

## **2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit**

**Season 12**

**Horseshoe Baltimore**

**Baltimore, MD**

**Event #1**

**No-Limit Hold'em**

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

**Total Entries: 293**

**Prize Pool: \$71,700**

**August 20-21, 2015**



## **Sara Hall Wins First Gold Ring at Horseshoe Baltimore**

**Cleveland cash game grinder scores big in the series' opening event.**

**Baltimore, MD. (August 21, 2015)** — Sara Hall is the champion of Event #1, the \$365 no-limit hold'em event that kicked off the Circuit's second visit to Horseshoe Baltimore. Hall bested a field of 293 players, conquering a fast-paced final table to earn her first gold ring. In addition to the prize money and the jewelry, she earned 50 points and an early lead in the Casino Champion race for this venue.

Hall is a 25-year-old pro from Cleveland, Ohio, though she considers herself primarily a cash game player. Just one year into her live tournament career, however, her record is already starting to claim otherwise. This victory marks Hall's second significant score over the span of the last six weeks. She made it to Day 5 of the \$10,000 Main Event in Las Vegas, before ultimately falling in 233rd place when her pocket aces were cracked by pocket nines. That cash was worth nearly \$35,000, and she added another \$17,925 to her tournament results with this win in Baltimore.

"I just wanted to play my best," Hall said about her mindset entering the final table. "And get lucky," she quickly added.

Hall began the day fifth in chips, but she moved up into the top spot by the time the first break arrived. She was the first player to cross the million-chip mark, thanks in part to a huge double-up with five players left. Hall was the preflop raiser, and Ian Davis three-bet from the big blind. Hall moved all in, and Davis called with the covering stack, putting nearly half the chips in play in the pot. Davis was a slight favorite with pocket jacks, but Hall's ace-queen flopped a queen and rivered two pair to secure her double.

"I kept winning flips," Hall smiled as she recounted the keys to her success at the final table. "That's what you kind of have to do. You've got to raise blinds and win flips, and then you can win a tournament."

Less than two hours after that big chip boost, Hall finished the chore of accumulating all of the remaining chips on the table. She entered heads-up play facing a 3:2 disadvantage against Justin Cooke, but she wasted no time flipping the script. On one of the first hands of the duel, Hall was dealt pocket kings, Cooke was dealt a pair of threes, and all the chips went into the middle before the flop. The board ran out clean, and Hall was suddenly in control of the match.

On the final hand, Hall held pocket fours, and she found a set as a third four appeared on the flop. Cooke was all in and drawing to a gutshot straight, and he added a flush draw to his list of outs on the turn. Hall faded the river, though, improving to a full house to punctuate the victory in style.

Hall credits her brother, William Kopp, for sparking her interest in tournament poker. Kopp is a ring winner in his own right, a former champion of the \$580 re-entry event at Foxwoods (2014). William was on the rail for the duration of this final table, and he was the first one through the ropes to congratulate the new champion. Brother and sister both have rings now.

“I’m just another female poker player. Going for my dream.” Hall finishes her story. “A female poker player with a ring.”

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Event #1 was the first of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Horseshoe Baltimore. The \$365 no-limit hold’em event attracted 293 players. The prizepool was guaranteed to be at least \$50,000, and the field exceeded that with ease, putting a total of \$71,700 up for grabs. The top 24 finishers earned shares of the prizepool.

The tournament began Thursday, August 20 at 11:00 a.m., and the final table was reached shortly after midnight, just before the end of Level 19. Day 2 resumed Friday at 2:00 p.m., and the champion was crowned just after 7:00 p.m., during the early stages of Level 25.

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The player who accumulates the most overall points during Horseshoe Baltimore’s 12 ring events earns the title of Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP Global Casino Championship. Additionally, all players who cash in ring events earn points that apply toward the season-long race to claim one of the limited at-large bids. More information on the points system is available on [WSOP.com](http://WSOP.com).

For more information about the WSOP Circuit, follow us on Twitter at [@WSOP](https://twitter.com/WSOP) or visit [WSOP.com](http://WSOP.com).

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