2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit Horseshoe Baltimore Event #1 No-Limit Holdem Re-entry Buy-In: \$365

Total Entries: 3,641

Total Prize Pool: \$1,092,300

March 24-28, 2016

Michael Liang Wins Event 1 with \$1 Million Guarantee for \$182,920

Baltimore, MD (28 March 2016) – Event 1 of the World Series of Poker Circuit Horseshoe Baltimore took five days on the calendar with six starting flights and drew a staggering 3,641 entrants to beat the \$1 million guarantee. Day 3 saw 26 players return to play down to a winner and after ten hours of play Michael Liang defeated Chad J. Brown heads-up, won his first WSOPC ring and \$182,920.

"It feels really to win this much," Liang said. "I don't play too many tournaments, but this had such a good value with a \$365 buy-in, \$1 million guaranteed and \$180K up top – it's hard to refuse."

Liang fired four bullets in the re-entry event before advancing in Flight D. "I'm a real estate investor, but I play poker a good amount of time," Liang said. "I ran extremely well, especially in the critical all in situations. I feel more lucky than good right now."

"There might have been a couple people that played better than me at the final table, but I really well in big situations," Liang added. "I started the day pretty aggressive but then I had to tone it down at times."

Heads-up play began with Brown and Liang virtually event with around 15 million each. Brown was gaining momentum and stacking Liang until he hit a crucial double up. Liang held Qh Jh, Brown had pocket nines and the board was As 9d 4s 8c Tc - giving Liang a runner-runner straight and keeping him alive.

Brown dipped to just over 7 million and then it was his turn to double up. They got all the money in on the flop of Qh 9h 2h, Brown held Jh 8d and Liang had pocket aces. The board completed 3c Kh, Brown made a flush to double up and stay alive.

The final hand saw the two at a flop of 7c 5c 5s, Liang bet 1.8 million, Brown moved all in and Liang thought for a bit before calling. He tabled Ah Qc and Brown was ahead holding Qd 7d with a pair of sevens. The board completed 6c Jc, Liang made a flush, had Brown covered and won his first WSOPC ring.

The six flights packed the players in the Harbor Room and here's how each flight broke down:

Flight	Entries	Players Advancing	Prize Pool
Α	478	50	\$143,400
В	361	38	\$108,300
С	626	88	\$187,800
D	557	68	\$167,100
E	920	124	\$276,000
F	699	97	\$209,700
Totals:	3,641	465	\$1,092,300

The event began on Thursday, March 24 and had two flights a day, 11 am and 6 pm, and finished up before midnight Monday, March 28. Each flight played an average of nine hours, Day 2 began at 3 pm on Easter Sunday for players to spend time with their families. The late start pushed the bag and tag until 4 am and Day 3 didn't start until 2 pm.

The top 369 finishers earned a cash with the min-cash coming in at \$623.

Final Table Payouts

- 1. Michael Liang \$182,920
- 2. Chad J. Brown \$112,911
- 3. Jeff Owen \$85,595
- 4. Andre Allen \$59,356
- 5. Satish Surapaneni \$43,637
- 6. Rebecca Baugh \$32,419
- 7. Chase Bianchi \$24,336
- 8. Robert Stienshow \$18,449
- 9. Robert Castleton \$14,134

This is the first event to finish of the WSOPC Horseshoe Baltimore stop and Michael Liang leads the Casino Championship points race by default. The player who accumulates the most overall points in the 12 gold ring events at the Horseshoe Baltimore earns the title of Casino Champion. The receive and automatic entry into the \$1 million 2016 WSOP Global Casino Championship. Also, the winner of the Horseshoe Baltimore Main Event earns an automatic ticket to the freeroll. All players that cash in ring events 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.

There are still 11 more gold ring events before the WSOP Circuit wraps up on April 4.

All rings at Horseshoe Baltimore are furnished by <u>Jostens</u>, 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 or check out WSOP.com.

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