

## **2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit**

**Season 13**

**Horseshoe Baltimore**

**Baltimore, Md.**

**Event #3**

**Pot-Limit Omaha**

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

**Total Entries: 138**

**Prize Pool: \$41,400**

**April 29, 2017**



## **John Richards Wins \$365 PLO in One Day**

**Illinois grinder collects \$11,589 and his first gold ring**

**BALTIMORE, Md. (Apr. 30, 2017)** — John Richards is the newest first-time winner on the WSOP Circuit. Richards defeated a field of 138 entries in the \$365 Pot-Limit Omaha event to win his first gold ring and \$11,589 in cash.

Richards is a 28-year-old professional poker player from Roxanna, IL. Or, sort of a professional, at least. “Eh... sometimes,” he said about his full-time poker habits. “I like to sleep a lot.”

Primarily a cash game player, Richards’ face is a fairly new one around the live tournament Circuit. “I don’t normally play these tournaments,” he said, “but I final tabled back-to-back Circuit Main Events, and I got a bunch of points. So I started playing a lot of them.”

He’s added another 50 points to his running tally with this result, bringing him to 125 for the season and putting him in contention to snag one of the limited seats in the WSOP Global Casino Championship.

According to Richards, he had a bit of an up-and-down day that started hot but cooled off in the middle stages. “I had chips a little bit early,” he said, “but then I punted them away. I just kinda ran it up after that. I thought I was going to lose for sure; they had me crushed in chips.”

The event was originally scheduled to take two days to complete, but around dinner time, it became clear that there was a very real chance to play it all the way out to a winner in just one.

Richards was fifth in chips when the final table was reached around 10 p.m., and he really wasn’t involved in a significant pot until there were four players left. From there out, though, the tournament was his. He eliminated Sammie Garner in fourth place, then Stephen Deutsch in third to take a 2:1 chip lead into the heads-up match against Edward Han.

Han turned the tables on Richards, winning a big pot early in the duel to take the lead. Richards doubled right back into an even bigger lead, though, and he ended the match a few hands thereafter.

On the last hand, the money went in preflop with Richards' pocket kings in the lead, but had to fade a ton of outs with one card to come. He did just that, though. A blank on the river cued the handshakes and the winner's photos, with Richards posing with his new piece of jewelry.

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Event #3 was the third of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Horseshoe Baltimore. The \$365 Pot-Limit Omaha event drew a field of 138 entries, generating a prize pool worth \$41,400. The final 15 players finished in the money.

The tournament was essentially held from start to finish on Saturday, April 29 beginning at 11 a.m. The last hand was dealt just after 1 a.m. the following morning.

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The player who accumulates the most overall points during Horseshoe Baltimore's 12 ring events earns the title of 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 limited at-large bids. More information on the points system is available on [WSOP.com](http://WSOP.com).

All rings at Horseshoe Baltimore are furnished by [Jostens](http://Jostens), the official ring supplier of the 2016/2017 WSOP Circuit season.

For more information about the WSOP Circuit, follow us on Twitter at [@WSOP](https://twitter.com/WSOP) or visit [WSOP.com](http://WSOP.com).

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