



WSOP CIRCUIT 2017-18 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Thunder Valley Casino Resort	Date:	14 September 2017
Event:	No-Limit Hold'em	Entries:	1,406
Buy-in:	\$365	Prizepool:	\$421,800

Darren Bortmas Tops a Massive Field in Opening Event at Thunder Valley Casino Resort

*Hometown hero takes down the first event at the newest stop on the World Series of Poker
Circuit in Northern California*

The four-day opening event at the first ever World Series of Poker Circuit at Thunder Valley Casino Resort is in the books and Darren Bortmas is the champion after a long, 15-hour grind on Day 2. The Roseville, California arson investigator topped a whopping 1,406 entries across five starting flights to earn his first Circuit ring and \$72,754.

Bortmas explained that this is his biggest win to date and had a good run of cards to go with his solid play to take this one down. "I was actually short-stacked coming in (to the final table) and got lucky. I mean, look at the cooler this guy got" smiled a humble Bortmas. The hand he is referring to is the final one where Bortmas flopped queens full of sevens, while his opponent and runner-up, Sasha Sabbaghian, flopped trip sevens.

The local recreational player says he has been playing for 17 years and his job as an arson investigator helps him while he's playing poker. "I interview people all day long. I know when they're lying and I know when they're not" laughed Bortmas.

This opening event had a \$250,000 guarantee and was met in the fourth of five flights. It was immediately crushed in the final flight, making the first ever event at Thunder Valley a

huge success. A total of 153 players made the money, setting the tone for what should be a jam-packed series in the coming week.

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name: Darren Bortmas

Age: 51

Nationality: USA

Profession: Arson Investigator

Birthplace: Kailva, MI

WSOP Bracelets: 0

Current Residence: Roseville, CA

Previous WSOP Circuit Rings: 0

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