

WSOP CIRCUIT 2017-18 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop: Potawatomi Date: 6 February 2018

(Milwaukee, Wis.) Entries: 277

Event: No-Limit Hold'em Prizepool: \$83,100

Six Max Re-Entry

Buy-in: \$365

LEE RZENTKOWSKI WINS SIX MAX FOR 2ND WSOP RING

Wisconsin native doubles up on Circuit gold after tough final table grind.

Lee Rzentkowski secured his second World Series of Poker gold ring on Tuesday at the Potawatomi Circuit series. The 46-year-old conquered a field of 277 entrants in Event #5: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Six Max Re-Entry to win \$21,609 and double up on Circuit hardware in the process.

"I think this one is a little bit more important, just because it validates the first one," Rzentkowski explained when asked how his recent gold-ring achievement compared to his original. "I don't play a lot, but it's fun to get out and take some time off work."

Rzentkowski is a Finance Director by trade, a career that admittedly aids in his poker endeavors. The Wisconsin native won his debut gold ring back in 2014 at the Horseshoe Hammond Circuit stop. Both victories came in No-Limit Hold'em events, but this time around Rzentkowski was faced with six to a table.

The six-handed tournament took two days to complete. Only seven players remained at the end of Day 1, an unofficial final table. Rzentkowski bagged as third in chips with 427,000. It turned out to be a grueling Day 2, to say the least.

"There were some tough players." Rzentkowski admitted, expressly referring to Eddie Blumenthal and four-time gold ring winner Mark Fink. "I had position on them the entire day, so that really helped."

Progress stalled for nearly two hours when the field reached four-handed play. Then, at the tail end of Level 27, something finally gave. Blumenthal went out in 4th place. Following Blumenthal's exit was the elimination of Fink in 3rd place. With two, powerhouse players gone, there was only Allen Wisniewski and Rzentkowski left to duke it out for the Circuit title.

"We got heads up, and it was just a grind," said Rzentkowski "I felt like I was playing well... the chips kept coming my way and then we got to the all ins and my hands just wouldn't hold up even though they were ahead."

Although Rzentkowski's play was solid, he could simply not deliver the final blow, a scenario that had him on the edge of tilting. However, even after many failed attempts, he kept his composure and the moment of triumph finally came.

Rzentkowski stood up in relief and embraced his mother who was watching from the rail during the final stage. During the post-win interview, he made another important, family tribute to cap things off.

"I really want to thank my wife and kids for supporting me," Rzentkowski stated.

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name: Lee Rzentkowski Age: 46
Nationality: USA Profession: Finance
Birthplace: Milwaukee, Wis. WSOP Bracelets: 0

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Current Residence: Middleton, Wis. Previous WSOP Circuit Rings: 1

DIRECT LINKS

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LEE RZENTKOWSKI'S OFFICIAL WSOP PLAYER PROFILE
OFFICIAL WINNER PHOTO