

2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit

Horseshoe Baltimore

Event #4

Pot Limit Omaha

Buy-In: \$365

Total Entries: 148

Total Prize Pool: \$44,400

March 28-29, 2016

Blake Whittington Goes Wire-to-Wire for First Ring and \$12,434

Baltimore, MD (29 March 2016) - The \$365 Pot Limit Omaha event finished Day 1 past 3 am Tuesday morning, returned 12 hours later and after six hours of action Blake Whittington won his first WSOPC ring. Whittington was the wire-to-wire chip leader, battled a tough Michael Mazzone heads-up for two hours and came out on top to win \$12,434.

"It feels wonderful to win, I've been grinding the Circuit for a while now," Whittington said. "I got heads-up in Cherokee (November 2015 in Event 1) and blew a two to one chip lead. So I was really going to be irritated if I did it again."

"Thankfully everything went my way and I ran pretty well. I doubled up a bunch of short stacks six or seven-handed," Whittington continued. "But then I kept my composure and kept the chip lead."

"The seat draw wasn't favorable to me but I just tried to play as many pots post-flop as possible and play as super low variance style as I could," Whittington said. "Michael (Mazzone) played great and put forth a commendable effort for sure. He played really well and put me in super sticky spots heads-up. I think he actually was getting better cards for the majority of heads-up and then I got super lucky on the last hand to end it."

Whittington and Mazzone battled for two hours heads-up, they began with Whittington holding 1.1 million to Mazzone's 300,000 and during the closing stages of the tournament Mazzone was surging back. He nearly had the counts back to even at the final hand holding 600,000 to Whittington's 880,000.

The final hand saw Whittington limp on the button, Mazzone raised to 72,000 and Whittington called. The flop came [Ah,Qh,Th], Mazzone bet 144,000 and Whittington called. The turn came [6c], Mazzone checked and Whittington moved all in. Mazzone called holding [Ad,As,9s,4c] for a set of aces and Whittington flopped a flush with [Th,8h,2h,6s]. The river blanked for Mazzone with the [8d] and Mazzone took the final pot of the tournament.

Final Table Payouts

1. Blake Whittington - \$12,434
 2. Michael Mazzone - \$7,684
 3. Jeffrey Izes - \$5,546
 4. Jaycin Corss - \$4,075
 5. David Israelite - \$3,047
 6. Tristan Tyler - \$2,316
 7. Brian Powell - \$1,791
 8. Tom Markides - \$1,407
 9. Beverly Herrington - \$1,123
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This is the third event to finish of the WSOPC Horseshoe Baltimore stop and Michael Liang leads the Casino Championship points race due to Event's 1 field size multiplier. 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 9 more gold ring events before the WSOP Circuit wraps up on April 4.

[Michael Liang Wins Event 1 with \\$1 Million Guarantee for \\$182,920](#)

[Justin Liberto Wins 3rd WSOPC Ring, Defends Title for \\$21,734](#)

All rings at Horseshoe Baltimore are furnished by [Jostens](#), the official ring supplier of the 2015-2016 WSOP Circuit season.

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