2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 13 Harrah's Cherokee Cherokee, North Carolina Event #3 No-Limit Hold'em Re-Entry

Buy-In: \$500 (+\$80) Total Entries: 595 Prize Pool: \$297,500

April 15, 2016



WSOP Gold Ring Number Four For Jessie Bryant

Jessie Bryant wins Event #3, reeling in fourth gold ring after falling on hard times.

Cherokee, North Carolina (April 17, 2016) – Jessie Bryant claimed his fourth World Series of Poker title on Monday at the Harrah's Cherokee Circuit stop. The 38-year-old took down Event #3: \$580 No-Limit Hold'em Re-Entry, which attracted 595 entrants.

Along with the gold ring to add to his collection, Bryant was also awarded the top prize of \$62,476, increasing his WSOP earnings to around \$250,000. The longtime poker player spoke on a comparison of his past titles to his recent triumph.

"I think it's better," answered Bryant. "I mean, it's been a long time. And it was on Easter, so it was real special to me to be able to win it."

Bryant was first exposed to poker in Iraq while deployed, serving on the bomb squad, and he quickly learned that he had a knack for the game. From there he went on to play poker for a living.

The latter half 2012 proved to be a profitable period for Bryant. During the span of five months, he pocketed four sizable scores, including his third, WSOP gold-ring victory. However, between then and now, his fortunes turned south.

Bryant gave up poker for a while and took on a more stable occupation. The South Carolina native fell on some hard times after getting laid off. He even teetered on the line of bankruptcy. Eventually getting another job, Bryant was just recently knocked again.

"I got laid off last week, so now I'm laid off at two jobs. So, the day after I get laid off my friend said 'hey, do you want to go to Cherokee?" explained Bryant. "I said, 'well I've got nothing to lose.' Two weeks ago, I never thought I'd be here."

Bryant decided to try his hand at the Harrah's Cherokee series and conquered. A supporting cast filled his rail during the final legs of Event #3. The backing of his friends and family has gone a long way for Bryant, which he is truly grateful for.

"I Played this tournament; had a great feeling. Some of my friends had a great feeling. I just felt like it was meant to be," claimed Bryant.

Sometimes, the life of a poker player is a constant cycle of ups and downs. Thankfully, for Bryant, his Easter Sunday ended on an incredible high note.

Event #3 was the third of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Harrah's Cherokee series. The \$580 No-Limit Hold'em Re-Entry tournament attracted 595 players generating a \$297,500 prizepool. The top 63 players were paid.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Circuits twelve combined gold ring events earns the title of Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP Global Casino Championship set to take place at the end of the season.

All players who cash in ring events receive points that apply toward the Casino Championship race and the season-long race to claim one of 50 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.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from the Harrah's Cherokee series:

EVENT #1: Bryan Carter defeated 3,196 players (\$365 NLHE Re-Entry) for \$165,400 EVENT #2: John Nelson defeated 612 players (\$365 NLHE Doule Stack Turbo) for \$38,560 EVENT #3: Jessie Bryant defeated 595 players (\$580 NLHE Re-Entry) for \$62,476

This was the third gold ring handed out at the Harrah's Cherokee series. Nine more gold rings and Circuit titles are still to come.

All rings at the Harrah's Cherokee series are furnished by <u>Jostens</u>, the official ring supplier of the 2016-2017 WSOP Circuit season.

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