

**2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit  
Season 12  
Harrah's Cherokee  
Cherokee, N.C.  
Event #4  
No-Limit Hold'em  
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)  
Total Entries: 452  
Prize Pool: \$135,600  
April 17-18, 2016**



## **Christopher Carey Defeats Maurice Hawkins**

**Christopher Carey wins his first gold ring and takes home the top prize of \$29,154.**

**Cherokee, N.C. (April 19, 2016)** -- Christopher Carey has defeated a field of 452 entries to win Event #4 - \$365 No-Limit Hold'em and his first gold ring. Carey defeated the red hot Maurice Hawkins heads up to score the victory and deny Hawkins his seventh gold ring. Hawkins had already won two gold rings this at the Horseshoe Council Bluffs series.

"It feels good, it's been a long time coming," said Carey about winning his first gold ring. "I play every event almost and I've been looking forward to it."

Carey entered Day 2 as the chip leader with 49 players remaining. When the tournament was down to the final 10 players Carey had lost his chip lead and had fallen to seventh in chips. He actually had more chips to start the day than at certain points of the final table. Carey hung around at the final table and eventually found himself heads up against Maurice Hawkins, who had been chip leader for most of the final table. Hawkins was gunning for his third gold ring in the past two weeks. In Council Bluffs Hawkins won the monster stack event and the Main Event, which were the only two events he played at the series, for a combined \$132,629. Carey battled Hawkins for over an hour heads up and overcame Hawkins' chip lead to beat him.

"It's a big win for me, especially against [Hawkins]," said Carey. "He has a lot of big scores."

His win earned him \$29,154, which was his largest ever WSOP cash. This marked Carey's 7th Circuit cash and 8th WSOP related cash. Last summer in Vegas Carey made a deep run in the \$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em Shootout event. He won his first shootout table to make it into the money and earn \$5,413. He officially finished 28th in the event out of 1,000 entries.

Carey almost did not even play this event. He came to Cherokee to play the \$500k re-entry event. He busted early on Day 2 of the re-entry event, but did reach the money. He finished 313rd for \$616. After busting the re-entry he decided to give Event #4 a shot and it turned out to be a great decision. Carey doesn't plan to play anymore events during the series except for next weekend's \$1,675 Main Event.

-----

Event #4 was the fourth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Harrah's Cherokee series. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em tournament attracted 452 players generating a \$135,600 prize pool, which more than doubled the \$50,000 guarantee. The top 54 players were paid.

Day 1 began Sunday at 4 p.m. and lasted 15 levels. Day 2 began Monday at 3 p.m. with 49 players remaining. The tournament concluded at about 3:55 a.m. Tuesday at the beginning of Level 28.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Harrah's Cherokee twelve combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP Global Casino Championship set to take place at the end of the year.

All players who cash in ring events receive points that apply toward the Casino Championship race and the season-long race to claim one of 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 Harrah's Cherokee series:

EVENT #1: John Mason Jr. defeated 461 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$29,743

EVENT #2: Stan Weiss defeated 3,067 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$158,768

EVENT #3: Mike Bratovich defeated 559 players (\$365 NLHE Turbo) for \$35,224

EVENT #4: Christopher Carey defeated 452 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$29,154

With four tournaments wrapped up, eight more ring events remain at the Harrah's Cherokee series.

All rings at the Harrah's Cherokee series are furnished by [Jostens](http://Jostens), the official ring supplier of the 2015-2016 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).

For additional information please contact:

Isaac Hanson (WSOP Media Coordinator) at [ijhanson13@gmail.com](mailto:ijhanson13@gmail.com).