

**2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit  
Season 12  
Bicycle Casino and Hotel  
Los Angeles, CA  
Event #9  
No-Limit Hold'em  
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)  
Total Entries: 120  
Prize Pool: \$36,000  
December 10-11, 2015**



## **Steven Curran Wins Ring in \$365 Turbo No Limit Hold'em**

**46-year-old project manager earns first ring in the series' only turbo event.**

**Los Angeles, CA. (December 11, 2015)** — Steven Curran is by no means a professional poker player, but he played like one on Thursday night. He defeated Massoud Eskandari heads-up to win his first ring and \$10,810 in the \$365 Turbo No Limit Hold'em.

Curran is married with a full-time job as a project manager for Transamerica. He admits that with a family and a job, poker doesn't always get to come first on his list of things to do.

"I try and play once a week," said Curran. "Whenever my wife lets me out. I like to try to play as much as I can."

This is Curran's first significant tournament win of his poker career. Before this, his most notable poker accomplishment was earning a cash in the 2010 WSOP Main Event.

"It's great," he said. "I got very lucky. I was short-stacked a couple times, doubled up a couple times and found a way to get to the end."

When he got to the end, there was one big obstacle that was standing between Curran and his first ring – Massoud Eskandari. Eskandari is a Los Angeles tournament regular with over \$1 million in tournament earnings, including a runner-up finish at the WPT Legends of Poker main event in 2014.

Curran didn't seem phased by what was in his way and sent Eskandari to the rail in just a few hands.

"It was definitely a tough table with some really good players," said Curran of the talent at the final table. "But I got some cards at the end and then held on."

Along with his win, Curran is vaulted into an eight-way tie for third place in the Casino Championship race by earning 50 points. Wendy Freedman currently leads with 75 points and Alan Myerson is on her heels with 60 points. Myerson is the only player at this stop to have multiple cashes and win a ring. Curran is tied with the seven other players who have won a ring.

The winner of that title, along with the winner of the main event earns an automatic bid into the Global Casino Championship (previously called the National Championship).

This is the ninth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Bicycle Casino. The \$365 Turbo No Limit Hold'em attracted 120 players. The total prize pool came to \$36,000. The top 12 finishers were paid.

The tournament began on Thursday, December 10 at 3 p.m. and the unofficial final table of 10 players was reached at just before midnight. The final card was dealt just before 3 a.m., making the total duration of the finale table about 3 hours.

Complete results for this event can be found on [WSOP.com](http://WSOP.com).

Here is the list of gold ring winners from the Bicycle Casino:

EVENT #1: Dave Banerjee defeated 368 players (\$365 NLH Monster Stack) for \$24,265  
EVENT #2: Alan Myerson defeated 140 players (\$365 NLH Bounty) for \$7,830  
EVENT #3: Stuart Pfeifer defeated 1,000 players (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$55,110  
EVENT #4: Dale Beaudoin defeated 153 players (\$365 NLH) for \$12,395  
EVENT #5: Nadim Shabou defeated 115 players (\$580 NLH) for \$17,255  
EVENT #6: Phillip Penn defeated 124 players (\$365 Omaha 8 or Better) for \$10,400  
EVENT #7: Alex Masek defeated 143 players (\$365 NLH) for \$12,000  
EVENT #8: Erkut Yilmaz defeated 81 players (\$1,125 NLH) for \$25,915  
EVENT #9: Steven Curran defeated 120 players (\$365 Turbo NLH) for \$10,810

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Bicycle Casino's 12 combined gold ring tournaments 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 60 expected at-large Global Casino 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).

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