2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 12 Horseshoe Baltimore Baltimore, MD Event #11 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo Buy-In: \$500 (+\$80) Total Entries: 95 Prize Pool: \$50,000 August 30-31, 2015



## Viet Vo Breaks Through in Event #11

Houston pro bricks the Main Event, then wins his first gold ring one day later.

**Baltimore, MD. (August 31, 2015)** — Viet Vo is the champion of Event #11, the \$580 no-limit hold'em event that began on Sunday at Horseshoe Baltimore. Vo defeated a field of 95 players, finally claiming a gold ring in his fourth career Circuit final table. He also collected \$14,997 in cash, plus 50 points in the race for Casino Champion at this venue.

Vo's path to victory was different from many of the local stories that emerged throughout the course of the 12-day festival. He isn't local. He flew in from Texas just in time to play the Main Event, but things didn't go so well to start the trip.

"I really came for the Main only," he explained. "But I bought in for three bullets, and I got knocked out an hour into Day 2. I saw the other event going, and I just hopped in."

Vo's decision turned out to be a profitable one. Twenty-four hours later, he was sitting alone at the table with all the chips in front of him, admiring his new piece of jewelry.

"I've been wanting a ring or a bracelet my whole career," he said as he posed for photos. "This is pretty special."

Vo's career as a poker pro is relatively young. The former x-ray technician quit his day job just over a year ago to see if he could make it as a full-time player. So far, so good. He finished as the runner-up in last season's Horseshoe Hammond Main Event, kick-starting his journey with a score of almost \$200,000. His full record on the WSOP Circuit includes 11 cashes, \$322,495 in winnings, and now a new gold ring.

Vo began the Event #11 final table with 36 big blinds and a slight chip lead over the second-place stack of Justin Cooke. Two hours later, they were heads-up for the title, and Cooke was working on some larger implications, too. By finishing in the top two spots, he took a temporary lead in

the Casino Champion race, but he was ultimately unable to claim either the ring or the points title. On the final hand, he got his last 30 big blinds into the middle preflop, holding pocket eights. Vo woke up with pocket aces, though, and when the board ran out clean, he was the champion.

"I knew I could outplay them," Vo said after his win. "My gameplan was to play post-flop and not get it all in on a coin flip. I didn't want to get it in preflop," he paused. "Unless I had aces."

Event #11 was the eleventh of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Horseshoe Baltimore. The \$580 event drew a field of 95 players, creating a slight overlay with a \$50,000 guaranteed prizepool. The final 12 players finished in the money.

The tournament began at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, August 30, and play was suspended with eight players remaining at the end of Level 19. Day 2 began at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, August 31, and the last hand was dealt at about 5:00 p.m.

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 <u>WSOP.com</u>.

All rings at Horseshoe Baltimore are furnished by <u>Jostens</u>, the official ring supplier of the 2015-2015 WSOP Circuit season.

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For additional information please contact:

Eric Ramsey (WSOP Media Coordinator) at <u>eric\_ramsey@me.com</u>.