

2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 13

The Bicycle Hotel and Casino

Bell Gardens, Ca.

Event #9

No-Limit Hold'em High Roller

Buy-In: \$3,000 (+\$250)

Total Entries: 100

Prize Pool: \$300,000

March 13-14, 2017



Gal Yifrach Wins Bike High Roller Ring

Entrepreneur and poker enthusiast earns biggest score in High Roller victory.

Bell Gardens, Ca. (March 15, 2017) — Gal Yifrach took home the biggest payday of his casual poker career on Tuesday night at the Bicycle Hotel and Casino. He defeated a field of 100 players in the \$3,250 no-limit hold'em high roller event to win a ring and \$90,005.

Yifrach is a self-described entrepreneur that plays more cash games than tournaments. Poker is secondary in his life and most of his action is spent in the high-limit Los Angeles cash games, but when he does hop in a tournament, he enjoys playing in the types of fields that high rollers draw.

“If there’s a big one somewhere, I’ll travel for it,” said Yifrach. “But I like the big buy-ins and the small fields. I came pretty close in an event at Commerce, a \$5K buy-in event. I got third and came real close.”

He enjoys the smaller fields, but mostly Yifrach prefers the bigger buy-ins. You won’t find him in many, if any, prelim events, and even in this series he came for the main event and the possibility of a six-figure score.

He didn’t even plan on playing the high roller. If it weren’t for a poker friend informing him about the tournament, Yifrach would’ve missed out on his biggest poker accomplishment to date.

“I busted out of [the main event] yesterday and I was just going home,” said Yifrach. “One of the guys that I know from here was like ‘Oh, you’re not playing the high roller?’ and I was like ‘There’s a high roller? I didn’t know.’ So, I went home, rested a little bit, took a shower, and bought in late and that’s it. I came in at like seven o’clock last night and bought in.”

Besides winning his first ring, Yifrach denied Kyle Cartwright his seventh. Cartwright seemed to be the favorite to take it all as the field got shorter. Both the size of his stack and his experience seemed to favor the six-time ring winner. Yifrach was short stacked, but found a way to persevere and come out on top.

“I was short stacked three-handed,” said Yifrach. “And they were both switching stacks between them. They both had over a million and I had only 250,000. So, I just grinded up a bit. I doubled

up two times and that was it. I was winning pretty much every hand [heads-up]. I showed him a couple bluff, so he got tilted.”

Aside from having to overcome a massive chip deficit, he also had to overcome a pro-Cartwright rail. Yifrach embraced the away game feel of the match and used it as motivation to succeed.

“I was actually feeling it,” said Yifrach about the rail being outwardly supportive of Cartwright. “I knew it was going to happen. I knew I was going to win, so I just kind of felt it.”

He felt his win and he feels some future tournament success coming on. After taking last summer off from taking shots at bracelet events, Yifrach is planning on spending a good chunk of time bracelet hunting this summer in Las Vegas.

“I’m probably going to stay for at least a month,” said Yifrach about the 2017 World Series of Poker. “We’ll see what happens.”

Along with the money and the ring, Yifrach earns 50 points towards the Casino Champion race. Danny Illingworth is holding a tenuous lead with 62.5 points, but there are plenty of players that can catch him with just one cash. The winner of the Casino Championship will earn an automatic seat into the Global Casino Championship this August in Cherokee, North Carolina.

This was the ninth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Bicycle Hotel and Casino. The \$3,250 no-limit hold’em high roller attracted 100 entries. The total prize pool came to \$300,000 and the top 12 finishers were paid.

The tournament began on Monday, March 13 at 2 p.m. and played until just after midnight with 23 players surviving the first day. Four players registered before Day 2 and there were 27 players that started out on the final day. A final table was reached around just before 6:00 p.m. The final hand was dealt around 11:00 p.m., making the total duration of the finale about five hours.

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

EVENT #1: Fredrick Arni defeated 1,472 players (\$365 NLH Monster Stack) for \$87,010
EVENT #2: William Wolf defeated 127 players (\$365 NLH) for \$10,665
EVENT #3: Danny Illingworth defeated 121 players (\$580 NLH) for \$16,495
EVENT #4: Joseph Hoffman defeated 123 players (\$365 Omaha H/L) for \$10,330
EVENT #5: Albert Ng defeated 187 players (\$365 NLH) for \$15,585
EVENT #6: Neil Ho defeated 198 players (\$365 NLH Six-Max) for \$16,345
EVENT #7: Joe Marcal defeated 183 players (\$365 NLH) for \$14,275
EVENT #8: Dylan Wilkerson defeated 705 players (\$1,675 NLH Main Event) for \$216,790
EVENT #9: Gal Yifrach defeated 100 players (\$3,250 NLH High Roller) for \$90,005

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](#) or check out [WSOP.com](#).

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