

**2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 12
Bicycle Hotel and Casino
Bell Gardens, Ca.
Event #2
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 158
Prize Pool: \$47,400
March 21-22, 2016**



Jose Ramirez Wins First Ring in First WSOP Event

21-year-old student enters first World Series of Poker event and takes home his first ring and \$12,795.

Bell Gardens, Ca. (March 22, 2016) — Tournament grinders spend endless hours playing as many events as they can in search of a title. Jose Ramirez didn't have to endure that kind of pain registering for his first-ever World Series of Poker event and taking it down for his first ring.

The 21-year-old student at Fullerton College bested a field of 158 players in the \$365 no-limit hold'em to earn \$12,795.

"It feels surreal right now," said Ramirez after his win. "It doesn't even feel real yet."

Most young college students who have some serious poker success tend to jump into poker head-first with aspirations of becoming the next Phil Ivey. Ramirez doesn't see any poker success getting in the way of his education or his plans after college.

"My parents own a restaurant," said Ramirez. "I'm just trying to get a business degree and then expand the family business."

The Los Angeles native may be young, but he has been honing his poker skills for quite some time. He started playing nine years ago in home games with his uncles, but eventually graduated from the dining room table to the felt at some of the local Indian casinos that allowed 18-year-olds to play.

Ramirez cut his teeth in the cash games for most of his young career before starting to learn more about tournament poker five years ago. His limited exposure to tournament poker didn't stop him from coming out on top in a heads-up match against successful pro Matt Herrera.

Herrera started out heads-up play with a 2-to-1 chip lead, but Ramirez found a timely double up and then put him away, denying Herrera his first Circuit title. Continuing his humility, Ramirez feels he still has a lot to learn before jumping into bigger buy-in events.

"I'm definitely going to be a little cautious," he said about his future plans with his extra \$12,795. "I feel that there is a lot of variance in playing tournaments. I don't feel that I'm at a

skill level where I'm going to be playing too big of buy-ins. But I'm definitely going to keep playing cash games and hopefully this won't be the only ring I ever win."

This was the second of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Bicycle Hotel and Casino. The \$365 no-limit hold'em event attracted 158 players. The total prize pool came to \$47,400 and the top 18 finishers were paid.

The tournament began Monday, March 21 at 2:00 p.m. The final table was reached just after midnight. Play wrapped up about an hour later with seven players remaining. The final seven came back on Tuesday, March 21 at 1:00 p.m. and a winner was crowned at 3:30 p.m. The entire duration of the final table lasted almost four hours.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from the Bicycle Hotel and Casino:

EVENT #1: Truong Nguyen defeated 995 players (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$55,200

EVENT #2: Jose Ramirez defeated 158 players (\$365 NLH) for \$12,795

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Bicycle Hotel and Casino'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 the 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.

For more information about the WSOP Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter at [@WSOP](https://twitter.com/WSOP) or check out WSOP.com.

For additional information please contact:

Steve Schult (WSOP Media Coordinator) at Steve.Schult1@gmail.com.