

**2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 13
The Bicycle Hotel and Casino
Bell Gardens, Ca.
Event #6
Omaha Hi-Lo
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 101
Prize Pool: \$30,300
December 6-7, 2016**



Eugene Ji Wins \$365 Omaha Hi-Lo

Import/Export Consultant and former high-stakes player wins first ring in the only non-hold'em event of the series

Bell Gardens, Ca. (December 7, 2016) — Eugene Ji won his first ring on Wednesday by sheer accident.

When the tournament started on Tuesday afternoon, Ji was playing in an Omaha hi-lo cash game at the Bicycle Hotel and Casino. When the tournament started, the game broke and most of the players headed to go play the \$365 Omaha hi-lo event.

Ji decided to join the rest of the players in his cash game and ended up topping the field of 101 players to take home \$9,080 and the title.

“It feels great,” said Ji. “It’s like a happy accident.”

This is Ji’s first ring and first tournament win, but he has plenty of poker experience. Ji was traveling the poker tournament trail playing \$10,000 buy-in events while working in the finance industry shortly after the moneymaker boom took effect.

He also would play high stakes cash games and even has a World Series of Poker final table to his credit, finishing fifth in the \$1,000 2-7 triple draw in 2007 for \$41,504. When poker became less profitable, he went back to work and started putting in more work with his consulting business.

“I used to play fairly big,” said New York native and Los Angeles transplant. “Acutally, really big. I used to follow the big tournaments back in 2006 and 2007 when it was lucrative. I haven’t really played the big tournaments in a couple years.”

Ji considers himself a mixed games cash game player. He grew up with limit hold'em and eventually transitioned to other games.

“Then I learned Omaha and a couple of the draw games,” said Ji. “I haven’t really gone back to limit hold'em because they are all animals there now. Who can beat them? So yeah, mostly mixed games. I don’t really play no-limit [hold'em] too much because I get bored and spew.”

Ji came into the final table near the middle of the pack in chips, but as the table got shorter, Ji's chip stack got larger. Ji had amassed a massive chip lead when the table was four-handed and started heads-up play with Susie Genard holding a 9-to-1 chip lead.

He quickly finished off Genard to win the ring. He denied Genard back-to-back titles in this format. She was the defending champion in this event after having won this event last March.

Along with the money and the ring, Ji earned 50 points and moves into contention for Casino Champion at this stop. There have been six rings awarded at this stop and all six winners have 50 points. They are all tied for second and they all trail Greg Armand's 52.5 points.

This was the sixth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Bicycle Hotel and Casino. The \$365 Omaha hi-lo event attracted 101 players. The total prize pool came to \$30,300 and the top 12 finishers were paid.

The tournament began on Tuesday, December 6 at 3:00 p.m. and wrapped up with 18 remaining around midnight. The second and final day started on Wednesday, December 7 at 1 p.m. and a final table was reached around 2:30 p.m. Ji emerged victorious around 6:30 p.m., making the total duration of the finale about four hours.

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

EVENT #1: Alex Massman defeated 242 players (\$365 NLH) for \$17,795
EVENT #2: Jerry Rojas defeated 171 players (\$365 NLH Bounty) for \$9,230
EVENT #3: TJ Thondup defeated 1,245 players (\$365 NLH Monster Stack) for \$77,300
EVENT #4: Greg Sanchez defeated 122 players (\$365 NLH) for \$10,245
EVENT #5: Sohale Khalili defeated 109 players (\$580 NLH) for \$16,345
EVENT #6: Eugene Ji defeated 101 players (\$365 Omaha hi-lo) for \$9,080

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Bike'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 60 expected at-large National 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.

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