2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 12 Horseshoe Casino Hammond, Ind. Event #8 Omaha Eight-or-Better Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)

Total Entries: 168 Prize Pool: \$50,400 October 22-23, 2015



Jeff Shea Defeats Jim Juvancic in Omaha Eight-or-Better

Chicago amateur and Cubs season ticket holder makes the most of his free time, wins O8 event and \$13,609.

HORSE winner Juvancic records second top-two finish in three days, takes Casino Championship lead through eight events.

Hammond, Ind. (October 23, 2015) — Jeff Shea bested Hammond HORSE winner Jim Juvancic in Event #8 of the World Series of Poker Circuit, a \$365 Omaha eight-or-better tournament, Friday night. Shea earned \$13,609 along with his first gold ring while Juvancic was sent home with a consolation prize of the Casino Championship points lead through eight events.

"Clearly he's a better player than me and I know that," Shea, an amateur, said of Juvancic. "I know this is what he does [...] I don't have a lot of heads-up experience. Anytime I play shorthanded in the cash room here I don't do very well. I feel very fortunate. I have a lot more to learn and I want to keep learning and build off it if I can."

Shea was afforded the luxury of a two-to-one chip lead when heads-up play began. Juvancic made some noise and even took over the lead during the tough battle, but eventually met his demise finishing second and earning a 20-point cushion in the Casino Championship race.

"It's a dream come true," Shea said of the win. "Every time I'm in a tournament that's World Series [of Poker] related, I have trouble sleeping because I imagine winning. It keeps me up. Last night I probably only got three or four hours of sleep even though I only had 30,000 chips coming into Day 2. I was down to nothing a few times, but it just shows that anyone's got a shot. I realize if I was heads up against [Juvancic] seven times, he'd probably win."

Shea is a 42-year-old IT consultant from Chicago. A season ticket holder and avid Cubs fan, he attended each of the National League Division Series games at Wrigley Field. Had the Cubs not been swept by the Mets, he would have been back to Wrigley for Game 5 of the NLCS and unable to play Event #8. In the end, his team came up short and he was granted some spare time to take to the tournament felt.

"I didn't think I'd be able to play in any of the World Series [of Poker events] because of the Cubs," Shea said. "I'm not missing maybe a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see them win the

World Series. They would have played last night, but I wouldn't have played the [O8 event that started at noon] in case I did well. As it turns out, maybe the Cubs were doing me a favor."

As Shea basked in the glory of what he described as a dream come true, he couldn't help but give a nod to his best supporter and number one fan, his wife.

"Event though she doesn't really understand poker, she believes in me," Shea said of his wife. "She has faith in me and she's going to be so happy for me — maybe even happier than I am — that I won. She's the love of my life and I'm so thankful to be with her and to have support like that. I know not everyone does."

Event #8 was the eighth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Horseshoe. The \$365 Omaha eight-or-better tournament attracted 168 players. The total prize pool came to \$50,400 and the top 18 finishers were paid.

The tournament began Thursday, October 22 at 12 p.m. CT and Day 1 wrapped following Level 16. Day 2 resumed the following day at 2 p.m. with 33 players remaining and action concluded at about 11 p.m.

Final table results:

1st: Jeff Shea - \$13,609 + Circuit gold ring and \$1,675 Main Event seat

2nd: Jim Juvancic - \$8,410

3rd: Josh Reichard - \$6,054

4th: Alan Cutler - \$4,437

5th: Sean Troha - \$3,309

6th: Kyung Han - \$2,511

7th: Antwoine Dixon - \$1,938

8th: Dean Jackson - \$1,521

9th: John Ma - \$1,213

10th: Jay Siegel - \$982

11th: Aaron Steury - \$982

12th: Terry Harden - \$982

13th: David Mirshak - \$808

14th: Robert Williams - \$808

15th: Joshua Pender - \$808

16th: Kevin Olsta - \$676

17th: Mark Ostrosa - \$676

18th: Sara Hall - \$676

Here is the list of gold ring winners from the Horseshoe:

EVENT #1: Amanda Heidbrick defeated 2,211 entries (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$101,190

EVENT #2: Kevin Falls defeated 203 players (\$580 NLH) for \$26,390

EVENT #3: Kennii Nguyen defeated 106 players (\$580 PLO) for \$15,902

EVENT #4: Cory Waaland defeated 613 players (\$365 Monster Stack) for \$38,623

EVENT #5: Jim Juvancic defeated 101 players (\$580 HORSE) for \$15,149

EVENT #6: Bradley Rhodes defeated 213 players (\$580 NLH Six-Max) for \$28,758

EVENT #7: Cord Garcia defeated 142 players (\$1,125 NLH) for \$38,759

EVENT #8: Jeff Shea defeated 168 players (\$365 O8) for \$13,609

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Horseshoe's 12 combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP Global Casino Championship. Additionally, all players who cash in ring events earn points that apply toward the season-long race to claim one of 50 expected at-large WSOP Global Casino Championship bids awarded to the top point earners. More information on the season-ending event is available on WSOP.com.

All rings at the Horseshoe are furnished by <u>Jostens</u>, the official ring supplier of the 2015/2016 WSOP Circuit season.

For more information about the WSOP Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter at <u>@WSOP</u> or check out <u>WSOP.com</u>.

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