2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 12 Horseshoe Casino Hammond, Ind. Event #10 No-Limit Hold'em Buy-In: \$500 (+\$80)

Total Entries: 194
Prize Pool: \$97,000
October 25-26, 2015



Chicagoan Michael Koh Defends His Home Turf

The Horseshoe's \$580 no-limit hold'em tournament concludes with one of its own in the winner's circle; Koh earns \$25,220 following Circuit victory.

Hammond, Ind. (October 26, 2015) — Michael Koh won Event #10 of the World Series of Poker Circuit at the Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, Ind. Monday night. The tournament, which played out alongside the final table of the property's Main Event, boasted a \$580 buy in and saw Koh walk with a top prize of \$25,220 along with his first gold ring.

"This is my first win, so it means a lot," Koh said. "Hopefully I'll have more [victories] to come."

By his own admission, Koh is fairly new to tournaments. The 33-year-old Chicago construction worker began playing them just last year and has experienced some minor successes. His victory in Event #10, meanwhile, can go down as a big success. He began heads-up play at a disadvantage to start-of-day chip leader and eventual runner up Jacob Baumgartner. Deep into the match, Koh turned the nut straight only to see the board double pair on the river.

"He shoved all in so I had to fold," Koh remembered of the hand. "Over the break I decided, whatever happens, happens. That [Tx,8x] changed everything."

The [Tx,8x] hand Koh mentioned occurred when he shoved about 14 big blinds preflop. Baumgartner peeked down at [Ax,Jx] and called. Koh was behind, but drawing live against the day's headliner. The runout was fortuitous, improving Koh to a pair and earning him the pot.

"I knew I needed to get lucky when I was down to [300,000] in chips," Koh said. "I gambled with [Tx,8x]. I was behind against [Ax,Jx], but hit my 10. After that, the momentum started changing."

With that momentum boost on his side, Koh maneuvered his way into the chip lead and eventually shocked Baumgartner overcoming an extreme disadvantage to bust him second. Baumgartner eared \$15,579 for the runner up finish. As it turns out, the fateful hand did a lot more than propel Koh into the winner's circle. It gave him a bankroll and the upcoming winter weather gives him the time to spend it.

"Construction is pretty slow in the winter, so I'll definitely be playing more poker," he said of his plans following the victory.

Event #10 was the 10th of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Horseshoe. The \$580 no-limit hold'em tournament attracted 194 players. The total prize pool came to \$97,000 and the top 21 finishers were paid.

The tournament began Sunday, October 25 at noon CT and Day 1 wrapped at the nine-handed final table. Day 2 resumed the following day at 2 p.m. and action concluded shortly after 7 p.m.

Final table results:

1st: Michael Koh - \$25,220 + Circuit gold ring

2nd: Jacob Baumgartner - \$15,579

3rd: Boulos Estafanous - \$11,249

4th: Obed Ribera - \$8,261

5th: Michael Keep - \$6,172

6th: Christopher Kaltenbach - \$4,690

7th: Juan Mora - \$3,623

8th: Vincent Moscati - \$2,845

9th: Stuart Olshansky - \$2,270

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 Main Event (Event #9): TBD

EVENT #10: Michael Koh defeated 194 players (\$580 NLH) for \$25,220

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.

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