

**2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit  
Season 11  
Harrah's Cherokee  
Cherokee, N.C.  
Event #9  
No-Limit Hold'em  
Buy-In: \$500 (+\$80)  
Total Entries: 334  
Prize Pool: \$167,000  
April 23-24, 2015**



## **Steve Nussrallah Wins the \$580**

**Steve Nussrallah survives one of the toughest final tables of the series to collect his first WSOP Circuit gold ring.**

**Cherokee, N.C. (April 25, 2015)** -- Steve Nussrallah defeated one of the toughest final tables in recent Circuit history to collect his first WSOP gold ring and biggest career WSOP cash. The final table had more than \$1 million in WSOP earnings between the nine final table players. It featured some big hitters that have had strong 2014-2015 seasons. It included gold ring winners Darryll Fish, Jonathan Abla and Austin Buchanan. These three players have all had a strong 2014-2015 campaign, each picking up their first career WSOP Circuit gold rings this season.

Nussrallah was undeterred by the tough competition. His opponents have had hot years this year, but so has he. According to Nussrallah, he has been playing poker for about four or five years. He said that he won his first tournament this year and that it has snowballed into more success.

“Keep my cool, be patient and don’t get intimidated,” said Nussrallah about his keys to success.

Nussrallah plays for fun and said that he wasn’t concerned with laddering up the pay jumps, despite being a short stack coming into the final table. He just played to win. He never panicked and he stayed calm throughout.

The 64-year-old is from Atlanta, Georgia. He shares a private equity firm with a partner and invests in small companies to help them grow. This marks his 15th career WSOP related cash and third of the series. His three cashes with a victory will put him right near the top of the Casino Championship standings with three events remaining. He will still need at least another cash to pass current leader, Troy Thornton, for the lead.

Event #9 was the ninth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Harrah’s Cherokee in Cherokee, N.C. The \$580 No-Limit Hold’em tournament attracted 334 players, generating a \$167,000 prize pool. The top 36 players were paid.

Day 1 began Thursday at 12 p.m. and lasted 21 levels. Day 2 began Friday at 2 p.m. with 13 players remaining. The tournament concluded Friday at about 7:30 p.m.

Notes on the event:

- This tournament had largest buy-in of the series, excluding the Main Event
- This marks Nussrallah's third cash of the series.
- Three players at the final table had over \$200,000 in WSOP Earnings. Fish (3rd place - \$635,352), Nikolai Sears (7th place - \$216,592), Austin Buchanan (9th place - \$324,988)
- Gold ring winners at the final table included Fish, Abia (5th place) and Buchanan. Each holds one gold ring.

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 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](http://WSOP.com).

Here is the list of gold ring winners from Harrah's Cherokee:

EVENT #1: Tony Sewell defeated 466 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$30,050

EVENT #2: John Morris defeated 242 players (\$365 PLO) for \$17,787

EVENT #3: Matthew Lee defeated 581 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$36,598

EVENT #4: Chris Russell defeated 2,937 players (\$365 NLHE Re-Entry) for \$125,559

EVENT #5: Ed Willis defeated 451 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$29,079

EVENT #6: Tyler Morris defeated 400 players (\$365 NLHE 6-Max) for \$28,794

EVENT #7: Kyle Cadman defeated 349 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$24,084

EVENT #8: Troy Thornton defeated 703 players (\$365 NLHE Monster Stack) for \$43,240

EVENT #9: Steve Nussrallah defeated 334 players (\$580 NLHE) for \$38,412

With the ninth tournament wrapped up, only three more ring events remain at the Harrah's Cherokee series.

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

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