2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit
Bally's Las Vegas
Event #13
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: $365
Total Entries: 174
Total Prize Pool: $52,200
March 6-7, 2016

Cory Waaland Wins 7th Career WSOP Circuit Ring

Waaland wins Event #13 at Bally's Las Vegas for over $14,000

Las Vegas (7 March, 2016) – Cory Waaland won his seventh career WSOP Circuit ring Monday night. He bested a field of 174 players to win Event #13: $365 No-Limit Hold'em for $14,096.

With seven rings, Waaland is now tied for second on the all-time list, along with Ari Engel, Val Vornicu, and Chris Reslock.

Three of Waaland's seven rings have come this season. This ties him for the single-season record, but he feels he has more work to do. About eight months ago, Waaland set a goal for himself: he wanted to break the record for most Circuit rings in a season. The record heading into this season is three. "Initially my goal was to win four," Waaland said. "But I wanted to crush it. I decided I wanted to win six. So the way I look at it, I still need to win three more for this season to be a success."

There are two other players who currently have three rings this season: Cody Pack and Clayton Jiang. Jiang won his third ring of the year less than a week ago here at Bally's. And Pack nearly won his fourth of the season at Bally's, but he fell just short and finished in second place. "I was actually rooting for Cody," Waaland said, despite their ongoing race to break the record. "This poker game is so hard. So anytime someone does well, congrats."

Waaland has come very close to breaking the record already. In addition to his three rings this year, he also has two runner-up finishes, including one here at Bally's. But those close calls may have been a blessing in disguise. "Getting second in those other events is what keeps me hungry." His other motivation comes from his faith. "I give all glory to God," he said after the event.

In the big picture, Waaland expects his Circuit success to be just the tip of the iceberg. "Right now I have Circuit goals. But the Circuit is only a small part of poker." He added that he wants to play bigger events, like WSOP bracelet tournaments, and his Circuit goals will help get him to that point. He cited playing well against some top-notch players in the Main Event at Bally's as a big confidence booster.

The tournament started at noon on Sunday with 174 entries. The top 18 finished in the money. At the end of play on Sunday, seven players remained, led by Mark Lackritz. Cory Waaland was

in second place at the time. Play resumed at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, and Waaland secured his victory at about 5:30.

Full results from the event are available on WSOP.com.

At the conclusion of this event, Cory Waaland takes over the lead in the Casino Champion race. He has three cashes, including one ring victory and one runner-up finish, for a total of 92.5 points. The player who accumulates the most overall points in the twelve gold ring tournaments Bally's Las Vegas earns the title of Casino Champion and receives an automatic entry into the $1 million 2016 WSOP Global Casino Championship. The winner of the Bally's Las Vegas Main Event earns an automatic entry to the Global Casino Championship as well. All players who cash in ring events will receive points that apply to both the Casino Champion race and the season-long race to claim one of the 50 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.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from Bally's Las Vegas so far:

EVENT #1: Long Tran defeated 1,082 entries ($365 No-Limit Hold'em Re-entry) for $55,321.
EVENT #2: Tamer Korman defeated 139 players ($580 No-Limit Hold'em) for $19,459.
EVENT #4: Jeff Dobrin defeated 260 players ($365 No-Limit Hold'em) for $19,110.
EVENT #5: Karen Sarkisyan defeated 113 players ($580 Big O) for $17,516.
EVENT #6: David Aker defeated 198 players ($580 No-Limit Hold'em) for $25,740.
EVENT #7: Richard Mullen defeated 215 players ($365 No-Limit Hold'em) for $16,128.
EVENT #9: Clayton Jiang defeated 253 players ($365 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo) for $18,595.
EVENT #10: Roland Israelashvili defeated 681 players ($365 No-Limit Hold'em Monster Stack) for $41,888.
EVENT #13: Cory Waaland defeated 174 players ($365 No-Limit Hold'em) for $14,096.

When this tournament wrapped up, there were still three events in progress on the final day at the WSOP Circuit at Bally's Las Vegas.

All rings at Bally's Las Vegas are furnished by Jostens, the official ring supplier of the 2015-2016 WSOP Circuit season.

For more information about the World Series of Poker Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter @WSOP or check out WSOP.com.

For additional information please contact:

Robert Kirschen (WSOP.com Managing Editor) @ rkirschen@caesars.com.