

## **2013/2014 World Series of Poker Circuit**

**Season 10**

**Harrah's New Orleans**

**New Orleans, LA**

**Event #11**

**No Limit Hold'em Main Event Championship**

**Buy-In: \$1,675**

**Total Entries: 557**

**Prize Pool: \$835,500**

**May 16-19, 2014**



## **Bryan Campanello Wins The Harrah's New Orleans Main Event**

### **WSOP Bracelet Holder Adds Third Circuit Ring to Poker Resume**

**New Orleans, LA (May 19, 2014)** -- After winning his third ring in the Harrah's New Orleans Main Event, Bryan Campanello said, "It feels good! I'm tired...we played heads-up for, like, four hours, a really long time. Winning these mains is insane. There's so many people, 557 entrants here. I had a chance at Choctaw to do it a year and a half ago...to get the opportunity to finally close the deal and sneak my way into the National Championship as, literally, the last person in, feels pretty awesome to manage to do that. Sometimes things just fall your way and this week they happened to do that, so it's really cool."

After a roller-coaster heads up match, Bryan Campanello was crowned the victor in the 2013/2014 World Series of Poker Harrah's New Orleans Circuit Main Event. For his championship win, Campanello was awarded his third gold Circuit ring, a seat to this week's National Championship, and \$175,459 in first-place prize money.

Despite beginning heads up play against Gary Friedlander with a slight chip advantage, Campanello was unable to gain any ground early. Things looked bleak for a moment, then Campanello found a double up and battled on. The chip lead changed hands several times over the course of the roughly four-hour heads up match with Campanello all in and at risk for his tournament life three separate times. The third time was the charm, however, as from there he was able chip away at Friedlander's remaining stack. On the final hand, Campanello's pocket Queens held up against Friedlander's Queen-Jack after a pre-flop all in. Friedlander collected \$108,523 for second place.

The final day began with 10 players returning for the unofficial final table of the Main Event. John Parten became the final table bubble boy when he fell by Campanello's hand on just the second hand of the day. From there, the official final table of nine was set. Thanks to Parten's early elimination, start-of-day short stack Fadi Massaad earned himself a pay jump. Despite a double up in the first orbit, Massaad could not gain any further footing and was eliminated in ninth place.

Agustin Berumen was the next player to fall. Berumen got the last of his money in with pocket fours against The Lodge Casino Main Event champion Eric Blair's pocket tens. The tens held through the community cards and Berumen made his way toward the rail. The eliminations continued at a rapid pace after that with James Henson falling in seventh place and John Kloch in sixth.

Coming into the day, Blair looked to become the first ever back-to-back Circuit Main Event winner. That dream was dashed before the day's end, however, as Blair fell to eventual champion Campanello. In Blair's final hand, he called all in for his tournament life with pocket Tens against a four-bet ship from Campanello. Campanello rolled over A4 offsuit, paired his ace on the flop, and eliminated Blair in fifth place for \$44,037.

Danny Doucet was the next player to feel Campanello's wrath. Doucet moved all in preflop with ace-deuce and found a call from Campanello's pocket eights. The board ran out clean, sending Doucet to the rail. A few hands later, Gary Friedlander eliminated Alan Ramkhalawan in third place and was left to face a WSOP bracelet winner in heads up play.

A bracelet and three rings is a lot of WSOP hardware for a 22 year old. Campanello explained how he got started: "I was the last year of the Moneymaker effect. The kids who were 13 and old enough to understand there was a game and learn how to play it, but not old enough to play online. We played home games and stuff like that and had fun. I really enjoy games and really hate normal life, so I had to find something that I could do where I could play a game. Luckily poker stuck."

About how he became so good, so fast, Campanello says, "The easiest way to learn poker is to just keep trying things and if they work, then keep doing them and if they don't work, then figure out what else does. Watching people who are better than you and learning also helps."

Campanello is headed straight to Atlantic City for the National Championship, which begins on Thursday. Then he's headed for Las Vegas. "I'm playing something like 37 tournaments this summer, so the plan is to win a bracelet. Once you get a taste of winning the WSOP bracelet -- I now get why Hellmuth's crazy. I understand it now. You get the taste and I want that again...I just want another one of those."

The Main Event, officially Event 11, was a three-day \$1,500 (+\$175) No Limit Hold'em tournament, which fielded 557 entrants over two starting days. Flight A on Friday saw 252 players and Flight B on Saturday drew 305 players. The total prize pool came to \$835,500 and the top 63 finishers were paid.

Some of the notables who cashed include four-time ring winner Maurice Hawkins (63rd), Juan Mendoza (62nd), Joseph Morneau (58th), Andrew Spears (57th), Seneca Easley (56th), Abraham Araya (44th), Rex Clinkscales (40th), Joshua Williams (36th), WSOP bracelet winner Larry Wright (30th), Charles "Woody" Moore (24th), Ting Ho (22nd), Ashly Butler (21st), and Joe Hebda (20th).

Only 51 players advanced from Flight A and only 60 advanced from Flight B, bringing 111 players back for Day 2 -- only 20% of the starting field -- on Sunday. At the end of Day 2, only ten players remained to return for the final day on Monday. The 10th place finisher, John Parten, hit the rail about 5 minutes into Day 3, so the official final table began at about 12:05 pm CDT Monday.

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The nine finalists and their chips counts were as follows (blinds began at 15,000/30,000/5,000 ante):

SEAT 1: John Kloch - 700,000  
SEAT 2: Danny Doucet - 1,210,000  
SEAT 3: Bryan Campanello - 3,770,000  
SEAT 4: Agustin Berumen - 845,000  
SEAT 5: Fadi Massaad - 155,000  
SEAT 6: Eric Blair - 1,000,000  
SEAT 7: Alan Ramkhalawan - 650,000  
SEAT 8: Gary Friedlander - 1,945,000  
SEAT 9: James Henson - 625,000

The final table included one former WSOP gold bracelet winner (Bryan Campanello) and four former WSOP Circuit gold ring winners (Bryan Campanello, Danny Doucet, Eric Blair, and James Henson). The final table began shortly after 12 noon CDT Monday and concluded shortly after 7pm, making the total duration about 7 hours.

### **About the Final Table:**

1st: Bryan Campanello - \$175,459  
Hometown: Southlake, TX  
Age: 22  
Occupation: Poker Pro  
Circuit Earnings: \$169,014 including 2 final tables and 2 rings  
WSOP Earnings: \$185,436 including 1 bracelet

2nd: Gary Friedlander - \$108,523  
Hometown: Bellaire, TX  
Age: 57  
Occupation: Supermarket Owner  
Circuit Earnings: \$175,076  
WSOP Earnings: \$146,701 including 3 Main Event cashes

3rd: Alan Ramkhalawan - \$79,356  
Hometown: Tampa, FL  
Age: 33  
Occupation: Pharmacist  
Circuit Earnings: \$17,424 including 2 final tables

4th: Danny Doucet - \$58,886  
Hometown: Opelousas, LA  
Age: 58  
Occupation: Poker Pro/ Former Small Business Owner  
Circuit Earnings: \$75,459 including 3 final tables and 1 ring

5th: Eric Blair - \$44,307  
Hometown: Las Vegas, NV  
Age: 28

Occupation: Poker Pro  
Circuit Earnings: \$127,672 including 1 ring  
WSOP Earnings: \$239,933 including 3rd in 2013 SixMax

6th: John Kloch - \$33,796  
Hometown: Rochester, NY  
Age: 36  
Occupation: Construction  
Circuit Earnings: \$0

7th: James Henson - \$26,134  
Hometown: Lake Jackson, TX  
Age: 56  
Occupation: Orthodontist  
Circuit Earnings: \$163,566, including 5 final tables and 2 rings

8th: Agustin Berumen - \$20,486  
Hometown: San Antonio, TX  
Age: 36  
Occupation: Accountant  
Circuit Earnings: \$0

9th: Fadi Massaad - \$16,276  
Hometown: Austin, TX  
Age: 30  
Occupation: Poker pro  
Circuit Earnings: \$24,341

Full results are available on WSOP.com.

### **Additional Notes on the Final Table:**

- Bryan Campanello won his WSOP bracelet in 2013 playing Seven Card Razz.
- Eric Blair won the last two tournaments he registered before this event including the Circuit Main Event at the Lodge earlier this month. He was hoping to be the first ever back-to-back Circuit Main Winner.
- John Kloch, who recorded his first Circuit cash of any kind in this event, won his entry to this event playing a home game tournament with eight of his friends.

The player who accumulated the most overall points during Harrah's New Orleans twelve gold ring tournaments earned the title Casino Champion and received automatic entry into the WSOP National Championship to take place at Bally's Atlantic City May 22-24, 2014. Tim West locked up the title with his 16th place finish in the main event, earning 20 points and bringing his series total to 100.

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. This is the final stop of the season and all the at-large qualifiers will be determined by the conclusion of this series.

More information on the points system is available on [WSOP.com](http://WSOP.com).

Here is the list of gold ring winners from Harrah's New Orleans:

EVENT #1: Louis George defeated 281 players (\$365 NLH) earning \$20,233  
EVENT #2: Larry Hirons defeated 332 players (\$365 NLH) earning \$22,909  
EVENT #3: David Nicholson defeated 116 players (\$365 PLO) earning \$10,441  
EVENT #4: Austin Apicella defeated 698 players (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) earning \$42,933  
EVENT #5: Matthew Batoon defeated 229 players (\$365 NLH) earning \$17,174  
EVENT #6: Justin Booth defeated 272 players (\$365 NLH) earning \$19,586  
EVENT #7: Jonathan Hart defeated 266 players (\$365 SixMax NLH) earning \$21,144  
EVENT #8: Tim West defeated 302 players (\$365 NLH) earning \$21,291  
EVENT #9: Jason Potter defeated 247 players (\$365 Turbo NLH) earning \$18,156  
EVENT #10: Arthur Boatman defeated 191 players (\$1,125 NLH) earning \$49,665  
MAIN EVENT (EVENT #11:) Bryan Campanello defeated 558 players (\$1,675 NLH) earning \$175,459  
EVENT #12: Wayne Lovell defeated 210 players (\$365 NLH) earning \$16,380

Event 12 concludes the final stop on 2013/2014 WSOP Circuit. Then it is off to Bally's in Atlantic City for the National Championship, May 22-24, where 100 qualifiers will vie for the first WSOP bracelet awarded in 2014 and a share of the \$1 Million prize pool.

For more information about the World Series of Poker Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter @WSOP or check out [WSOP.com](http://WSOP.com).

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