Samuel Panzica Earns Second Ring of Cincinnati Series

21-year-old boasts three gold rings, each won in a different poker variation.

Most recent victory earns Panzica $21,538 and Casino Championship points lead.

Cincinnati, OH (September 27, 2013) — Samuel Panzica did it again at Horseshoe Cincinnati winning his second gold ring of the 12-day series in the $365 Pot-Limit Omaha with Re-Buys tournament Friday night. The victory marks the third for the 21-year-old professional, each of which came in a different variation of poker.

In addition to $21,538 the win was good for an additional 50 points toward the Casino Championship giving him the current lead in the clubhouse.

Panzica earned his first ring in a $580 No-Limit Hold'em tournament at Choctaw Resort in January of this year at just 20 years old. He followed up that performance by earning Casino Champion honors at West Palm Beach and turned 21 in time for last spring's WSOP National Championship – a tournament he finished 16th in.

Panzica's most recent successes came in Ohio at the state's first major tournament series. He earned his second ring earlier this week in a $580 Limit Omaha Eight tournament and parlayed his hot streak into a third victory Friday night.

"I've enjoyed winning each time," Panzica said. "This time was more fun [than a few days ago] because it wasn't limit."

If winning twice in four days wasn't already impressive enough, making the feat even more unbelievable is the fact Panzica admitted he doesn't put much effort into learning non-hold'em games.

"I don't really play non-hold'em very often. If I play it's mostly pot-limit Omaha, but that's about it," Panzica said.

Believe it or not, the win gets more impressive when you take a step back and profile the final table. Among the event's final nine were three gold ring holders including six-time winner Ari Engel and gold bracelet winner Bryan Campanello.

Campanello began the day second-to-last in chips and was the first player to hit the rail, finishing ninth. Engel, on the other hand, began the day second in chips, but couldn't get anything going. He exited sixth, coming up short of a record-tying seventh gold ring.

At the end of the day, the Event 8 headline belonged to Panzica.

When the WSOP approached him for a winner shot and post-ring interview, he requested they be pushed back so he could late register the Main Event. The WSOP obliged and Panzica returned 20 minutes later more than willing to do a quick sitdown after doubling his 20,000-chip starting stack after only one hand in the Main Event.

"Just another day at the office," Panzica said unable to hold back a smile.

Event 8 was the eighth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Horseshoe Cincinnati. The $365 Pot-Limit Omaha with Re-Buys tournament attracted 94 players generating 436 re-buys. The total prize pool came to $71,800 and the top 12 players were paid.

Day 1 began Thursday at 12 p.m. and lasted until a final table was reached. Day 2 started Friday at 2 p.m. with nine players remaining. The nine-handed final table concluded shortly after 6 p.m.

Notes on the Event

- The 2013/2014 WSOP Circuit at Horseshoe Cincinnati marks the first major tournament series to take place in Ohio.
- Re-buys breakdown:
    - 4.64 per person
    - 3.63 per minute
    - One re-buy every 16.53 seconds
    - $828.83 average investment per player

The player who accumulates the most overall points during Horseshoe Cincinnati'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 50 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 Horseshoe Cincinnati:

EVENT #1: Caufman Talley defeated 308 players ($365 NLH) for $21,716
EVENT #2: Jason Hill defeated 1,106 players ($365 NLH Re-Entry) for $60,554
EVENT #3: Samuel Panzica defeated 148 players ($365 Limit O8) for $12,434
EVENT #4: Chris Parsons defeated 196 players ($365 NLH) for $15,289
EVENT #5: Darren Rabinowitz defeated 138 players ($365 NLH Six-Handed) for $19,664
EVENT #6: Chris Karambinis defeated 106 players ($365 PLO Triple Chance) for $15,902
EVENT #7: Robert Edelstein defeated 163 players ($580 NLH) for $22,008
EVENT #8: Samuel Panzica defeated 94 players ($365 PLO with $100 Re-Buys) for $21,538

With the eighth tournament wrapped, four more ring events remain at Horseshoe Cincinnati.

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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About Horseshoe Casino Cincinnati:

Rock Gaming LLC and Caesars Entertainment Corporation have developed a $400 million full-service casino in downtown Cincinnati. Horseshoe Casino Cincinnati, which opened in March 2013, is expected to attract nearly six million visits to downtown annually. The urban casino includes three outward facing restaurants to engage pedestrians and support existing businesses, cultural, nightlife and sports attractions downtown. Horseshoe Cincinnati employs 1,700 team members and features 2,000 slot machines, 87 table games, and a World Series of Poker room, along with a feature bar, a quick-casual eatery and a buffet restaurant. The casino also has partnerships with 10 local restaurants and 10 local hotels. During construction the development created more than 2,000 construction jobs. For more information please visit www.HorseshoeCincinnati.com.