2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 12 Harrah's Cherokee Cherokee, N.C. Event #7 No-Limit Hold'em

Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65) Total Entries: 331 Prize Pool: \$99,300 April 19-20, 2016



Joseph Mattingly Wins His Second Ring of the Season

Joseph Mattingly wins his second ring of the season and locks up a spot in the 2016 Global Casino Championship.

Cherokee, N.C. (**April 20, 2016**) -- Joseph Mattingly has won his second gold ring by defeating a 331 player in Event #7 - \$365 No-Limit Hold'em. Last October Mattingly won the opening event at the Horseshoe S. Indiana series for his first gold ring. This victory at Harrah's Cherokee awarded Mattingly \$22,840 and 50 Global Casino Championship points.

Mattingly has played several of the WSOP Circuit series' this season and came to Cherokee to chase points. He entered the series with 110 points on the season and wanted to get to 130 by the end of the season. The 50 points he earned in Event #7 gets Mattingly well above his goal of 130 points and will secure him one of the 51 at-large bids to the 2016 Global Casino Championship. Mattingly min-cashed the re-entry event earlier in the series for 2.5 points, so he now sits at 162.5 points with just one stop reaming after Cherokee. Mattingly had plans to go to New Orleans for the final stop of the season if he was unable to get to his goal of 130 points here at Cherokee, but said now he may skip the series.

Mattingly entered Day 2 10th in chips out of the 13 remaining players. He said that he played a little passive at the beginning of the day to try to avoid an early elimination and make sure he made it to the final table. Mattingly would have ended up with just 10 points if he would have busted short of the final table. Once the tournament was reduced to eight players, Mattingly was able to breathe easy knowing he reached his goal of 130 points on the season and he was able to open up his game and play for the win.

"After I got enough points I just loosened up and let the game come to me a little bit," said Mattingly.

Mattingly is a farmer from Springfield, Kentucky. He said that he is in the process of turning over his business and that has allowed his wife and him more time to travel and allowed him more time to player poker. He cashed at five different stops on the Circuit this year, including both of the Cherokee stops. He intends to play some of the gold bracelet events in Las Vegas this summer, including the senior's event.

This marked Mattingly's 8th cash of the season and fourth final table. This also was Mattingly's largest WSOP cash ever. He was the 10th player this season to win multiple gold rings. Finishing on the final table bubble was Mark Fink, Fink is a four-time gold ring winner who has also won two gold rings this season.

Event #7 was the seventh of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Harrah's Cherokee series. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em tournament attracted 331 players generating a \$99,300 prizepool. The top 36 players were paid.

Day 1 began Tuesday at 11 a.m. and lasted 21 levels. Day 2 began Wednesday at 2 p.m. with 13 players remaining. The tournament concluded at about 7:05 p.m. Tuesday midway through Level 27.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Harrah's Cherokee twelve combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP Global Casino Championship set to take place at the end of the year.

All players who cash in ring events receive points that apply toward the Casino Championship race and the season-long race to claim one of 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 the Harrah's Cherokee series:

EVENT #1: John Mason Jr. defeated 461 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$29,743

EVENT #2: Stan Weiss defeated 3,067 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$158,768

EVENT #3: Mike Bratovich defeated 559 players (\$365 NLHE Turbo) for \$35,224

EVENT #4: Christopher Carey defeated 452 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$29,154

EVENT #5: Kevin Sherrill defeated 431 players (\$365 NLHE 6-max) for \$29,739

EVENT #6: Brandon Allen defeated 187 players (\$580 PLO) for \$24,312

EVENT #7: Joseph Mattingly defeated 331 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$22,840

With seven tournaments wrapped up, only five more ring events remain at the Harrah's Cherokee series.

All rings at the Harrah's Cherokee series are furnished by <u>Jostens</u>, the official ring supplier of the 2015-2016 WSOP Circuit season.

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