



**2011-2012 World Series of Poker Circuit**  
**Season Eight**  
**Harrah's Tunica**  
**Event #1`**  
**No-Limit Hold'em Re-entry**  
**Buy-In: \$345**  
**Total Entries: 1,128**  
**Total Prize Pool: \$328,248**  
**February 2-4, 2012**

## Final Results:

<u>Finish</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Prize</u>
1	Chip Ervin	Tuscaloosa	AL	\$59,660
2	Willie Lawrence	Tallahassee	FL	\$36,848
3	Eddie Carroll	Dayton	OH	\$27,381
4	Travis Eller	Cookeville	TN	\$20,595
5	Athipoo Phahurat	Rogers	AR	\$15,681
6	Thomas Mosier	Spencer	IN	\$12,082
7	Terry Kim	Ocean Springs	MS	\$9,418
8	Rodney Shows	Hattiesburg	MS	\$7,424
9	Jesse Menley	Hillsboro	MO	\$5,917
10	Jeffery Welch	Greenfield	IN	\$4,769
11	Eric Branum	New Madrid	MO	\$4,769
12	Bryan Williams	Franklin	TN	\$4,769
13	Aaron Lund	Hernando	MS	\$3,887
14	Robert Manley	Haslet	TX	\$3,887
15	Mark Rapala	Hughsonville	NY	\$3,887
16	Scott Culver	New Haven	KY	\$3,204
17	Anthony Cissell	Coxs Creek	KY	\$3,204
18	Adrian Mccullough	Morrow	GA	\$3,204
19	Johnathan Dahlberg	Saint Charles	MO	\$2,667
20	Kevin Mcconnell	Clayton	GA	\$2,667
21	Stephen Boling	Hendersonville	TN	\$2,667
22	Jesse Kidd	Richmond	VA	\$2,246
23	Brittany Byrom	Justin	TX	\$2,246
24	Brian Niekerk	Kingston	TN	\$2,246
25	John Mccoy	Memphis	TN	\$1,909
26	Christopher Wright	Nashville	TN	\$1,909
27	Wayne Boyd	Port Lavaca	TX	\$1,909
28	Leo Stephens	Dayton	TN	\$1,641
29	Mark Lukasiewski	Collierville	TN	\$1,641
30	Stuart Breakstone	Memphis	TN	\$1,641
31	Kasey Stanford	Ozark	MO	\$1,425
32	Robert Thao	Braselton	GA	\$1,425
33	Charles Miller	Paducah	KY	\$1,425
34	Stanley Weiss	Nashville	TN	\$1,249
35	Ricky Loyd	Wynne	AR	\$1,249
36	Bryan Gibson	Portage	IN	\$1,249
37	Jesse White	Summer Shade	KY	\$1,105
38	Robert Hahs	Oak Ridge	MO	\$1,105
39	Kenneth Brown	Decatur	TN	\$1,105
40	Christopher Conry	Frisco	TX	\$1,105

41	Bradley Clay	Oxford	MS	\$1,105
42	George Gauthier	Shreveport	LA	\$1,105
43	Kristen Deardorff	Gulfport	MS	\$1,105
44	Cary Marshall	King Salmon	AK	\$1,105
45	David Tuttle	Columbus	OH	\$1,105
46	Donald Holland	Murfreesboro	TN	\$987
47	Christopher Wiggins	Memphis	TN	\$987
48	John Kelsey	Memphis	TN	\$987
49	Gregg Bloodworth	Duluth	GA	\$987
50	Michael Morriss	Talladega	AL	\$987
51	Shawn Miller	Kitchener	ON	\$987
52	James Ross	Champaign	IL	\$987
53	Peter Garijanian	Fayetteville	GA	\$987
54	Chris Hight	Charleston	IL	\$987
55	Jeremy Drewery	Grand Junction	TN	\$892
56	Michael	Saint Louis	MO	\$892
57	Rane Furr	Concord	NC	\$892
58	Thomas Rossi	Deatur	AL	\$892
59	William Consolie	Stockbridge	GA	\$892
60	Joey Huey	Newport	AR	\$892
61	Hung Nguyen	Jackson	TN	\$892
62	Danny Brandt	Decatur	IL	\$892
63	Joseph Dickey	Christiana	TN	\$892
64	John Bolster	Huntsville	AL	\$814
65	Daniel Smith	Oxford	AL	\$814
66	Frederick Mealey	Olive Branch	MS	\$814
67	Kyle Brandt	Decatur	IL	\$814
68	Christopher Welch	Nashville	TN	\$814
69	Chris Cavalier	Garner	NC	\$814
70	Evan Hamstra	Chicago	IL	\$814
71	Lisa Brooking	Sellersburg	IN	\$814
72	Rayan Stevenson	Horn Lake	MS	\$814
73	Jesse L Jones	Ringgold	GA	\$749
74	Russell Ivy	Carrizo Springs	TX	\$749
75	Daniel Gibson	Ash Flat	AR	\$749
76	James Postel	Bulverde	TX	\$749
77	Jason Moix	Conway	AR	\$749
78	Matthew Lindsey	Nashville	TN	\$749
79	Christopher Ashley	0	0	\$749
80	Kelly Kelley	Hughes Springs	TX	\$749
81	James Smith	Madison	AL	\$749
82	Matthew Arista	Rockwall	TX	\$690
83	Christian Bigler	Las Vegas	NV	\$690
84	David Gamberoni	King Of Prussia	PA	\$690
85	Ross Bybee	Mckinney	TX	\$690
86	Douglas Larson	Cropwell	AL	\$690
87	John Malone	Memphis	TN	\$690
88	Jeffrey Bryant	Hermitage	TN	\$690
89	Jonathan Noble	Knoxville	TN	\$690
90	Stephen Buell	Green Bay	WI	\$690
91	Robert Koltuniak	Traverse City	MI	\$634
92	Haris Galatsidas	Guelph	ON	\$634
93	Christopher	Memphis	TN	\$634
94	Garth Gimmetstad	Collierville	TN	\$634
95	Jesse Jackson	Carthage	NC	\$634
96	Pat Lambert	Cabot	AR	\$634
97	John Courtney	Summerville	SC	\$634
98	Keith Bowerman	Cleveland	TN	\$634
99	Jeffrey Blau	Atlanta	GA	\$634
100	Robert Russell	Louisville	TN	\$582
101	Paris Heard	Prairie	MS	\$582
102	Michael Hallen	Tampa	FL	\$582
103	Bruce Sturgeon	Bedford	IN	\$582
104	Longlith	Fort Worth	TX	\$582
105	Benjamin Kramer	Terre Haute	IN	\$582

106	Jennifer Parrish	Alma	AR	\$582
107	Richard Johnson	Des Peres	MO	\$582
108	Christopher Conrad	Tallahassee	FL	\$582
109	Kevin Davis	Denton	TX	\$536
110	Colbert, Sr White	Louisville	KY	\$536
111	Gregory Collier	Corryton	TN	\$536
112	Goran Meskovic	Memphis	TN	\$536
113	Jason Ivie	Saint Louis	MO	\$447
114	Ronnie George	Douglasville	GA	\$447
115	Christopher Miller	Louisville	KY	\$447
116	Kevin Cohen	Atlanta	GA	\$447
117	Arthur Farmer	Nashville	TN	\$446
118	David Harvey	Arab	AL	\$446

## Near-Record Flood of 1,128 Players Turn out for Opening Circuit Ring Event at Harrah's Tunica

### Chip Ervin Rides Ark Built of Strong Play and a Bit of Luck En Route to \$59,660 1<sup>st</sup> Place Victory

TUNICA, MS. – Near-record flooding in Tunica, MS last spring proved devastating when rising waters forced the temporary shut down of all nine of the gaming resort town's area casinos.

Hit particularly hard was Harrah's Tunica Casino and Resort, which was one of the last to reopen after being surrounded by nearly eight feet of water.

This past week, Harrah's Tunica was hit by another huge flood; however this one was much more welcomed as 1,128 players crested the casino resort's entrances for Event #1 of the World Series of Poker Circuit Events. The opening event's turnout was the second highest in Harrah's Tunica history.

While the near-record field, the highest since 2006, by no means indicates a turnaround for Tunica's struggling gaming industry, which has seen consecutive years of revenue declines, it is a positive sign that things may be looking up for the south's gaming Mecca.

The \$345 buy-in, No-Limit Hold'em Re-start Event generated a \$328,248 prize pool. Start days 1A and 1B yielded 170 survivors, 117 of whom would finish in the money.

After over three days of play, the flood receded with Chip Ervin, a 33-year-old poker pro from Tuscaloosa, AL emerging as the sole survivor

2003 World Series of Poker Main Event champion, Chris Moneymaker made the trip from his nearby hometown of Memphis, TN to play in Harrah's Tunica's opening WSOP Circuit ring event and started Day two third in chips, but was unable to carry with him any of the momentum from Day 1A, resulting in a 93<sup>rd</sup> place finish.

After over nine hours of play on day two, the field of 170 remaining players was down to the final table:

Name	Hometown	Seat	Chip Count
Ed Carroll	Dayton, OH	1	2,590,000
Chip Ervin	Tuscaloosa, AL	2	995,000
Rodney Shows	Hattiesburg, MS	3	1,275,000
Willie Lawrence	Tallahassee, FL	4	550,000
Terry Kim	Ocean Springs, MS	5	732,000
Jesse Menley	Hillsboro, MO	6	1,370,000
A.P. Phahurat	Tulsa, OK	7	1,196,000
Tommy Mosier	Bloomington, IN	8	1,765,000
Travis Eller	Cookeville, TN	9	1,138,000

### **9th Place**

Crippled after doubling up Travis Eller in an earlier hand with 8's vs. Eller's Q's, Jesse Menley was relieved of his remaining chips a few hands later and saw an early exit from the final table stage. Menley is the president of a family-owned roofing company in his hometown of Hillsboro, MO. His second-ever WSOPC final table earned him \$5,917 for 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Place**

Rodney Shows was eliminated after making a tough all-in river call holding pocket aces. His opponent, Tommy Mosier, tabled pocket jacks, ending the show for Rodney. Shows is a 55-year old retired college football and basketball coach from Hattiesburg, MS. He took home \$7,424 for eighth.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Place**

All-in with [A][7], Terry Kim found himself well behind the [A][J] of Travis Eller and was unable to catch up after the board helped improved neither player's hand. Kim is a systems engineer from Ocean Springs, MS. Sixth place paid him \$9,418.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Place**

Holding pocket sixes, Willie Lawrence was able to fade Thomas Mosier's [A][10] through fifth street, sending Mosier to the rail. The 25-year-old poker player from Bloomington, IN earned \$12,082 for his sixth place finish.

### **5<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Places**

A.P Phahurat and Eller were eliminated in 5<sup>th</sup> (\$15,681) and 4<sup>th</sup> (\$20,595) places, respectively. Phahurat is a Thailand-born poker pro from Tulsa, OK. Eller is a 30-year-old player from Cookeville, TN

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

The final table chip leader, Ed Carroll took a huge hit to his stack when Ervin was able to hit a river flush. Carroll was eliminated shortly afterwards. Carroll, a 54-year-old financial analyst from Dayton, OH, took home \$27,381.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

Heads up was between Lawrence and Ervin. Ervin never relinquished his chip lead heads up and was able to eliminate his final opponent with a wheel straight on the final hand. Lawrence is 33-years-old from Tallahassee, FL. 2<sup>nd</sup> place paid \$36,848

Throughout the tournament, Ervin was able to keep himself on high ground, ensuring his first-ever WSOPC Ring victory. He enjoyed the support of an animated rail throughout much of the evening and into the morning. With his win, Ervin takes an early lead in the Casino Champion point race for Harrah's Tunica. The Casino Champion is the player who earns the most points through the 12 events at Harrah's Tunica. This player will earn an automatic seat to the \$1 million WSOP Circuit National Championship to be held in late May. More information about the WSOPC National Championship can be found [here](#). An explanation of the points system can be found [here](#).

Still to come are 11 events. See the complete Harrah's Tunica Circuit schedule and previous results [here](#). The WSOP Circuit Events at Harrah's Tunica runs through February 13th. You can find the complete 2010/2011 WSOP CIRCUIT SCHEDULE [here](#).

### **Media Contacts:**

Patrick Collins

Harrah's Tunica

662-357-6924

[pcollins1@caesars.com](mailto:pcollins1@caesars.com)

Alan Fowler

WSOP/Caesars Interactive Entertainment

702.498.7532

[afowler@caesars.com](mailto:afowler@caesars.com)

## **About the WSOP**

The World Series of Poker (WSOP) is the largest, richest and most prestigious gaming event in the world awarding millions of dollars in prize money and the prestigious gold bracelet, globally recognized as the sport's top prize. Featuring a comprehensive slate of tournaments in every major poker variation, the WSOP is poker's longest running tournament in the world, dating back to 1970. In 2010, the event attracted 72,966 entrants from 117 different countries to the Rio in Las Vegas and awarded over \$187 million in prize money. In addition, the WSOP has formed groundbreaking alliances in broadcasting, digital media and corporate sponsorships, while successfully expanding the brand internationally with the advent in 2007 of the World Series of Poker Europe. The WSOP Circuit Tour is entering its seventh season in 2010-11, and will feature 12 stops throughout the U.S., plus for the first ever, a stop in South Africa. For more information on the World Series of Poker, please visit [www.WSOP.com](http://www.WSOP.com).

## **About Harrah's Tunica**

Harrah's Tunica is located 20 minutes south of Memphis, Tennessee and was originally opened in 1996 as Grand Casino. On May, 23, 2008 Paula Deen cut the official grand opening ribbon at Harrah's Tunica featuring the first of its kind Paula Deen Buffet and an interactive gaming floor that is the largest in the region. Spanning over 2,000 acres Harrah's Tunica features the Links at Cottonwoods championship golf course designed by Hale Irwin, Willows Sporting Clays and Hunting Center, the Mid-South Convention Center offering over 65,000 square feet of indoor meeting space, three elegant hotels totaling 1356 hotel rooms, the 200-space Mid-South RV Resort, Bellissimo Spa and Salon, and a 2,400 seat event center that features headline entertainment

## **About Caesars Entertainment:**

Caesars Entertainment Corporation is the world's largest casino entertainment company. Since its beginning in Reno, Nevada, more than 70 years ago, Caesars has grown through development of new resorts, expansions and acquisitions, and now operates casinos on four continents. The company's resorts operate primarily under the Harrah's®, Caesars® and Horseshoe® brand names. Caesars also owns the World Series of Poker® and the London Clubs International family of casinos. Caesars Entertainment is focused on building loyalty and value with its guests through a unique combination of great service, excellent products, unsurpassed distribution, operational excellence and technology leadership. Caesars is committed to environmental sustainability and energy conservation and recognizes the importance of being a responsible steward of the environment. For more information, please visit [www.caesars.com](http://www.caesars.com).