



**2010-2011 World Series of Poker Circuit**  
**Season Seven**  
**IP Biloxi Resort Casino and Hotel**  
**Ring Event #1**  
**No-Limit Hold'em**  
**Buy-In: \$345**  
**Total Entries: 288**  
**Total Prize Pool: \$83,808**  
**October 29-30, 2010**

## Final Results:

Place	First	Last	City	State	Prize
1	Aaron	Brant	Mobile	AL	\$19,585
2	Justin	Gates	Prarieville	LA	\$12,102
3	Jeff	Bell	San Antonio	TX	\$12,102
4	Willey	Lee	Perkinston	MS	\$6,479
5	Adam	West	Locust	NC	\$4,859
6	Byron	Higueros	Kenner	LA	\$3,703
7	Robert	Mayfield	Lafitte	LA	\$2,866
8	Teddy	Conner	New Orleans	LA	\$2,252
9	John	Durio	Metairie	LA	\$1,797
10	Shannon	Hancock	Warrior	AL	\$1,455
11	Daniel	Brown	Bilxoi	MS	\$1,455
12	Michael	Clary	Marietta	GA	\$1,455
13	Craig	Gullung	Marrero	LA	\$1,195
14	Gary	Holcomb	Mandeville	LA	\$1,195
15	Herbie	Crook	Pascagoula	MS	\$1,195
16	Thoma	Ballow	Denham Springs	LA	\$996
17	Enrique	Melguizo	Austin	TX	\$996
18	Scott	Alexantos	Gulfport	MS	\$996
19	John	Riola	Biloxi	MS	\$842
20	Peter	Shashy	Montgomery	AL	\$842
21	Mark	Caldwell	Fort Walton Beach	FL	\$842
22	Cameron	Ainsworth	Baton Rouge	LA	\$722
23	Cale	Weeks	Panama City	FL	\$722
24	Kristen	Deardorff	Gulfport	MS	\$722
25	Matthew	Chang	Rockville	MD	\$627
26	Rick	Wasson	Houston	TX	\$627
27	Joe	Gowder	Alto	GA	\$627
28	Joseph	Morris	Mont Belvieu	TX	\$553
29	Robert	Ramsak	Hendersonville	NC	\$553
30	Anthony	Vidmer	Franklin	TN	\$553

# Aaron Brant Wins Opening Event at IP Resort Hotel and Casino WSOP Circuit

## First-Ever WSOPC Event in Mississippi's Gulf Coast Off to a Rousing Start with Event 1 Field of 288 players

Biloxi, MS – The first of ten official WSOP Circuit Ring events at the IP Resort Hotel and Casino concluded late Saturday night. The winner was Aaron Brant of Mobile, AL. Brant's victory in event #1 of the Mississippi's Gulf Coast's first-ever WSOP Circuit earned him \$19,585 and the coveted WSOPC Gold Ring.

The \$345 buy-in no-limit hold'em event attracted 288 players for a total prize pool of \$83,808.

20 day-one survivors returned at 2:00 pm to play down to the final table. 90 minutes after play began, the final nine were determined. Brant was the chip leader throughout the duration of final table and was in possession of over a third of the tournament's chips when the final nine resumed play. Full starting chip counts were as follows:

Name	Hometown	Seat	Chip Count
Justin Gates	Prarieville, LA	1	342,000
Jeff Bell	San Antonio, TX	2	125,000
Aaron Brant	Mobile, AL	3	1,079,000
Byron Higueros	New Orleans, LA	4	100,000
John Durio	Metairie, LA	5	100,000
Wiley Lee II	Necaise Crossing, MS	6	406,000
Adam West	Charlotte, NC	7	177,000
Robert Mayfield	Lafitte, LA	8	393,000
Teddy Conner	New Orleans, LA	9	158,000

**9<sup>th</sup> Place** – The final nine began play shortly after 3:30 pm with blinds and antes at 4,000/8,000/1,000. A number of short stacks peppered the final table with 12 BB's separating the smallest two from elimination. One of them was John Durio, who made an early final stand, moving in his remaining chips with [4h] [Ad]. Wiley Lee made the call with pocket threes, which held through a Jack-high board, making Durio the first elimination of the afternoon.

Durio is 44 years of age and owns a vending machine business. The Metairie, LA native started playing poker in 2003 and is known in local poker circles as "Angry John." His ninth place finish in event #1 at IP Biloxi earned him \$1,797.

**8<sup>th</sup> Place** – With blinds at 5,000/10,000, eighth place went to Teddy Conner of New Orleans, LA. Conner moved all-in from the button with [Js][8h] and got a call from Justin Gates in the SB, who tabled pocket fives. Gates' pocket pair held to bust Conner from the tournament. Conner is 29-years old and an active duty National Guard Airman. In addition to playing poker, the married father of two is also an avid Madden player. Eighth place paid \$2,252.

**7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Shortly after taking a river beat that ate away most of his stack, Robert Mayfield moved all-in after a UTG raise from Wiley Lee. Lee made the fast call with pocket aces, leaving Mayfield needing to make up some distance with his pocket jacks. It wasn't to be for Mayfield however, after a 10-high board sent him to collect \$2,866 in seventh place prize money. Mayfield is a 27-year old IT manager from Lafitte, LA. He started playing poker in 2007 and hopes to someday make a living at the game.

**6<sup>th</sup> Place** – Blinds and antes were now at the 6,000/12,000/2,000 level. The other short stack when final table play began, Byron Higueros, finally succumbed to the felt after getting in his remaining 110k from the BB with [Js][4s]. Lee made the call with Ad10s and filled a boat after the board double paired kings and tens. Higueros is a 26-year - old former collections agent who now plays poker for a living. He pocketed \$3,703 for finishing in sixth.

**5<sup>th</sup> Place** – Adam West, (not *that* Adam West) tangled in a number of pots with Brant and somewhat of a rivalry began to brew between the two. Brant demonstrated his agitation at West's streak of "run-good" at the final table after losing a number of sizable pots to the chip leader.

West began to play more and more aggressive, particularly toward Brant. Jeff Bell made note of this and took advantage. In one hand, West raised Brant's big blind, prompting Bell to move-all-in from the small. West folded and Bell picked up some much needed chips.

With still about 20 bb's remaining, West moved all-in a short while later with pocket 4's and got a call from Gates with [Ah][Kd]. The flop left open a gutshot Broadway draw for Gates, which was realized after a [Qh] hit on the turn. West was eliminated in fifth place paying him \$4,859. He is a 25-year old former estimator who plays poker online for a living. He is an avid golfer and enjoys spending time with his family and friends.

**4<sup>th</sup> Place** – After doubling up Bell, Lee moved his remaining stack all-in from the BB with ace-deuce off and got a call from Brant in the small with suited ace-six. Brant's kicker played on a jack-high board to eliminate Lee in 4<sup>th</sup>. Lee is a 44-year old commercial fisherman from Nacaise Crossing, MS. The married father of two took home \$6,479 for his two days of play.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place** – Despite coming to the final table 7<sup>th</sup> in chips, Bell's good reads and strong play got him to the final three. It took a cooler of a hand to eliminate him which happened after he flopped trip Jacks holding [10d][Js]. After leading Brant through a [Kd] turn, he was all-in after a [7h] on the river. Brant called and showed [9d][7d] for a flush, ending Bell's run. Bell is a 61-year-old retiree from San Antonio Texas who served in the US Marines during Vietnam. He earned \$8,781 for third.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** – Heads up play began at about 6:20 pm with blinds and antes at 8,000/16,000/3,000 and Brant holding a modest lead over his opponent. Heads up play lasted as long as it took for the previous seven players to be eliminated—three hours.

With blinds at 15,000/30,000, the final hand of the night took place when Brant made it 70,000 to go from the button and got a call from Gates. The flop came [8d][7h][5d] before Gates fired out 85,000. Brant re-raised to 220k and Gates moved all-in for about 600,000. Brant made the call, showing [10c][8s] while Gates turned over A-10.

The turn paired Gates' ten, but gave Brant the lead with two pair. A 3 on the river ended the matchup, giving Brant first place prize money worth \$19,585 and the WSOPC gold ring. Brant also moves atop the WSOP Circuit Leader board for the IP through one event.

The runner-up, Gates earned \$12,102 for second place. He says his final table strategy was simple, pick spots, pick on the short stacks and put pressure on anyone I thought would fold. Regarding the final hand Gates thought he picked a good time to move on his opponent.

"I didn't think he had anything, so I tried to push him out but he had the worst possible hand for me. I could have turned top pair and still would have lost."

The winner, Brant, is a former nightclub manager who began playing poker online nine years ago and has multiple career six-figure wins under his belt. He plays under the screen name "nutzkrackr."

He says that while he considers himself an online player, his first major live win today is a special one.

"I feel great. I've taken down a few online tournaments, but it's really good to get this live one," he said after the victory.

The Circuit Events at the IP are scheduled for 13 days and are taking place at the IP's convention center. Normally reserved for meetings and conferences, the 37,000 square foot venue has been transformed into a tournament poker haven.

The staff and management at the IP have worked diligently in anticipation of the WSOP Circuits coming to their resort with the results for far being nothing short of fantastic.

See the complete [IP Resort Hotel and Casino](#) poker tournament schedule and previous results here. The WSOP Circuit at the IP runs through November 10<sup>th</sup>. You can find the complete [2010/2011 WSOP Circuit Schedule](#) here.

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