

**2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit  
Season 13  
IP Casino Resort & Spa  
Biloxi, Mississippi  
Event #5  
No-Limit Hold'em  
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)  
Total Entries: 127  
Prize Pool: \$38,100  
September 12, 2016**



## **Nate Bandy Crushes the Competition for First Gold Ring**

**Former football player, Nate Bandy, cruises through a field of 127 players to claim his first WSOP gold ring.**

**Biloxi, Mississippi (September 13, 2016)** – Nate Bandy won his first career gold ring in Event #4: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Monday night by defeating a 127 player field. The tournament was scheduled as a two-day event, however Bandy only needed one day to claim his victory.

Being a former football player means Bandy is no stranger to competition. He played college ball at the University of Chattanooga Tennessee then professionally with the Scottish Claymores, an NFL Europe team. When asked if his competitive football background is a factor in his newfound poker career, Bandy offered some insight.

“One thousand percent; this, and golf, that’s all I can perform anymore so this is what I do,” Said Bandy. Familiar with the fortitude it takes to complete a grueling season, he understands the reality of tournament play. “It’s a marathon, not a sprint, especially in poker.”

Bandy is relatively new to live, tournament poker. Normally a cash game player, he only began playing live tournaments about eight months ago. He just started playing poker full-time after stepping away from his career at the D1 Sports facility in Chattanooga.

D1 Sports is a nationwide, athletic training company that boasts a top-class group of professional athlete affiliations, such as Carmelo Anthony, Chipper Jones, and Peyton Manning. Both living in Chattanooga and associated with D1 Sports, Bandy and Manning have close ties. Maybe Bandy’s triumphant WSOP Circuit victory will inspire Peyton to take up a poker career in his retirement.

IP Biloxi is the fourth Circuit stop Bandy has participated in and he certainly made it a memorable one. On top of a gold ring and \$10,668, Bandy was awarded 50 Casino Championship points. When asked if he will stay in Biloxi and make a run at being crowned the IP Casino Champion Bandy confidently responded with “Absolutely.” In fact, Bandy plans on continuing to follow the 2016/17 WSOP Circuit tour in hopes of qualifying for the Global Casino Championship.

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Event #5 was the fifth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the IP Biloxi series. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em tournament attracted 127 players generating a \$38,100 prizepool. The top 15 players were paid.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Circuits twelve combined gold ring events earns the title of Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into 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](http://WSOP.com).

Here is the list of gold ring winners from the IP Biloxi series:

EVENT #1: David Walters defeated 800 players (\$365 NLHE Double Stack) for \$47,992  
EVENT #2: Steve Giddings defeated 96 players (\$365 NLHE Turbo) for \$8,638  
EVENT #3: Dallas Berry defeated 95 players (\$365 NLHE Turbo) for \$8,551  
EVENT #4: Douglas Carli defeated 110 players (\$365 NLHE 30 Minute Levels) for \$9,901  
EVENT #5: Nate Bandy defeated 127 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$10,668

This was the fifth gold ring handed out at the IP Biloxi series. Seven more gold rings and Circuit titles are still to come.

All rings at the IP Biloxi series are furnished by [Jostens](http://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](http://WSOP.com).

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