2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 11 Foxwoods Casino Mashantucket, CT Event #7 No-Limit Hold'em Buy-In: \$310 (+\$55) Total Entries: 144 Prize Pool: \$43,300 May 18, 2015



Baruch Thaler Takes Down His Second WSOP Circuit Ring

Mashantucket, CT (May 19, 2015) — The seventh event at the World Series of Poker Circuit at Foxwoods Casino had 144 entries, creating a \$43,300 prize pool. The tournament started at 11am on May 18th, and by 10:30pm, the unofficial final table had been reached. Baruch Thaler led the final ten with 337,500, but he had WSOP-C ring holder James Campbell with 223,000 to contend with.

James would eventually fall in 4th place when his ace-king failed to out-race Eric Rivkin's pocket tens. Along with James's 2nd place finish in Event #3 and his 11th place finish in Event #5, James has 75 points and was in first place on the Venue Leaderboard when he busted.

Eric held the chip lead entering three handed play, but both Bill Rosen and Baruch took turns holding the chip lead as a series of hands saw each player double up as they played an extra level past the scheduled end of Day 1. When Level 22 concluded, the trio bagged up for the night and would return at 1pm to play down with the winner. Eric held a slight chip lead over Baruch overnight.

Only 10 minutes into play on Day 2, Bill got his short stack in on an ace high flop against Eric. Both players held an ace, but Eric had a better kicker and it held up. Eric held a decent chip lead over Baruch, but Baruch would not go down without a fight. An hour into heads up play, Baruch took the chip lead, and another hour later, the two got into a big pot. The flop read 6c-5c-7d and Eric's Td-7s was leading Baruch's 4s-4h. The turn fell 7c, but the 4c river gave Baruch the winning full house, eliminating his final opponent.

For his win, Baruch Thaler will take home \$12,124 and his second World Series of Poker Circuit ring. When setting up to take the winner photo, Baruch produced his first WSOP-C ring from his pocket, as if he expected he would need it for his photo. He proudly put on both rings for the picture, posing with his friends and asking that that picture be used rather than his solo photos.

Baruch first started playing poker six years ago. "My nephew who's two years younger than me said, 'Let's drive down to A/C to check it out.' I liked that he wasn't playing against machines," Baruch explained. He spent the next year reading books and learning more about the game of poker. "I did read a lot. I did practice." In February, Baruch started seriously traveling the circuit after finally gaining the support and blessing of his parents.

Talking about the future, Baruch wants to "bring [his] poker to the next level. I have a certain goal I want to hit." Asked what kind of goal he has set for himself, Baruch flatly says, "Seven million." Baruch plans to play most of the World Series of Poker this summer.

Hours after James Campbell took the lead on the Venue Leaderboard, Baruch overtook him. While they both have the same amount of points, Baruch's total cashes makes him pull ahead. Luckily for James, Baruch only plans to play one more tournament at Foxwoods Casino. With a handful of other players holding 50 or more points, the race to Casino Champion will be heating up in the next few days.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during Foxwoods Casinos's 12 combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP National Championship. Additionally, all players who cash in ring events earn points that apply toward the season-long race to claim one of 60 expected at-large National Championship bids awarded to the top point earners throughout the season. More information on the points system is available on <u>WSOP.com</u>.

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