



## **2010-2011 World Series of Poker Circuit**

**Season Seven**

**Horseshoe Hammond**

**Event #7 H.O.R.S.E.**

**End of Day 2**

**Buy-In: \$350**

**Total Entries: 318**

**Total Prize Pool: \$92,538**

**October 20, 2011**

## **SEMI-PRO SCORES FIRST CIRCUIT RING**

Robert Rasmussen Wins H.O.R.S.E. in Convincing Fashion, Bests Past Champion.

Hammond, IN (October 20, 2011)—The WSOP Circuit's newest champion is 25-year-old Robert Rasmussen. Rasmussen came to the final table of Event #7, \$350 H.O.R.S.E., as one of the middle stacks and proceeded to bet and raise his way to his first Circuit ring and largest WSOP cash.

Rasmussen pocketed \$22,607 and shot to the top of the WSOPC Leaderboard at Horseshoe Hammond with a 50 point score. The individual who earns the most points at this stop will receive automatic entry into the \$1 Million National Championship. Only five events remain and things are heating up in the race to Las Vegas as we now have a seven-way tie at the top.

Event #7 at Horseshoe Hammond proved that H.O.R.S.E. is alive and kicking as one of the most popular variations of poker. Not only that, it is growing at a rapid rate.

The \$350 H.O.R.S.E. tournament drew 318 players. That's almost 100 more entrants than last year and almost 200 more than the \$555 H.O.R.S.E. held the year prior.

Joining Rasmussen at the final table was Francesco Barbaro, last year's H.O.R.S.E. champion. Barbaro's poker resume boasts a WSOP bracelet (2011 Omaha Hi-Lo Split-8 or Better), a WSOPC ring (2010 H.O.R.S.E.), and four final table appearances in just the last year. His presence at the final table here was brief, leaving the tournament in eighth place for \$2,529.

When play resumed on Day 2, 107 of the 318 starting entrants remained and 32 spots paid. Play stretched into the early morning hours of October 20. At about 1 a.m. CST, the official final table of eight was formed and players stacked up as follows:

### **Final Table:**

Seat 1	Sokchheka "Chico" Pho	200,000
Seat 2	Heffrey Tunkel	800,000
Seat 3	Francesco Barbaro	DNR
Seat 4	Dennis O'Donnell	150,000
Seat 5	Richard Shavzin	850,000
Seat 6	Brandon Schuler	500,000
Seat 7	Robby Rasmussen	650,000

**Eighth Place:**

Francesco "Cheech" Barbaro is a professional poker player from Chicago, Illinois. This was his third Circuit cash and third final table. He won a bracelet in the \$1,500 Omaha Hi-Low Split-8 or Better Event at the 2011 WSOP. Last year, he won his first Circuit ring in this very same tournament. He walked with \$2,529 for his efforts.

**Seventh Place:**

Finishing the tournament in seventh place and earning \$3,302 was Brandon Schuler. Schuler is a 30-year-old environmental worker from the Chicago area. He received the purple heart for his services to our country as a member of the Army infantry. This was his second and largest cash of the 2011 WSOPC stop at Hammond.

**Sixth Place:**

Sokchheka "Chico" Pho was born in Cambodia and now resides in Memphis, Tennessee. He is 33-years-old and married with two children. This was his first WSOPC cash and he pocketed \$4,342.

**Fifth Place:**

Self employed 52-year-old, Dennis Odonnell left the tournament in fifth place. He was born in Jersey City, New Jersey and now lives in Osceola, Florida with his wife and three children. This final table marked ODonnell's first WSOPC cash. He earned \$5,753.

**Fourth Place:**

Jeffrey Tunkel was born and raised in Naperville, Illinois. He is a 29-year-old professional poker player with five WSOP and two WSOPC cashes on his resume. His fourth place finish marks his highest to date and he earned \$7,682.

**Third Place:**

Local boy, Ross Schultz, finished in third place and earned \$10,335. He is 27-years-old and was born in Cincinnati. He now resides in the Chicago area and this was first WSOPC cash.

**Second Place:**

Richard Shavzin was the runner-up. He is a 53-year-old Milwaukee native and Chicago resident. Shavzin is an actor and director and in 1996 he was awarded the Joseph Jefferson Award for his play, "Burn This," at the Strawdog Theatre Company in Chicago. The Joseph Jefferson Award is given annually to acknowledge excellence in theatre in the Chicago area. Unfortunately he will not be able to add a ring to his trophy case. His second place finish was good for \$14,007.

**First Place:**

Robert "Robby" Rasmussen is a 25-year-old semi-professional poker player from Niles, Illinois. He recorded cashes in the 2009 and 2010 WSOP and this is his first WSOPC cash and ring. His favorite poker game is Pot-Limit Omaha. First place earned him \$22,607, his largest WSOP score to date.

This is the seventh of 12 ring events slated to take place at the Horseshoe Hammond. Winners of all events will receive first-place prize money and the coveted WSOP Circuit ring. In addition, the winner of the Main Event will receive a seat to the \$1 Million Circuit National Championship in Las Vegas. An additional seat will be awarded to the individual who earns the most Circuit points at this stop.

The WSOP Circuit Events at Horseshoe Hammond continue through October 24. The Main Event will take place October 21.

Each final table throughout the 2011/2012 Circuit tour will be streamed live at WSOP.com

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## Final Results:

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>PLAYER</u>	<u>CITY / STATE / COUNTRY</u>	<u>CASH EARNED</u>
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1	Robert Rasmussen	NILES, IL, US	\$22,607
2	Richard Shavzin	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$14,007
3	Ross Schultz	Chicago, IL, US	\$10,335
4	Jeffrey Tunkel	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$7,682
5	Dennis Odonnell	Oscola, IN, US	\$5,753
6	Sokchheka Pho	MEMPHIS, TN, US	\$4,342
7	Brandon Schuler	CHAMPAIGN, IL, US	\$3,302
8	Francesco Barbaro	WILLOW SPRINGS, IL, US	\$2,529
9	Christopher Cullen	CINCINNATI, OH, US	\$1,952
10	Harold Lilie	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$1,952
11	Phillip Garrett	CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN, US	\$1,518
12	Frankie Hendrickson	KOKOMO, IN, US	\$1,518
13	Rico Chacon	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$1,188
14	Jason Gola	Chicago, IL, US	\$1,188
15	Shaun Burnett	LACONA, IA, US	\$937
16	Carlos Zayas	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$937
17	Jason Schwartz	Deerfield, IL, US	\$745
18	Robert Banaszewski	WHEATON, IL, US	\$745
19	Pawel Andrzejewski	DES PLAINES, IL, US	\$745
20	Robert Gonnella	ELMHURST, IL, US	\$745
21	John Ma	SKOKIE, IL, US	\$745
22	Jessica Hudson	SHREVEPORT, LA, US	\$745
23	Ray Rogawski	Norridge, IL, US	\$745
24	William Slaght	DUBUQUE, IA, US	\$745
25	Richard Bai	SCHAUMBURG, IL, US	\$596
26	Bruce Dubin	OAK PARK, IL, US	\$596
27	Jordan Frank	Chicago, IL, US	\$596
28	Frank Berrettoni	SOUTH CHICAGO HEIGHTS, IL, US	\$596
29	Matthew Viox	TULSA, OK, US	\$596
30	Frank Wiese	LAS VEGAS, NV, US	\$596
31	Dan Sztenderowicz	PHILADELPHIA, PA, US	\$596
32	Kevin Parsley	CONNERSVILLE, IN, US	\$596

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