy-In: \$310 (+\$55)

Total Entries: 145 Prize Pool: \$43,601

May 20, 2015



Michael Sandler Wins First WSOP Circuit Ring

Mashantucket, CT (May 21, 2015) — It wasn't a turbo event, but somehow Event #9 at the World Series of Poker Circuit at Foxwoods Casino finished in a record 13 ½ hours. At the end of the day, Michael Sandler from Maplewood, NJ walked away with \$12,209 and his first World Series of Poker Circuit ring.

The day started with 145 entrants, creating a \$43,601 prize pool. Just before 10pm, the unofficial final table was reached, and it was Brad St. Vincent at the top of the chip counts, holding more than double the chips of his closest competitor. Brad previously took third place in Event #5 as well as a 10th place in Event #1 and an 11th place Event #7, so this looked to be Brad's chance at redemption. With a fifth place finish, Brad would overtake James Campbell in the Casino Champion race.

Unfortunately for Brad, Michael Sandler made a big call on the river against Brad with just a pair of deuces. When Brad declared, "Ace high," Michael took the chip lead away from Brad. Brad ended up exiting the tournament in 8th place for \$1,382.

After WSOP-C ring holders Michael Thibeau exited in 7th place and Michael Bramlett exited in 5th, Michael Sandler made another big call. This time he called Douglas Lyford's all in on a 4-2-4 flop holding just ace-king, which was ahead of Douglas's nine-seven. When his ace high held up, Michael Sandler found himself in great position to win his first ring.

Michael turned a flush to eliminate Charles Bunker in 3rd place, and then finally eliminated Wayne Jackson in 2nd place when Michael's ace-queen held up against Wayne's ten-seven.

"Everything just fell into place," Michael explained. "I play a lot of poker whenever I can, and I've been playing mostly tournaments for the last few years." Michael's work as a contract lawyer keeps him pretty busy, but a few well-timed days off gave him a chance to play this WSOP-C event. "This is the only event I've been to. I wanted to get into one of these events if I could."

Asked if he would be returning to play the Main Event, Michael thought for a moment and answered, "It's Memorial Day Weekend. I'm going to the beach."

The player who accumulates the most overall points during Foxwoods Casinos's 12 combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP National Championship. Additionally, all players who cash in ring events earn points that apply toward the season-long race to claim one of 60 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 or check out WSOP.com.

For additional information please contact:

Rob Perelman (WSOP Media Coordinator) at rob@veerob.com.