

2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 13
Potawatomi
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Event #4
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 179
Prize Pool: \$53,700
Feb. 6-7, 2016



Leon Gao Wins Event #4 at Potawatomi

Leon Gao scores his first career WSOP ring and first WSOP cash.

MILWAUKEE (February 7, 2017) -- Leon Gao has just won Event #4: \$365 No-Limit [Hold'em](#) for \$14,500. He defeated a 179-player field to secure the gold ring and his first career WSOP cash.

"It feels good. I took the whole week off just for the series and I really wanted to win one ring," said Gao.

He has been hitting the felt hard so far this series and has played in three of the first four events. He busted twice in the re-entry event and fell short of the money again in Event #2: \$580 No-Limit Hold'em.

Gao said that his sleep schedule was a little off since he normally sleeps in the mornings and gets up in the afternoons. Now that the series is a few days in he has managed to get on a better sleep schedule for the tournaments.

"This was the first one that I was actually kind of rested and well prepared for," said Gao.

Gao was in the United Kingdom last year for nine months for business. There he spent a lot of his free time playing poker tournaments online and improving his game. He said that the fields online are really tough and he lost \$4,000 playing, but he [learned](#) a lot and it made him a much better player.

"I played roughly four to six tournaments a day," said Gao.

Besides playing online, Gao played in a few live tournaments while in Europe. He said he cashed in two smaller events, but failed to ever make the money in some of the bigger ones he played in.

Gao lives in Dodgeville, Wisconsin. He travels the two hours to play at Potawatomi on the weekends about three times a month. However, for the series he plans on staying through the whole week and next weekend to continue playing in more events.

Event #4 was the fourth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Potawatomi. The \$365 no-limit hold'em tournament attracted 179 players generating a \$53,700 prize pool. The top 18 players were paid.

Day 1 began Monday at 11 a.m. and lasted 21 levels. Day 2 began Tuesday at 2 p.m. with six players remaining. The tournament ended at about 3:30 p.m. near the end of Level 22.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Potawatomi twelve combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry in the WSOP Global Casino Championship set to take place at the end of the season.

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 Potawatomi series:

EVENT #1: Ty Veras defeated 1,272 players (\$365 NLHE Re-Entry) for \$67,726
EVENT #2: Yousef Anbar defeated 235 players (\$580 NLHE) for \$29,371
EVENT #3: Winston Ackerman defeated 324 players (\$365 NLHE 30-minute) for \$22,842
EVENT #4: Leon Gao defeated 179 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$14,500

With four tournaments wrapped up, eight more ring events remain at the Potawatomi series.

All rings at the Potawatomi series are furnished by Jostens, the official ring supplier of the 2016-2017 WSOP Circuit season.

For more information about the World Series of Poker Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter [@WSOP](https://twitter.com/WSOP) or check out WSOP.com.

For additional information please contact:

Isaac Hanson (WSOP Media Coordinator) at ijhanson13@gmail.com.