

**2013/2014 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 10
IP Casino Resort and Spa
Biloxi, MS
Event #11
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 96
Prize Pool: \$28,800
September 15-16, 2013**



Russ Head Earns Gold for his Mother

Four of the nine final tablists registered Event 11 after busting Day 2 of the Main Event.

Biloxi, MS (September 16, 2013) — Russ Head thought better of heading home after coming up dry in both Main Event starting flights. He hadn't had fun like he usually does when he plays the game he loves and vowed to give the WSOP Circuit at IP Biloxi one more shot. That final shot came in the form of late registering for Event 11, a \$365 No-Limit Hold'em tournament.

"I called my wife and said I was going to stick around and play one more event," Head said. "I said I was just going to have fun. I came over to my first table and told everyone I had a run of bad luck and was just here to have fun – and we did. Every table I was at was great. The final table especially, we had a great time."

It's no secret Head's biased. Everyone knows earning \$8,638 and a WSOP Circuit gold ring is more fun than busting on the bubble or having your aces cracked by kings. For Head though, it wasn't about the money and the gold ring was symbolic of something much greater than a tournament victory.

"I lost my mom a couple years ago, and this is for her," Head said holding back tears.

Head's mother passed away about two-and-a-half years ago following a bout with cancer. He stopped playing cards to be by her side and she told him if he had dreams and aspirations he needs to go get them and enjoy life.

His mother passed away a short time later and Head turned his life around, losing almost 60 pounds and taking back to the felt.

"[Poker] gets my mind off stuff," Head said. "I'm able to relax and have fun. I'm able to not think about anything but the game and the competitors. It's the game I love."

As far as the dreams and aspirations his mother referenced, "that's it right there," Head said pointing to his newest piece of gold jewelry.

Head outlasted a final table with four players who less than 24 hours earlier, busted Day 2 of the Main Event and late registered into the \$365 tournament. Head never made it to Day 2 in the

championship, but if it's any consolation he outlasted Kip Jones (8th), Brian Swafford (7th), Roger Morris (3rd) and bested Arthur Pro heads-up, all of who did.

Head is a 41-year-old business owner from Rome, GA. He is married with one daughter.

Event 11 was the 11th of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the IP Casino Resort and Spa. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em event attracted 96 entries. The total prize pool came to \$28,800 and the top 12 players were paid.

Day 1 began Sunday at 12 p.m. and lasted 15 levels. The final table was reached with 20 minutes to go in level 15 and the players voted to play the remainder of the level. Cynthia Ratliff was eliminated during the final 20 minutes of Day 1 play.

Day 2 began Monday at 1 p.m. with eight players remaining. Play finished at about 4:30 p.m. making the total duration of the final table three hours and 50 minutes.

Notes on the Event

- Four of the eight final table participants late registered the event following being eliminated from Day 2 of the Main Event – Kip Jones (8th), Brian Swafford (7th), Roger Morris (3rd) and Arthur Pro (2nd).
- Pro placed second in the 2013 WSOP \$5,000 No-Limit Hold'em event for \$489,451.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during IP Biloxi's twelve combined gold ring tournaments will earn the title Casino Champion and receive automatic entry into the WSOP National Championship to take place at Caesars Atlantic City this spring.

All players who cash in ring events receive points that apply toward the Casino Champion's race and the season-long race to claim one of 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 IP Biloxi:

EVENT #1: James Pomranky defeated 220 players (\$365 NLH) for \$16,502
EVENT #2: Robert Irby defeated 193 players (\$365 NLH One-Day) for \$15,056
EVENT #3: Tam Nguyen defeated 571 players (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$35,978
EVENT #4: Andrew Kattner defeated 127 players (\$365 NLH) for \$10,668
EVENT #5: Ylon Schwartz defeated 154 players (\$365 NLH) for \$12,474
EVENT #6: Nolan Burton defeated 159 players (\$365 NLH Six-Handed) for \$12,877
EVENT #7: Joshua Evans defeated 65 players (\$365 PLO) for \$6,825
EVENT #8: Jin Lee defeated 169 players (\$365 NLH) for \$13,689
EVENT #9: Richard "Vince" Tenhet defeated 168 players (\$365 NLH) for \$13,609
THE MAIN EVENT: TBD
EVENT #11: Russ Head defeated 96 players (\$365 NLH) for \$8,638
EVENT #12: TBD

With the 11th tournament wrapped, one more ring event remains at IP Biloxi.

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

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