

**2012-2013 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season Nine
The Lodge Casino
Black Hawk, CO
The Main Event (Event #10)
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$1,500 (+\$175)
Total Entries: 421
Prize Pool: \$631,500
March 22-25, 2013**



Jonathan Taylor Wins Third Ring in Lodge Casino Main Event

31-year-old pro nabs three rings in 2012-2013.

Black Hawk, Colo. (March 23, 2013) — Three rings in 2012-2013. Think about that for a minute...

WSOP Circuit host Bernard Lee summed it up well when he said it's a year that's representative of a career for any successful tournament player.

It's also the exact the feat Jonathan Taylor accomplished Monday night at The Lodge Casino in Black Hawk, Colo. Taylor found himself at the Main Event final table with the chip lead and parlayed it into his third gold ring victory of 2012-2013. The win also awarded the Alabama-based professional \$138,938.

"[Winning] doesn't get old at all," Taylor told the WSOP. "It doesn't take long before you miss it. I've been lucky enough to get lucky several times this year."

The victory came in the championship event of the WSOP Circuit's first-ever series in Colorado. The 12-day festival was a mega success, drawing a 516-player field in the \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Re-Entry event and a 421-player field in the Main Event.

The Main Event raised the bar, drawing the cream of the crop including gold bracelet champions David "ODB" Baker, Carter Phillips, Mitch Schock and Christ Tryba as well as three-time WSOP Circuit champions David Nicholson, La Sengphet, Robert Castoire and Justin Gardenhire.

After the last river card hit the felt at The Lodge Casino Monday, Taylor joined that group of three-time champions.

His previous victories came in \$365 events at IP Biloxi and Horseshoe Bossier City. Those wins awarded him \$12,434 and \$16,201 respectively, a far cry from his six-figure payday at The Lodge Casino. His most recent victory came on the heels of a runner-up finish in the Horseshoe Southern Indiana Main Event earlier this season, a tournament Taylor lost to two-time gold bracelet champion Dan Heimiller.

“I thought I played really well in Southern Indiana, but I didn’t think I played well heads-up,” Taylor said. “It was pretty quick and I didn’t like how I busted out at all. I really took my time [at The Lodge Casino] and thought everything through more.”

Taylor, whose consolation prize was being the Southern Indiana Casino Champion, became the fourth player in National Championship history to qualify multiple times in the same year and the first to do it in 2012-2013. Because he had his seat to the WSOP National Championship already locked up, the seat will now be converted to a 61st at-large bid.

Taylor bested a star-studded final table at The Lodge Casino that included the likes of WSOP gold ring champion and two-time WSOP final tablist Ashly Butler as well as gold ring champion Kevin Eyster. The trio, referred to as “the three-headed monster”, headlined Day 3, beginning the day first, second and third in chips with 11 players remaining. By the time play reached a final table, Eyster’s chip lead was no more and it was all Taylor from then on.

Eyster finished runner-up for \$85,852 while Butler finished eighth for \$16,444.

Other notable in-the-money finishers include Michael Taylor (45th), Jonathan Hilton (30th), David “ODB” Baker (28th), Drazen Ilich (25th), Ting Ho (10th) and Rosie Paules (fifth).

Full results are available on WSOP.com.

The Main Event was the 10th of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at The Lodge Casino. The \$1,675 No-Limit Hold’em tournament attracted 421 entries. The total prize pool came to \$631,500 and the top 45 players were paid.

The tournament featured three starting flights. Flight A began Friday at 11 a.m. with 178 entrants and lasted 12 levels. A total of 54 players bagged.

Flight B began Friday at 7 p.m. and attracted 79 entrants. A total of 22 players bagged this flight.

Flight C began Saturday at 11 a.m. and attracted 150 entrants. A total of 57 players bagged this flight. Registration remained open until the beginning of Day 2 and a total of 14 players registered between the conclusion of Day 1C and the beginning of Day 2.

Day 2 began Sunday at 11 a.m. with 147 players remaining and played down to 11 following 13 levels of play.

Day 3 began at 12 p.m. and the nine-handed final table was up and running by 1:15 p.m. It concluded at about 10 p.m. making the duration of the finale eight hours and 45 minutes including a one-hour and 20-minute dinner break.

(NOTE: final table blinds and antes began at 3,000/10,000/20,000)

Seat 1: Jonathan Taylor – 1,800,000
Seat 2: Jerry Johnson – 462,000
Seat 3: Allan Hedin – 1,106,000
Seat 4: Ashly Butler – 1,200,000
Seat 5: Isaac Kirchner – 490,000

Seat 6: Larry Blazer – 530,000
Seat 7: Kevin Eyster – 1,610,000
Seat 8: Benjamin Kim – 339,000
Seat 9: Rosie Paules – 801,000

About the final table:

1st: Jonathan Taylor - \$138,938
Hometown: Phil Campbell, AL
Occupation: Professional poker player
WSOP Circuit earnings: \$117,533

2nd: Kevin Eyster - \$85,852
Hometown: Lafayette, LA
Occupation: Professional poker player
WSOP Circuit earnings: \$38,958

3rd: Allan Hedin - \$62,733
Hometown: Evergreen, CO
Occupation: Professional gambler
WSOP Circuit earnings: \$5,453

4th: Jerry Johnson - \$46,579
Hometown: Aurora, CO
Occupation: Service technician
WSOP Circuit earnings: \$1,914

5th: Rosie Paules - \$35,124
Hometown: Torrington, WY
WSOP Circuit earnings: \$0

6th: Benjamin Kim - \$26,883
Hometown: Denver, CO
Occupation: College professor
WSOP Circuit earnings: \$0

7th: Larry Blazer - \$20,877
Hometown: Henderson, CO
Occupation: Auto mechanic/shop owner
WSOP Circuit earnings: \$0

8th: Ashly Butler - \$16,444
Hometown: New Orleans, LA
Occupation: Professional poker players
WSOP Circuit earnings: \$25,415
WSOP earnings: \$134,595

9th: Isaac Kirchner - \$13,135
Hometown: Denver, CO
Occupation: Engineer

WSOP Circuit earnings: \$0

WSOP earnings: \$42,534

Notes on the event:

- Bryan Campanello needed a fifth-place finish or better to earn Casino Champion honors. He finished 11th for \$10,634.
- Ting Ho finished 10th, narrowly missing the final table and leaving Rosie Paules as the lone female of the bunch. Paules finished fifth for \$35,124. She is the fifth woman this year to final table a Circuit Main Event.
- Jonathan Taylor is the fourth person to win a record-tying three rings in a single Circuit season. He joins the ranks of Men Nguyen, Kyle Cartwright, and Michael Rosenbach.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from The Lodge Casino:

EVENT #1: Bryan Campanello defeated 301 players (\$365 NLH) for \$21,223

EVENT #2: Jonathan Alfonso defeated 272 players (\$365 NLH) for \$19,586

EVENT #3: Mitch Schock defeated 516 players (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$33,284

EVENT #4: Ryan Lenaghan defeated 219 players (\$365 NLH) for \$16,426

EVENT #5: Chris Parsons defeated 188 players (\$365 NLH) for \$14,661

EVENT #6: Eric Varnado defeated 148 players (\$365 Limit O8) for \$12,434

EVENT #7: Jason Tulloss defeated 196 players (\$365 NLH) for \$15,289

EVENT #8: Ray Henson defeated 215 players (\$365 NLH) for \$16,128

EVENT #9: Michael Sanders defeated 187 players (\$580 NLH) for \$24,312

MAIN EVENT: Jonathan Taylor defeated 421 players (\$1,675 NLH) for \$138,938

EVENT #11: Allen Kessler defeated 149 players (\$580 NLH) for \$20,859

EVENT #12: Steven Cohen defeated 145 players (\$356 NLH Turbo) for \$12,181

With the conclusion of the Main Event the 2012-2013 WSOP Circuit series at The Lodge Casino is over. WSOP Circuit Action starts up again at Foxwoods Resort and Casino March 27.

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:

Lukas M. Willems (WSOP Media Coordinator) at lukasmwillems@gmail.com.