



**2011-2012 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season Eight
Horseshoe Hammond
Event #10
No-Limit Hold'em Main Event
Final Report
Buy-In: \$1,600
Total Entries: 1,615
Total Prize Pool: \$2,349,825
October 21-25, 2011**

TO THE VICTOR GOES THE SPOILS

Robert Chow Bests Record-Setting Field to Take Home \$393,584 in Hammond Main Event.

Hammond, IN — Horseshoe Hammond and the Chicago area players are becoming known for breaking records. Event #1 drew an unheard of 3,001 players, shattering the old WSOPC attendance record by almost 1,400 entrants. This is the fourth year a WSOPC has been held in Hammond and the third year they have set the bar for attendance, and the 2011 Main Event was no exception.

The \$1,600 re-entry tournament drew an astounding 1,615 players and created a prizepool of \$2,349,825. The next largest WSOPC Main Event (2010 Hammond) had 872 entrants. After four excruciating days of play, Robert Chow can lay claim to winning the largest Main Event in Circuit history.

Chow took home \$393,584, his first WSOP Circuit ring and a pre-paid seat to the \$1 Million National Championship to be held in Las Vegas this spring. He is a 51-year-old semi-professional poker player and semi-retired consultant who formerly ran a successful software company. The success of his company has given Chow the freedom to do what he wants in life.

"I get to do what I enjoy doing, and I get to do things that really interest me," Chow said. "Life is good. My passion is poker. I really enjoy it."

As expected in a field as large as this, Chow worked tirelessly to get to the winner's circle. After busting Day 1A Chow was feeling down on his luck and rather than ponying up the \$1,600 entry fee for Day 1B, he decided to try to play his way back in. He won the first satellite he entered and the rest is history.

When the two Day 1 fields combined on Day 2, there were 342 players remaining. By the beginning of level 19, the money bubble burst and all 171 remaining players were guaranteed a piece of the \$2.35 million prizepool. Day 3 began with 20 players remaining and the final table was reached only a few hours after cards were in the air. The final table stacked up like this:

Final Table:

Seat 1	Joseph Hebda (26)	St. John, IN	3,450,000
Seat 2*	Bob Chow (51)	Chicago, IL	7,000,000
Seat 3	Daniel Harrington (29)	Chicago, IL	1,480,000
Seat 4	Eric Crain (27)	Murphysboro, IL	3,315,000

Seat 5	Drazen Ilich (32)	Lincoln, NE	1,950,000
Seat 6	Aaron Steury (24)	Fort Wayne, IN	9,000,000
Seat 7	Shawn Quinn (41)	Middleton, WI	1,695,000
Seat 8	Dave Neff (45)	Cleveland, OH	1,040,000
Seat 9	Erik Roussakis (29)	Berwyn, IL	5,800,000

Ninth Place:

Shawn Quinn left the tournament in ninth place when he moved all-in with [Ad][Kh] and was called by the [Qh][Jc] of Eric Crain. Crain caught the [Qc] on the flop and Quinn never regained the lead. He was sent packing with \$39,947.

Quinn is a 41-year-old Dairy Feed Agriculture Consultant from Middleton, Wisconsin. When he isn't working or playing poker, he enjoys softball.

Eighth Place:

Our eighth place finisher was Daniel V. Harrington. Harrington open-raised all-in with [Ad][8d] and was called by the [Kh][Kc] of Drazen Ilich. Harrington never spiked the Ace he so desperately needed and he walked away with \$50,051.

Harrington, not to be confused with two-time bracelet winner, Dan Harrington, is a 29-year-old commodities trader from Chicago, Illinois. Remarkably, this was the first live tournament he ever played.

Seventh Place:

Drazen Ilich left the tournament in seventh place. Ilich move all-in on a board of [9d][3s][8h] with [Kd][Ks] and was called by the open-ended straight draw of Robert Chow. The [7d] on fourth street completed Chow's draw and Ilich had no hopes of improving. His seventh place finish was good for \$63,680.

This was Ilich's seventh WSOPC final table and tenth cash. Coincidentally, he also placed seventh in last year's \$1 Million WSOPC National Championship. Ilich is a two-time ring winner, but number three will have to wait.

Sixth Place:

The very next hand, Joseph Hebda moved all-in on the button with [Ah][Th] and was called by the pocket Jacks of Steury. Hebda didn't manage to pair his Ace and he was eliminated in sixth place earning \$81,744.

Hebda is 26-years-old and resides in St. John, Indiana.

Fifth Place:

Dave Neff three-bet Eric Crain with [Ah][2h] and Crain asked for a count before calling with pocket Fours. Neither player improved on the flop and the [As] on the turn gave Neff the lead, but the drama wouldn't end there. In true poker form, the dealer revealed the [4d] on the river giving Crain a winning set and sending Neff packing in fifth place. He earned \$106,447.

This was Neff's first WSOPC cash. He is a 45-year-old landscaper from Cleveland, Ohio.

Fourth Place:

Eric Crain moved all-in over the top of an early raise with [Kd][9h]. Having Crain covered, Steury instantly moved all-in and the remaining players folded. Steury tabled [Ah][Kh] and he had Crain crushed. Neither player improved and Crain was eliminated in fourth place for \$139,815.

Crain is a 27-year-old poker pro with two Circuit rings and seven Circuit cashes. He uses a lucky bluebird sculpture he received from his grandmother as a card protector. Looks like grandma's luck paid off because Crain played a truly amazing Main Event. After he busted, he went to sweat his friend, Ryan Carter, who was heads-up for the ring in Event #12. Carter went on to win and the pair haven't stopped smiling since.

"I don't know anybody who deserves it more than he does. This is so great," Steury said about his friend's victory.

Third Place:

Erik Roussakis got his money in in great shape when he shoved with [Ad][Jc] versus the [Kh][Js] of Steury. Unfortunately, it wasn't meant to be as the [Kd] fell on the turn and Roussakis did not catch one of the three remaining Aces on the river. His third place finish earned him \$183,991.

Roussakis is a 29-year-old former salesman from Berwyn, Illinois. This was his first WSOPC cash, and he certainly did it in style.

Second Place:

With the board reading [8s][6c][3d][Jd] Steury had all of his money in the pot with [5d][4c] for an open-ended straight draw, but was behind the two pair of Chow. Steury did not improve, and with that we had a winner. Steury's second place finish awarded him \$243,818.

Steury is a 24-year-old professional poker player from Fort Wayne, Indiana. In July, he won a \$1,500 H.O.R.S.E. event at the World Series of Poker in Las Vegas. Unfortunately he won't be able to accessorize that bracelet with a ring, but Steury has a knack for playing well on the big stage, and it won't be very long until we see him there again.

First Place:

Chow was born in Hong Kong, China but immigrated to the United States with his family when he was seven to pursue better education. He grew up in Chicago, and attended the University of Illinois.

Chow beat the largest Main Event field in WSOPC history to take home the first-place prize of \$393,584. He is a 51-year-old semi-retired consultant. This is his fourth WSOP cash and he recorded a runner-up finish in Hammond last year.

Winner Interview:

On how it feels to win a ring — "Great. I've been the bridesmaid a couple times. This is the first time I've actually cracked through and made first place. I'm ecstatic. I thought I had a deep run this year at the WSOP Seniors event when I came in 66th."

On beating a bracelet winner heads-up in the largest WSOPC Main Event ever. — "It's validation of all the grinding and the hard work. I've come close and never finished. This is definitely a very significant, major event. It's the Main Event, a Circuit, and I beat out 1,600 people. I can't feel any better."

On when he realized he had a chance to win this. — "When we came back with 20 players, I just felt good. I never had the chip lead until we got down to the final table and I knew there was a lot of very accomplished, very aggressive players here, but I just felt good. I didn't try to push the game, I let the game come to me and that was the best way to handle it and it worked. Everything just fell into place."

This is the tenth of 12 ring events that took place at the Horseshoe Hammond. Winners of all events received first-place prize money and the coveted WSOP Circuit ring. In addition, the winner of the Main Event received a seat to the \$1 million Circuit National Championship in Las Vegas. An additional seat was awarded to the individual who earned the most Circuit points at this stop.

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Final Results:

<u>FINISH</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOMETOWN</u>	<u>PRIZE</u>
1	Robert Chow	SCHAUMBURG, IL, US	\$393,584
2	Aaron Steury	FORT WAYNE, IN, US	\$243,818
3	Erik Roussakis	Berwyn, IL, US	\$183,991
4	Eric Crain	MURPHYSBORO, IL, US	\$139,815
5	David Neff	Mayfield Hts, OH, US	\$106,447
6	Joseph Hebda	SAINT JOHN, IN, US	\$81,774
7	Drazen Ilich	LINCOLN, NE, US	\$63,680
8	Daniel V. Harrington	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$50,051

9	Shawn Quinn	MIDDLETON, WI, US	\$39,947
10	Alan Murphy	Oak Creek, WI, US	\$32,193
11	Edward Pham	LANSDALE, PA, US	\$32,193
12	Jonathan Job	LAS VEGAS, NV, US	\$32,193
13	Michael Hallen	TAMPA, FL, US	\$26,318
14	Bryan Dillon	PROSPECT, KY, US	\$26,318
15	Luther Lewis	GOODLETTSVILLE, TN, US	\$26,318
16	Mark Kroon	MADISON, WI, US	\$21,759
17	Pawel Andrzejewski	DES PLAINES, IL, US	\$21,759
18	Chris Wallace	SAINT PAUL, MN, US	\$21,759
19	Everett Carlton	ST PAUL, MN, US	\$18,141
20	Dominick Fosco	Lake Zurich, IL, US	\$18,141
21	Todd Wright	YARDLEY, PA, US	\$18,141
22	Michael Byrne	OAK LAWN, IL, US	\$15,274
23	Khaled Nassar	WORTH, IL, US	\$15,274
24	Tom Koral	SKOKIE, IL, US	\$15,274
25	Michael Miller	BROOKFIELD, WI, US	\$12,948
26	Daniel Gilmer	Ashland, OH, US	\$12,948
27	Kenny Nguyen	LYNWOOD, IL, US	\$12,948
28	Michael Scarborough	CINCINNATI, OH, US	\$11,091
29	Paul Storti	BLOOMINGTON, IL, US	\$11,091
30	James Kasputis	ROCKFORD, IL, US	\$11,091
31	Ilias Kellikidis	NORRIDGE, IL, US	\$9,587
32	Tom Luce	TIPTON, IN, US	\$9,587
33	Leo Murphy	LAS VEGAS, NV, US	\$9,587
34	Josh Brikis	MURRYSVILLE, PA, US	\$8,365
35	Ping Liu	Chicago, IL, US	\$8,365
36	Polydoros Stellatos	Lincolnwood, IL, US	\$8,365
37	Brandon Schuler	CHAMPAIGN, IL, US	\$7,378
38	Okla White	Chicago, IL, US	\$7,378
39	Jeffrey Gross	ANN ARBOR, MI, US	\$7,378
40	Jacob Bazeley	LUDLOW, KY, US	\$7,378
41	Nicholas Johnson	SCHERTZ, TX, US	\$7,378
42	Albert Lucenti	BLOOMINGTON, IL, US	\$7,378
43	Nicholas Andricopulos	PALOS PARK, IL, US	\$7,378
44	Daniel Cohen	WILMETTE, IL, US	\$7,378
45	Nicholas Cikulin	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$7,378
46	Ronald Sewell	SHELBY, NC, US	\$6,580
47	Daniel Schacher	LISLE, IL, US	\$6,580
48	Jeffrey Finucane	LONG GROVE, IL, US	\$6,580
49	Bruce Swart	GRASS LAKE, MI, US	\$6,580
50	Clyde Kerr	ADDISON, IL, US	\$6,580
51	Edward Kozelski	N FORT MYERS, FL, US	\$6,580
52	Steven Trepachko	PLAINFIELD, IL, US	\$6,580
53	Bala Iyer	Plainfield, IL, US	\$6,580
54	Heath Pender	Alabaster, AL, US	\$6,580
55	Jameel Harris	N HOLLYWOOD, CA, US	\$5,922
56	Ross Gutzmer	Prospect Heights, IL, US	\$5,922
57	Alexander Kadel	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$5,922
58	Gennady Shimelfarb	Apple Valley, MN, US	\$5,922

59	James Ruszkiewicz	MUKWONAGO, WI, US	\$5,922
60	Thuy Hoang	Chicago, IL, US	\$5,922
61	Steven Whitecotton	WEST DUNDEE, IL, US	\$5,922
62	Abraham Beddaoui	GLENVIEW, IL, US	\$5,922
63	Chad Brown	MARGATE, FL, US	\$5,922
64	Michael Holm	WOODRIDGE, IL, US	\$5,381
65	Patrick Cahill	Wheaton, IL, US	\$5,381
66	Nick Jivkov	DES PLAINES, IL, US	\$5,381
67	Derek Palmer	GLENOE, MN, US	\$5,381
68	Michael Perillo	Las Vegas, NV, US	\$5,381
69	Trevor Redlarczyk	DYER, IN, US	\$5,381
70	Lloyd Mandel	FORT MYERS, FL, US	\$5,381
71	Scott Carroll	PEKIN, IL, US	\$5,381
72	Aliaksandr Ivankou	Norman, OK, US	\$5,381
73	Eric Israel	Chicago, IL, US	\$4,935
74	Michael Nosek	WHEATON, IL, US	\$4,935
75	Zal Irani	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$4,935
76	Alexander Leitzes	Yardley, PA, US	\$4,935
77	Eric Bair	Chicago, IL, US	\$4,935
78	David Holder	Norman, OK, US	\$4,935
79	Joshua Rotenberg	West Bloomfield, MI, US	\$4,935
80	Gregory Peck	OKEMOS, MI, US	\$4,935
81	Kenneth Baime	GLENVIEW, IL, US	\$4,935
82	Alex Maturi	OAK PARK, IL, US	\$4,535
83	Kenny Nguyen	LYNWOOD, IL, US	\$4,535
84	Cory Zbinden	HINCKLEY, IL, US	\$4,535
85	Jeff Bryan	FORT CALHOUN, NE, US	\$4,535
86	Florencio Bunal	SKOKIE, IL, US	\$4,535
87	Jack Kashishian	EDGEWATER, NJ, US	\$4,535
88	Jeffrey Fielder	DES MOINES, IA, US	\$4,535
89	Peter Ruszkiewicz	NORTH PRAIRIE, WI, US	\$4,535
90	Joseph Darnell	MERRILLVILLE, IN, US	\$4,535
91	Christopher Bolek	BOCA RATON, FL, US	\$4,183
92	Mohammad Abedi Arani	Plano, TX, US	\$4,183
93	Paul Bianchi	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$4,183
94	Anthony Hartmann	SHAKOPEE, MN, US	\$4,183
95	Nicholas Cushman	Saginaw, MI, US	\$4,183
96	Ravi Raghavan	NORTHBROOK, IL, US	\$4,183
97	John Cynn	INDIANAPOLIS, IN, US	\$4,183
98	Jefferson Lasecki	LAKE ZURICH, IL, US	\$4,183
99	Charles Evans	PALOS HEIGHTS, IL, US	\$4,183
100	Angela Valencia	HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL, US	\$3,854
101	Jenny Kim	Morton Grove, IL, US	\$3,854
102	Blake Battaglia	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$3,854
103	Jeff Banghart	BENNINGTON, NE, US	\$3,854
104	Ryan Buchardt	SAN DIEGO, CA, US	\$3,854
105	Kunal Patel	FRIENDSWOOD, TX, US	\$3,854
106	Thomas Dalton	NORMAL, IL, US	\$3,854
107	Daniel Hendrickson	FARIBAULT, MN, US	\$3,854
108	John Ross	THE WOODLANDS, TX, US	\$3,854

109	Seneca Easley	FORT WORTH, TX, US	\$3,548
110	Michael Hahn	BLOOMINGTON, IN, US	\$3,548
111	James Allen	Matteson, IL, US	\$3,548
112	Mark Provenzano	MELROSE PARK, IL, US	\$3,548
113	Jason Wandling	IOWA CITY, IA, US	\$3,548
114	Todd Hovenden	BLOOMINGTON, IL, US	\$3,548
115	John L. Sullivan	BRUNSWICK, OH, US	\$3,548
116	Peter Nemeth	FISHERS, IN, US	\$3,548
117	John Orr	LODI, WI, US	\$3,548
118	Samir Bhalla	Chicago, IL, US	\$3,266
119	Daniel Blank	Highland Park, IL, US	\$3,266
120	Kim Schinco	FREELAND, MI, US	\$3,266
121	Robert Slezak	OMAHA, NE, US	\$3,266
122	Anthony Utnage	BLOOMINGTON, IN, US	\$3,266
123	Jerry Payne	CENTERVILLE, OH, US	\$3,266
124	Chad Williams	ROCKFORD, IL, US	\$3,266
125	Sanjeev Polasani	Chicago, IL, US	\$3,266
126	Daniel Bunce	OAK LAWN, IL, US	\$3,266
127	Dennis Tuttle	MANSFIELD, TX, US	\$3,266
128	John Kurfman	BAYLIS, IL, US	\$3,266
129	Michael Farah	Grand Rapids, MI, US	\$3,266
130	Walter Gleitsman	Schaumburg, IL, US	\$3,266
131	Tommy Felice	WAYNE, IL, US	\$3,266
132	David Snitkin	NORTHBROOK, IL, US	\$3,266
133	James Pierson	LA GRANGE, IL, US	\$3,266
134	Robby Westrom	SAINT PAUL, MN, US	\$3,266
135	Thomas Huls	Chicago, IL, US	\$3,266
136	Phillip Schechter	LONG GROVE, IL, US	\$3,008
137	Ronald Armstrong	PARK RIDGE, IL, US	\$3,008
138	David Jackson	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$3,008
139	John Birkel	Winston Salem, NC, US	\$3,008
140	Emmanuel Daval	Brooklyn, NY, US	\$3,008
141	Benjamin Luber	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$3,008
142	Ryan Olson	WESTCHESTER, IL, US	\$3,008
143	Kyle Schertz	METAMORA, IL, US	\$3,008
144	Paul Davis	Elgin, IL, US	\$3,008
145	Adam Elpayaa	FOREST PARK, IL, US	\$3,008
146	Arlan Goldberg	MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA, US	\$3,008
147	Ramiro Melero	Elmhurst, IL, US	\$3,008
148	Douglas Mackinnon	E Amherst, NY, US	\$3,008
149	Kevin Oliveras	Manhattan, KS, US	\$3,008
150	Chad Randick	Frankfort, IL, US	\$3,008
151	David Holley	Fort Wayne, IN, US	\$3,008
152	Jeffrey Michalek	CHANNAHON, IL, US	\$3,008
153	Paul Wess	LINCOLNSHIRE, IL, US	\$3,008
154	Michael Foster	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$2,773
155	Keith Lutz	LA GRANGE, IL, US	\$2,773
156	Andrew Holland	Warren, MI, US	\$2,773
157	Zaya Ihana	Chicago, IL, US	\$2,773
158	Steven Karp	N. Miami Beach, FL, US	\$2,773

159	Brett Reichard	Janesville, WI, US	\$2,773
160	Wally Shearer	NOBLESVILLE, IN, US	\$2,773
161	Michael Simpson	Forest Hills, NY, US	\$2,773
162	Kyle Shappelle	Las Vegas, NV, US	\$2,773
163	Mark Kropiwiec	Round Lake Beach, IL, US	\$2,773
164	Kelson Schmidt	FRISCO, CO, US	\$2,773
165	Christopher Gamboa	Cypress, TX, US	\$2,773
166	Todd Breyfogle	HOPKINS, MN, US	\$2,773
167	Kyle Miller	OAK PARK, IL, US	\$2,773
168	Christopher Slaughter	Chicago, IL, US	\$2,773
169	Samir Husaynue	WEST BLOOMFIELD, MI, US	\$2,773
170	Tanya Murphy	FRANKLIN, WI, US	\$2,773
171	Michael Warrington	CHIPLEY, FL, US	\$2,773

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