

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

**Season 11**

**Horseshoe Casino**

**Hammond, Ind.**

**Event #2**

**No-Limit Hold'em**

**Buy-In: \$500 (+\$80)**

**Total Entries: 383**

**Prize Pool: \$191,500**

**October 18-19, 2014**



### **John Peterson Victorious in Hammond \$580 Event**

**Former online pro turned nine-to-five grinder finds success on the live felt. Arlington Heights, Ill. resident bests 383 in his first live score, earns \$42,122 and a gold ring.**

**Hammond, Ind. (October 19, 2014)** — Like many on the live Circuit these days, Arlington Heights, Ill. resident John Peterson worked as an online poker professional prior to the events of Black Friday. Unlike many though, he's embraced poker as a hobby in the years since his profession was robbed from him and instead turned to his family's roofing company and the "nine-to-five grind" as he described it.

"[I'm] not a big gambler," Peterson said. "I work for a family roofing company. Most of my time is spent grinding work – the nine to five job. Now [poker is] just a hobby [...] When the opportunity comes, I play."

As many reading this know, once you're a poker player you're always a poker player, and Peterson is no exception. When the Circuit comes to town it marks just the "opportunity" he needs and this year he finagled his work schedule to allow for a free weekend at the Horseshoe.

Now, we're not sure what he makes roofing, but one would think his victory in Event 2, a \$580 tournament that concluded Sunday night, the gold ring and \$41,122 score that came along with it more than covered the couple day's wages he missed at the office.

"It [feels] just like it did back in the day," the former online pro said following his win. "It's unbelievable. Words can't describe it. It's the best – my first live score. I never played a lot live so it feels great. It puts some legitimacy on what we do."

Peterson picked a heck of a time to breakthrough on the live stage. He outlasted 383 players including 34-time Circuit casher Dean Schultz (11th) and decorated Wisconsin pro Joe Kuether (10th). He sent player after player to the rail before just one remained – the start-of-day chip leader Zhengyue Cao – and then sent him to the rail, too.

"My buddies play every year," Peterson said of his motivation to attend the 12-day series in Hammond. "I've been out for a couple years, but I have the bankroll so I felt like this was the right time to play some tournies."

Flanked by a handful of his closest friends and family, one couldn't help but think Peterson was right. This was indeed the right time to "play some tournies".

"Words can't explain what they mean to me," he said of his railbirds. "Not only support here, but outside family life. Everything. They're great."

Event 2 was the second of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Horseshoe Hammond. The \$365 no-limit hold'em event attracted 383 players. The total prize pool came to \$191,500 and the top 45 finishers were paid.

The tournament began Saturday at 12 p.m. and Day 1 wrapped following Level 21. Day 2 began Sunday at 2 p.m. with 13 players remaining. It took about one and a half hours to reach the nine-handed final table. Play concluded at 7:30 p.m. making the total duration of the finale four hours.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from Horseshoe Hammond:

EVENT #1: Robert Hankins defeated 1,959 entries (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$92,562

EVENT #2: John Peterson defeated 393 players (\$580 NLH) for \$42,122

The player who accumulates the most overall points during Horseshoe Hammond'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 at [@WSOP](https://twitter.com/WSOP) or check out [WSOP.com](http://WSOP.com).

For additional information please contact:

Lukas M. Willems (WSOP Media Coordinator) at [lukasmwillems@gmail.com](mailto:lukasmwillems@gmail.com).