

**2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 13
Harrah's Cherokee
Cherokee, North Carolina
Event #9
No-Limit Hold'em Turbo
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 402
Prize Pool: \$120,600
April 20, 2016**



Turbo Gold Ring For Chase Blanton

21-year-old, Chase Blanton, cruises to first Circuit gold ring by way of Turbo event.

Cherokee, North Carolina (April 21, 2016) – The World Series of Poker Circuit series at Harrah's Cherokee crowned another champion in the wee hours of Friday morning. Chase Blanton cruised to the top of a 402-entrant field, winning Event #9: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em (30 Minute Levels) and his first WSOP ring. Aside from the golden piece, the young gun raked in \$26,533 and 50 Casino Championship points.

“Preferably I like the Six Max. I mean, I like that one best, but I guess Turbo might be my new favorite,” said Blanton.

The Circuit-title victory came in only Blanton's second WSOP cash. In fact, his debut, in-the-money finish was achieved just days earlier in Event #1: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Re-Entry.

At age 21, soon to turn 22, Blanton is still a very young player. He showed at the Harrah's Cherokee stop with a small chunk of change. Then, after his first tournament score and some cash-game success, Blanton secured some entry-fee money.

With enough to buy-in, the native of Georgia decided to jump in the Turbo on a whim. Blanton was not always going to play in the ninth ring event.

“I was actually gonna leave this morning,” Blanton claimed.

It is a good Blanton did not stick to his original plan. He went on to make a big call early in the tournament, which proved successful. When the unofficial final table hit, Blanton was nearly in the chip lead and he rode his stack all the way to the ultimate achievement.

“My dream has always been to win a ring, and I've done it,” expressed Blanton. “You know, I really enjoy poker and it's something I've always loved.”

Directly following the triumph, it seemed a smile had permanently occupied Blanton's face. Now, the young gun says he will stick around to try his hand at the Main Event.

Event #9 was the ninth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Harrah's Cherokee series. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo tournament attracted 402 players generating a \$120,600 prizepool. The top 45 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 #9: Chase Blanton defeated 402 players (\$365 NLHE Turbo) for \$26,533

This was the seventh gold ring handed out at the Harrah's Cherokee series. Five 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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