



**2013/2014 World Series of Poker Circuit
Caesars Palace Las Vegas
Event #9
No Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$365
Total Entries: 438
Total Prize Pool: \$131,400
Tournament Dates: February 27th - February 28th**

Ring event becomes a battle of Texas small town poker superiority as lifelong friends duked it out for the title.

Las Vegas, NV (February 28, 2014)

Bangs, Texas is certainly not a big town. At just 1,600 people, it is, in fact, rather small. Like many small Texas towns though, Bangs is filled with the kinds of small town personalities that go...well...bang.

To put the field of Event 9 of the Caesars Palace Circuit event in context, its 438 entries would comprise over 25% of Bangs, Texas. Yet, from this large field we had not one, but two player from Bangs in the final four of the event.

It shouldn't come as much surprise that these two residents of Bangs knew one another. One is basically a local celebrity, as he is the mayor, but even if Eric Bishop wasn't the mayor, Chris Louviere would still be pretty familiar with, as they are best friends.

They are also poker and travel buddies who made the decision to hit the tournament circuit a few months ago after some success at a Heartland Poker Tour event. First it was Bishop who made the final table of one of their events. Louviere quickly one-upped him though, winning an HPT event in Iowa.

Louviere made the debate of who the best poker player in Bangs is pretty unnecessary yesterday after he went on to win Event 9, the ring, and a more than \$28,000 payday, while his friend Bishop had to settle for fourth.

"He is the best player in town," Bishop says of his friend. "For now."

Even though it was Louviere who prevailed, the victory was one celebrated by both players, who have been supporting each other through their poker quest. For example, Bishop was the one who convinced Louviere to even come to Vegas. Louviere does not like to fly and they tend to only play in events they can drive to and from, but Bishop talked him into boarding the plane for Sin City.

As Louviere explains it, Bishop also helps him with some aspects of his game he admits could use improving, like bankroll management and tournament selection. When asked about his victory, Louviere graciously gave much of the credit to his friend, even though they play like bitter rivals against each other at the tables.

So, the Event 9 victory may belong to Louviere, but really, this ring win and \$28,000 is about a small Texas town and two good friends making a bang...or should we say Bangs?...on the Circuit.

Notes on the Event

-Ninth place finisher Larry Wells becomes the latest player to make multiple final tables this Circuit series.

-Even though this event took place in Nevada, five of the nine final tablists hailed from the state of Texas.

With his win, Christopher Louviere earns 50 points towards the Casino Champion contest. The current frontrunner is ring winner Sal Musto, who leads with 70 points midway-through the series. The player who earns the most Circuit points over the course of twelve-day series earns the title Casino Champion as well as an automatic seat into the 2014 National Championship to be held in Atlantic City May 22nd-24th.

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 Caesars Palace Las Vegas so far:

EVENT #1: Sal Musto defeated 432 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$28,514
EVENT #2: Eric Fields defeated 890 entries (\$365 re-entry) for \$52,066
EVENT #3: Daniel Heredi defeated 208 players (\$580 NLHE) for \$27,043
EVENT #4: Daniel Zack defeated 158 players (\$1,125 NLHE) for \$42,662
EVENT #5: Michael Santos defeated 347 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$23,942
EVENT #6: Darren Rabinowitz defeated 378 players (\$365 Six-max) for \$27,216
EVENT #7: Andrew Robinson defeated 317 players (\$580 NLHE) for \$37,247
EVENT #8: Doug Lee defeated 166 players (\$365 PLO) for \$13,444
EVENT #9: Chris Louviere defeated 438 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$28,906

There are still three more gold ring events before the WSOP Circuit at Caesars Palace Las Vegas concludes on March 3rd.

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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