



## WSOP CIRCUIT 2017-18 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Choctaw Casino and Resort (Durant, OK)	Date:	11 January 2018
Event:	No-Limit Hold'em Six-Max	Entries:	410
Buy-in:	\$580	Prizepool:	\$123,000

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### MAX YOUNG WINS \$365 NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM SIX-MAX

*Oregon pro builds on dominant past 12 months with a third Circuit title*

Max Young burst onto the tournament scene in 2017 and continued his winning ways into the new year with a win on Thursday evening in Oklahoma.

The 32-year-old poker pro in Oregon won two rings in 2017 spanning this current Circuit season and the previous one. He started off 2018 with a third ring in the \$365 no-limit hold'em six-max event at Choctaw.

Young defeated a 410-entry field and won \$27,059. The win comes at the end of back-to-back final tables after an eighth-place finish in the \$580 no-limit hold'em on Wednesday afternoon. He immediately late registered for the six-max event and rode his momentum all the way to victory.

"Things have been going great," said Young after his win. "It's not like the heater is just here. Last year was one of the best years of my life. I cleared \$400K last year, so it's just been unreal and I'm trying to outdo what I did last year. I don't know if it's possible, but I'm trying."

With two final tables and another ring to add to his collection, Young is off to a fast start and on pace to outperform his impressive 2017. It's a lofty goal, but he's willing to put in the work to achieve his goal.

"Just putting in a ton of volume," said Young. "Constantly working on my game and talking to other good players. If I feel that I'm not playing my best, I bust out a pad and paper and critique myself. I'll take a day or two off and come back at it fresh and ready to go. I am pretty tough on myself and I'm constantly thinking about poker."

His breakout 2017 seemed like it came out of nowhere, but it was the result of countless hours spent in Oregon working on his game. A combination of his exceptional work ethic combined with an aversion to risk led him to grow his bankroll in the Pacific Northwest.

“I’ve been playing games locally that were smaller and I’ve always been a big nit with my bankroll,” said Young. “So, I didn’t want to take swings until I was really comfortable. Now, I have the bankroll to do it and I’m swinging away.”

His current residence in Portland doesn’t seem like a hotbed for poker, but even though there aren’t nosebleed stakes running in the area, the current landscape is great for players to build a bankroll from the ground up.

“One thing about Oregon that is awesome is that we have card rooms that have no rake, so it really is great for the player that wants to build up their bankroll. There are tournaments you can play and cash games that you can play and you pay a door fee and that’s it. You pay \$15 and play all day long. If you’re trying to build up from a small number, it gives you a really good opportunity to do so, as a live player.”

Six-max formats are generally dominated by players that honed their skills online. Young fits the age profile for someone who became enamored by the Moneymaker boom, but he really got his start in live games.

Even though live cash games are generally full ring, as he got more comfortable in marginal spots, he found himself widening his ranges and playing more pots, which helped him transition to short-handed poker.

“I play so much live cash. I just play like every day when I’m not doing something else,” said Young, who is generally surfing on the shores of Oregon when he’s not at the table. “I just have so much experience knowing where I’m at in a hand and knowing how to take advantage of certain types of players and things like that. It just plays out really well in six-max.”

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## MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name: Max Young

Age: 32

Nationality: American

Profession: Poker Player

Birthplace: Connecticut

WSOP Bracelets: 0

Current Residence: Portland, OR

Previous WSOP Circuit Rings: 2

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