

## **2012/2013 World Series of Poker Circuit**

**Season Nine**

**River Rock Casino Resort**

**Richmond, BC, CA**

**Event #8**

**No-Limit Hold'em Six-Handed**

**Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)**

**Total Entries: 263**

**Prize Pool: \$78,900**

**November 6-7, 2012**



## **Michael Sexsmith Wins River Rock Six-Handed Event Following 10-Hour Final Table**

**Sandra Wong takes the Casino Championship lead with a third-place finish, bringing her total to 65.**

**Richmond, BC (November 8, 2012)** — Be it the 17-hour finale at Horseshoe Hammond earlier last month or the final table marathon that took place during the October Nine last week, WSOP final tables of late are characterized by test of not only skill, but endurance.

Event 8 at River Rock Casino was no exception.

Michael Sexsmith won the \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Six-Handed tournament following a ten-hour final table early Thursday morning. Ten-hour final tables are nothing new in tournament poker, though a 10-hour six-handed final table is quite rare.

Even Sexsmith, who says he sometimes works as many 16 to 18 hours a day in his professional life, was exhausted after the last river card hit the felt.

"It was grinding," Sexsmith said. "We had a few people on (the final table) that whenever we went in the pot they just hammered us. They were tough."

Not to sell Sexsmith short, he did some hammering of his own. He won \$20,909 and his first WSOP Circuit gold ring for the championship performance.

"That'll stay with me forever," Sexsmith said of his trophy. "I haven't had any (accomplishments) even close to this. This is the World Series of Poker and I had to play (263) other players. I hadn't gone this far in a big tournament. It means a lot."

In addition to Sexsmith's accomplishment, the tournament's third place finish, Sandra Wong had quite an accomplishment of her own. Wong recorded her third cash of the series and was awarded 30 points toward the Casino Champion's race, bringing her total points earned at River Rock to 65. She now leads the race to New Orleans through the completion of eight events.

This was the eighth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at River Rock Casino. Officially listed as Event 8, the \$365 buy-in No-Limit Hold'em Six-Handed tournament attracted 263 entries. The total prize pool came to \$78,900. The top 27 players were paid. All players who cashed received WSOP Circuit National Championship ranking points.

The tournament began Tuesday at 1 p.m. PT. Day 2 began at 2 p.m. Wednesday with 22 players remaining and it took three and a half hours to reach the six-handed final table. The final playing session began at 5:30 p.m. local time. Play finished at about 3:30 a.m. making the total duration of the final table ten hours.

### **Notes on the Event**

- This was the first six-handed tournament of the 2012-13 WSOP Circuit at River Rock.
- The final table lasted ten hours, making it the longest final table for a six-handed event in the WSOP Circuit's history.
- Sandra Wong earned 30 points for her third place finish and now leads the Casino Champion's race with 65.
- Brendan Ciolfitto (7th) is the brother of Justin Ciolfitto, who was seated on stage at the Main Event final table just a few steps away from the Event 8 final table.
- Wong and Connie Chia (4th) became the seventh and eighth females to make a final table appearance at the River Rock series.

Through eight events Wong leads the Casino Champion's race with 65 points. She is trailed by eight other players, including the Main Event's second place finish Ryan Biermann, who all have 50 points.

The Main Event champion, John Crncic, has already guaranteed himself a seat in the National Championship.

The player who accumulates the most overall points in River Rock's twelve combined gold ring tournaments will earn the title "Casino Champion" and receive automatic entry into the \$1 Million 2012-13 WSOP National Championship to take place in New Orleans May 2013, as will the winner of River Rock Main Event. The River Rock Casino Champion will not officially be crowned until the completion of the second of two online ring events to take place November 18 and 25. All players who cash in ring events will receive points that apply to both the Casino Champion race and the season-long race to claim one of the 60 at-large National Championship bids awarded to the top point earners throughout the season. More information on the points system is available on WSOP.com.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from River Rock, so far:

EVENT #1: Mike Kim defeated 410 players (\$365 NLH) for \$27,059  
EVENT #2: Flemming Lund defeated 296 players (\$580 NLH) for \$35,523  
EVENT #3: Adina Mazzucco defeated 205 players (\$365 PLO) for \$15,989  
EVENT #4: Matthew O'Brien defeated 354 players (\$1,125 NLH) for \$81,422  
EVENT #5: Dean Engemoen defeated 347 players (\$580 NLH) for \$39,903  
EVENT #6: Victor Chan defeated 381 players (\$365 NLH Turbo) for \$25,143  
THE MAIN EVENT: John Crncic defeated 1,032 players (\$1,675) \$286,382  
EVENT #8: Michael Sexsmith defeated 263 players (\$365 NLH) for \$20,909

With the eight tournament now wrapped up, there are still two more gold ring events remaining, as well two online tournaments scheduled to take place November 18 and 25, before the 2012-13 WSOP Circuit at River Rock concludes.

For more information about the World Series of Poker Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter @WSOP or check out WSOP.com. For additional information please contact:

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