

## **2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit**

### **Horseshoe Tunica**

#### **Event #5**

#### **No-Limit Hold'em**

**Buy-In: \$365**

**Total Entries: 245**

**Total Prize Pool: \$73,500**

**January 24-25, 2016**

## **Andrew Brinkley Finds Redemption and his First WSOP Circuit Victory at the Horseshoe Tunica**

**Brinkley wins in his second final-table performance at the Horseshoe.**

**Tunica, Miss. (26 January 2016)** – After coming up short in several previous attempts, Andrew Brinkley finally won his first World Series of Poker Circuit event Monday night at the Horseshoe Casino in Tunica. Brinkley emerged victorious in Event #5: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em, earning \$18,010 and his first WSOP Circuit gold ring.

For Brinkley, this victory offered a taste of redemption after a disappointing finish a couple nights ago. He finished in second place in [Event #3: \\$365 No-Limit Hold'em](#), losing to Robb Idsinga at about 3:30 a.m. after a grueling day of poker. "Two nights ago I was more disappointed than I'd been in a long time," he later recalled.

But now, after achieving a goal he's been working toward for three years, his mood is quite different. "I've got two fourth places, a third, a second, and now I finally won it. It really feels great."

Brinkley's performance is even more remarkable considering he almost didn't even come here to play. "I wasn't even supposed to be here," he said after securing his victory. "My wife just gave me the okay to come up, and she's been super supportive the whole time. So when I came here I was pretty determined to do something." Brinkley also spoke about how grateful he was to have support from his friend and poker mentor, Michael Schneider, who was never far from Brinkley's table on Monday as the event played to its conclusion.

It wasn't an easy road to the ring for Brinkley. He started Day 2 of the tournament in sixth place out of nine remaining players. And even though he stuck around as other players were being eliminated, when only two players remained, it looked as though he would probably fall short again. Brinkley was heads up against Brian Pilkington, and Pilkington held a huge chip lead.

"When we started heads up, he had me outchipped 2,000,000 to 400,000," Brinkley said. "And I just kind of chipped away at him. I had two lucky flips early, and then just worked my way up. But he was hard to play against. He really knew what he was doing. He was the one player I didn't want to play against heads up."

This victory may give Brinkley more than just the prize money and the WSOP Circuit ring. He also gets 50 points in the [Casino Champion race](#). The title Casino Champion is awarded to the

player who earns the most points in the 12 ring events at each Circuit stop, and each Casino Champion receives a free entry (valued at \$10,000) into the 2016 WSOP Global Casino Championship. This invitation-only tournament has a minimum prize pool of \$1,000,000. Thanks to his runner up finish a few days ago and his victory on Monday, Brinkley now leads the contest with 87.5 points. But there are still seven events to go, so his lead is far from secure.

The chase for Casino Champion has actually motivated Brinkley to change his upcoming plans. "I was supposed to leave tomorrow, but I changed my plans because of the points. Now I'm going to hang out here until Friday. I'm going to play everything until the Main Event, but I have to miss that."

The tournament began Sunday at 3:00 p.m. with 245. At the end of the first day, only 9 remained. The returned Monday at 3:00 p.m. for Day 2, and Brinkley won the final hand at about 9:45 p.m.

Full results from the event are available on [WSOP.com](http://WSOP.com).

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At the conclusion of this event, Andrew Brinkley takes over the lead in the Casino Champion race. Brinkley now has 87.5 points from a one victory and one runner-up finish. After Brinkley, four players are tied with 50 points each. The player who accumulates the most overall points in the twelve gold ring tournaments at the Horseshoe Tunica earns the title of Casino Champion and receives an automatic entry into the \$1 million 2016 WSOP Global Casino Championship. The winner of the Horseshoe Tunica Main Event also earns an automatic entry to the Global Casino Championship. All players who cash in ring events will receive points that apply to both the Casino Champion race and the season-long race to claim one of the 50 at-large Global Casino 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 the Horseshoe Tunica so far:

EVENT #1: Johnny McNally defeated 276 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$19,875.  
EVENT #2: Romeo White defeated 138 players (\$365 Pot-Limit Omaha) for \$11,589  
EVENT #3: Robb Idsinga defeated 430 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$28,379  
EVENT #4: Josh Turner defeated 1,346 entries (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em Re-entry) for \$71,665.  
EVENT #5: Andrew Brinkley defeated 245 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$18,010

With the fifth tournament now wrapped up, there are still seven more gold ring events before the WSOP Circuit at the Horseshoe Tunica concludes on Feb 1.

All rings at the Horseshoe Tunica are furnished by [Jostens](http://Jostens), the official ring supplier of the 2015-2015 WSOP Circuit season.

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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