

2016-17 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 13

Rio Hotel and Casino

Las Vegas, Nev.

Event #6

No-Limit Hold'em

Buy-In: \$365

Total Entries: 329

Prize Pool: \$98,700

February 22-23, 2017



Kenny Nguyen Wins Second WSOP Circuit Ring at the Rio

Nguyen survived an up-and-down final table to emerge victorious.

Las Vegas, Nev. (23 February, 2017) — Kenny Nguyen won his second World Series of Poker Circuit ring Thursday afternoon, winning Event #6: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em at the Rio Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. He earned \$23,196 for the victory. Nguyen's first ring came almost six years ago. He's come close to a repeat performance several times – including three tournaments earlier this month at the Potawatomi Circuit stop in Milwaukee – and now has finally joined the club of multiple ring winners.

Nguyen came to Las Vegas with a particular plan, and put it into action in the first event he entered. "I really wanted to win this ring because I want to get into the [Global Casino] Championship this year," he explained. "I made three final tables at the last Circuit stop, but I couldn't finish up and win a ring. So this is my first event here. I flew out to Vegas and said, 'let's try to accumulate some points.'" He did just that, earning 50 points for the victory to move up the Circuit leaderboard.

Nguyen came into the final day with the chip lead, but had a roller coaster day that saw him drop to one of the shortest stacks before staging a comeback to win the event. "I felt pretty confident," he said. "I think I have a lot of experience. In poker anything can happen, you know? But I came in and took two beats and I'm the short stack. I got it in with the best hand every single time. I had ace-king vs. ace-jack, and I had pocket tens and lost to pocket eights. My stack was getting low. So I started to try to ladder up in the money and wait for other people to make mistakes. A lot of people make mistakes in tournaments when the money gets big." His strategy worked, and he walked away with the ring and over \$23,000.

He defeated Greg Hartwick heads up to secure the victory. This was Hartwick's second final table here at the Rio. He also finished third in Event #2.

Event #6 was the sixth event to play to completion at the WSOP Circuit at the Rio. The \$365 event drew a field of 329 players, generating a prizepool worth \$98,700. The final 33 players finished in the money. Full results are available on WSOP.com.

The tournament began at noon. on Wednesday, February 22. The final day began at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 23, and the last hand was dealt around 5:30 p.m.

After this event, Greg Hartwick holds the lead in the Casino Champion race. The player who accumulates the most overall points during the 12 ring events at the Rio earns the title of 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 limited at-large bids. Hartwick has 67.5 points from two final-table finishes. More information on the points system is available on WSOP.com.

Here are the winners so far at the Rio:

- EVENT #1: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Re-entry – Nate Bandy bested a field of 1,498 players for \$75,364.
- EVENT #2: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em – James Alexander bested a field of 255 players for \$18,744.
- EVENT #3: \$365 Mixed No-Limit Hold'em / Pot-Limit Omaha – Mordechai Kirschenbaum bested a field of 180 players for \$15,124.
- EVENT #5: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo – Adam Ross bested a field of 300 players for \$21,595.
- EVENT #6: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em – Kenny Nguyen bested a field of 329 players for \$23,196.
- EVENT #7: \$365 Pot-Limit Omaha – Seth Foster bested a field of 151 players for \$12,231.

All rings at the Rio are furnished by Jostens, the official ring supplier of the 2016-17 WSOP Circuit season.

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