

2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 13

Harrah's Cherokee

Cherokee, North Carolina

Event #8

No-Limit Hold'em (1 Re-Entry)

Buy-In: \$1,000 (+\$125)

Total Entries: 301

Prize Pool: \$301,000

April 20, 2016



David Aker Completes WSOP Gold Ring Trio

It was a title trifecta for poker pro David Aker after topping the \$1,125 buy-in event at Harrah's Cherokee.

Cherokee, North Carolina (April 21, 2016) – David Aker went out and recorded another World Series of Poker title on Friday at the Harrah's Cherokee Circuit stop. The poker pro topped a tough field of 301 players in Event #8: \$1,125 No-Limit Hold'em (1 Re-Entry) to seize an impressive, third gold ring as well as \$70,531.

The win came less than three days after placing 2nd in Event #6. When asked how the runner-up finish affected him, Aker gave a response.

"It definitely bothered me. I think I was a little unfocused when I was playing," replied Aker. "I just wanted another chance."

The 32-year-old, filled with motivation, stepped up, took his next chance, and made it an unforgettable one. Even against an

"Yeah, it was tough," Aker stated. "I feel like I play better when I'm motivated to play, or when I play with better people."

Not only was Aker amongst a group of solid players, he was facing arguably the best Circuit player around, all-time gold-ring leader, Maurice Hawkins (10 rings). There were 11 players left, going into the Day 2 restart and both competitors had their sights set on a first-place run.

"I already knew Maurice was going to be here," Aker explained. "I wanted to attack him early. I wasn't going to wait." His strategy seemed to pay off. Hawkins finished in 4th place, and it was Aker scooping the last pot of the tournament. "He has to respect me now," said Aker.

The resident of Kennesaw, Georgia has recorded three WSOPC titles in just over a years' time. His last victory occurred towards the beginning of the 2016/17 Circuit tour at IP Biloxi in Mississippi. Aker won the Six Max at the stop and vowed he would strike again.

It is no secret that Aker can exhibit some spurts of emotion at the table, mainly pumped-up, bursts of excitement. However, when the final moment of triumph came, Aker seemed calm and even a bit choked up with joy.

“Too good, too good,” Aker said, expressing how the win felt. “I’m humble. I’m happy. Praise God. I’ve been through ups and downs in this game.”

Shortly after the post-win interview was over, Aker, a father of two himself, announced that he was going to call his parents, undoubtedly to share his incredible news.

Event #8 was the eighth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Harrah’s Cherokee series. The \$1,125 No-Limit Hold’em (1 Re-Entry) tournament attracted 301 players generating a \$301,000 prizepool. The top 33 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
EVENT #4: Robert Hankins defeated 594 players (\$365 NLHE Six Max) for \$43,662
EVENT #5: David Chapman defeated 334 players (\$365 PLO Re-Entry) for \$23,051
EVENT #6: Ron Germany defeated 635 players (\$365 NLHE 8 Max 30 Min Levels) for \$41,914
EVENT #7: Ricardo Eyzaguirre defeated 1,446 players (\$365 NLHE Monster Stack) for \$74,853
EVENT #8: David Aker defeated 301 players (\$1,125 NLHE) for \$70,731
EVENT #9: Chase Blanton defeated 402 players (\$365 NLHE Turbo) for \$26,533

This was the ninth gold ring handed out at the Harrah’s Cherokee series. Three more gold rings and Circuit titles are still to come.

All rings at the Harrah’s Cherokee series are furnished by [Jostens](#), the official ring supplier of the 2016-2017 WSOP Circuit season.

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