

## **2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit**

**Season 11**

**IP Casino Resort and Spa**

**Biloxi, Miss.**

**Event #9**

**No-Limit Hold'em**

**Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)**

**Total Entries: 164**

**Prize Pool: \$49,200**

**September 11-12, 2014**



## **Pete Lawson Lays Down the Law in Event 9**

**Cash-game pro returns to the tournament grind with early success. Lawson bests Sean Small and Jason Mayfield three handed to earn \$13,284 and his first ring.**

**Biloxi, Miss. (September 12, 2014)** — Pete Lawson earned his first gold ring at IP Biloxi Friday night in Event 9, a \$365 no-limit hold'em tournament. A Southern California cash-game pro, Lawson came out on top of a 164-player field that saw three-time ring winner Jessie Bryant (14th), Russ Head (11th) and Jason Schwartz (fourth) make deep runs.

The tournament was a test from the start, but the three-handed battle between Lawson, Sean Small and Jason Mayfield proved to be the most difficult stretch of his journey.

“Both the guys were playing pretty much mistake free poker,” Lawson said of Small and Mayfield. “By far I was the most aggressive at the table but I still felt like it had to be either a coin flip situation or just me picking up a monster to knock them out. They were both playing incredibly solid.”

Lawson’s shot at a coin flip against the two talents came when Small opened the button for his remaining stack. Lawson, the chip leader, was next to act. He looked down at pocket eights and proceeded to three-bet all in. Mayfield followed suit committing his stack and the at-risk players needed help heading to the flop.

Small held king-jack while Mayfield tabled ace-king. It was Lawson who was in the lead with pocket eights and the dealer burned the top card.

“I faded them. Six-high board,” Lawson said of the runout.

Mayfield held the larger stack between him and Small, and thus, Small placed third and Mayfield second.

“It feels amazing,” Lawson said. “It feels really good to play a field with some great players and feel good about my play. It’s an amazing feeling, it really is.”

The final table of Event 9 ran alongside Day 1A of the Main Event. Lawson’s three-handed marathon against Small and Mayfield stretched deep into the late levels of the opening flight, and thus, his shot at another talented field will have to wait until tomorrow’s Day 1B.

“My expectations are to put forth my best effort like it’s always been with tournament poker,” Lawson said of his hopes for the Main Event. “I’m going to shoot for the win but if it doesn’t happen I get solace in the fact that if I put forth my best foot I’ll still feel good the next tournament.”

Event 9 was the ninth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at IP Biloxi. The \$365 no-limit hold’em event attracted 164 players. The total prize pool came to \$49,200 and the top 18 players were paid.

Day 1 began Thursday, September 11 at 12 p.m. and lasted 18 levels. Play restarted the following day at 3 p.m. with seven players remaining. Action concluded at 7:15 p.m. making the total duration of the event about 16 hours.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from IP Biloxi:

EVENT #1: Mark Fink defeated 125 players (\$365 NLH) for \$10,500  
EVENT #2: Tony Gray defeated 153 players (\$365 NLH Turbo) for \$12,391  
EVENT #3: John Holley defeated 631 entries (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$38,813  
EVENT #4: Josh Reichard defeated 119 players (\$365 NLH) for \$10,709  
EVENT #5: Valentin Vornicu defeated 151 players (\$365 NLH) for \$12,231  
EVENT #6: Michael Prock defeated 74 players (\$365 PLO) for \$7,548  
EVENT #7: Rodney Sermons defeated 138 players (\$365 NLH Six Handed) for \$11,799  
EVENT #8: Daniel Lowery defeated 143 players (\$365 NLH) for \$12,014  
EVENT #9: Pete Lawson defeated 164 players (\$365 NLH) for \$13,284

The player who accumulates the most overall points during IP Biloxi’s 12 combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP National Championship set to take place this spring at a yet-to-be-determined location.

All players who cash in ring events receive points that apply toward the Casino Championship race and the season-long race to claim one of 56 expected 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](http://WSOP.com).

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

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