2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 12 Bicycle Hotel and Casino Bell Gardens, Ca. Event #11 No-Limit Hold'em Bounty

Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65) Total Entries: 146 Prize Pool: \$29,200 March 29-30, 2016



Benjamin Bover Wins Bouty Ring at the Bike

Former online pro comes back from extended poker break to win first ring and \$8,155.

Bell Gardens, Ca. (March 29, 2016) — Benjamin Bover hadn't played poker in several months before taking a shot at the \$365 no-limit hold'em bounty event at the Bicycle Casino in Los Angeles.

The time off from poker must have done him some good. Bover topped a field of 146 players to take home \$8,155 in the penultimate event at the World Series of Poker Circuit at the Bike. Along with the first place prize, Bover took home an additional \$1,300 in cash from the 13 bounties he earned.

"It was actually my first time playing [poker] in a while," said Bover. "This is literally like the second time I've played since October, so I feel fresh. I'm glad I still got a little bit of chops in there. It's nice so that I have money for the upcoming taxes. It's pretty nice."

This was the only bounty tournament on the Bike's Circuit schedule. Bover liked the bounty structure and the added money that he won just from eliminating players.

"The bounty was nice and juicy," said Bover. "It's \$100 for a \$365 buy-in, so that's nice. I picked up 13 so that was a nice little add-on, so that I almost got five-figures. It would be a little soft up-top otherwise, but I'm obviously happy to ship it."

His final bounty that he picked up came from defeating Circuit regular Sal DiCarlo heads-up. DiCarlo was in the running for the Bike's Casino Champion title and had a slight chip lead at the start of heads-up play, but Bover found a few double ups and found himself on top after what amounted to a 15-minute heads-up match.

Bover is a former online poker pro that never really preferred to play much live poker. After Black Friday, he spent over a year in Canada to continue playing online. Not surprisingly, tournaments and sit-n-goes were his bread and butter.

After some time in Canada, Bover made his way back to the United States and stepped away from poker full time. Instead of playing poker, Bover has jumped into the world of daily fantasy sports.

"I'm doing fantasy stuff now," said Bover about his profession. "I don't know if I would call myself a professional, but I'm making a little bit of money and seeing what I can do with it."

Lots of poker players have been making the jump into daily fantasy sports, but Bover doesn't see many similarities in the skill sets between the two games.

"I think actually people make too many parallels between it and that there are not as many as people think," said Bover. "But I don't know. I'm not that good yet, so that's just my take on it so far."

This was the 11th of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Bicycle Hotel and Casino. The \$365 no-limit hold'em bounty event attracted 146 players. The total prize pool came to \$29,200 and the top 15 finishers were paid.

The tournament began on Tuesday, March 29 at noon and the final table was reached around 11:00 p.m. Play wrapped for the night with 4 player remaining. Players returned on Wednesday, March 30 at 1:00 p.m. and a winner was crowned at 3:30 p.m. The entire duration of the final table lasted about 4.5 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

EVENT #3: Eshed Hadaya defeated 130 players (\$365 NLH) for \$10,915

EVENT #4: Susie Genard defeated 125 players (\$365 Omaha 8 or Better) for \$10,490

EVENT #5: Zahi Bahar defeated 117 players (\$365 NLH) for \$10,520

EVENT #6: Bob Bounahra defeated 83 players (\$1,125 NLH) for \$26,555

EVENT #7: Robert Gil defeated 145 players (\$365 NLH Turbo) for \$12,255

EVENT #8: Bert Beavers defeated 413 players (\$365 NLH Monster Stack) for \$27,275

EVENT #9: Antonio Esfandiari defeated 756 players (\$1,675 NLH Main Event) for \$226,785

EVENT #10: David Malka defeated 67 players (\$3,250 NLH High Roller) for \$70,355

EVENT #11: Benjamin Bover defeated 146 players (\$365 NLH Bounty) for \$8,155

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 <u>@WSOP</u> or check out WSOP.com.

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