

2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 13

Planet Hollywood Casino

Las Vegas, NV

Event #1

No-Limit Hold'em Re-Entry

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

Total Entries: 556

Prize Pool: \$166,800

August 25-29, 2016



Hayden Aalvik Wins \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Re-Entry

Aspiring poker pro nets \$35,026 in his biggest career score and first Circuit ring

Las Vegas, NV (August 29, 2016) — Hayden Aalvik is trying to make the transition from the life of a 9-5 office job into that of a poker.

He is off to a good start after outlasting a field of 556 players to win \$35,026 and his first Circuit ring in the \$365 no-limit hold'em re-entry at Planet Hollywood. In the early hours of Monday morning, Aalvik defeated Ryan Dodson to take home the title.

"I'm ecstatic," said Aalvik. "It's been a tough grind, but this is the biggest score of my life and I'm excited."

Before this score, Aalvik's total career tournament winnings totaled \$18,462. With his win, he has more than tripled his career earnings.

Aalvik isn't completely new to the game, however. He has played lots of hours online and his brother, Davis Aalvik, is a professional poker player with just shy of \$730,000 in career earnings.

"He's a poker pro with numerous six-figure scores," said Aalvik of his brother, Davis. "I'm just trying to follow in his footsteps, really."

Aalvik is heavily educated and has an extensive finance background. After getting his undergraduate degree at Pepperdine University, he worked for KPMG as a tax consultant before getting his MBA at UCLA.

After getting his graduate degree, he moved across the country and took a job in Charlotte. After spending enough time thousands of miles away from his family, he wanted to move back west. He recently moved in with Davis here in Las Vegas and is going to give playing poker a shot.

"He has shown me some pointers," he said. "I've played a million hours online so I pretty much know what's going on, but he's an MIT graduate and a super math genius."

Aside from putting him up in Las Vegas, Davis also supported Hayden throughout the entire final table. He was on the rail for the duration of it and was there to celebrate Hayden's victory.

At the end of the day, the score is going to help Aalvik pursue his dream of playing professionally.

"I just wanted to be near family and play poker for a little while," he said. "So this is going to help me build a bankroll and give it a shot."

In his short time here at Planet Hollywood, Aalvik has had plenty of success. He parlayed his win in a nightly tournament to buy into this event.

"I was going to play anyway," said Aalvik. "But it's nice to be two-for-two here."

Along with the money and the ring, Aalvik picked up 50 points in the Casino Champion race, which puts him atop the leaderboard for the time being.

This was the first of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Planet Hollywood. The \$365 no-limit hold'em re-entry event attracted 556 players. The total prize pool came to \$116,800 and the top 63 finishers were paid.

The first of five starting flights started on Thursday, August 25 at 11:00 a.m. There were three days of starting flights and Day 2 got underway on Sunday August 28 at 12:30 p.m. with 82 players. The final table was reached around 8:00 p.m. and Aalvik had won the ring around 1:30 a.m. The entire duration of the final table lasted about 5.5 hours.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from Planet Hollywood:

EVENT #1: Hayden Aalvik defeated 556 players (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$35,026

The player who accumulates the most overall points during Planet Hollywood's 12 combined gold ring tournaments earns the title 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 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.

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.

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