



WSOP CIRCUIT 2017-18 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Seminole Casino Coconut Creek	Date:	12 February 2018
Event:	No-Limit Hold'em	Entries:	136
Buy-in:	\$580	Prizepool:	\$68,000

JOSE REYES WINS FIRST RING

Dominican part-timer checks off a poker milestone in South Florida

On Monday, Jose Reyes became the newest first-time winner on the WSOP Circuit. Reyes won the \$580 event at Seminole Casino Coconut Creek, grabbing the top prize of \$19,039. He also earned 50 points in the race for seats in the WSOP Global Casino Championship.

The 42-year-old Reyes is a store manager who drifts back and forth between South Florida and his native Dominican Republic. Poker mostly takes a backseat to his primary occupation, but that is starting to change.

“I decided I wanted to give tournaments more of a try,” Reyes said. He’s been playing cash games for several years but has recently allocated more of his resources to big events such as this.

This win doesn’t appear to be a fluke. Reyes has cashed for about \$150,000 over the last year, including two scores larger than this one. He won a small \$5k event at Foxwoods in April, then backed it up with a deep run in the WSOP Crazy Eights event. His 15th-place finish earned him a career-best score of around \$35,000.

Reyes attributes some of his success to a chance friendship with WPT winner Eric Afriat. The two met as seat neighbors on a long flight, and they hit it off. Reyes spent those three hours getting what was, essentially, a private lesson from Afriat. What did he tell Reyes?

“Those are *his* tips,” Reyes was reluctant to share. He did provide a little glimpse of the conversation, though. “He just told me to be patient. Take things seriously. Don’t rush. Everything is about knowing exactly what’s going to happen at the right time.”

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name:	Jose Reyes	Age:	42
Nationality:	Dominican	Profession:	Store manager
Birthplace:	Dominican Republic	WSOP Bracelets:	0
Current Residence:	Coral Springs, Fla.	Previous WSOP Circuit Rings:	0

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