



WSOP CIRCUIT 2017-18 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Bicycle Hotel and Casino (Bell Gardens, CA)	Date:	6 December 2017
Event:	No-Limit Hold'em	Entries:	117
Buy-in:	\$580	Prizepool:	\$58,500

LANG LEE WINS \$580 NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM

Businessman and semi-professional earns Circuit ring in his first World Series of Poker cash.

Everybody likes a good comeback story. While it's not one of the 'Chip and a Chair' stories people like to tell, Lang Lee came back from being far and away the short stack five-handed to win his first ring on Wednesday afternoon.

Lee defeated a 117-entry field to win \$17,560 and a Circuit title in the \$580 no-limit hold'em event. Coming into the final day with five players remaining, he was the shortest stack and long odds to come out on top. After battling with William Wolf heads-up, Lee defied the odds and took home the ring.

"It feels awesome," said Lee. "I've won other tournaments before, but I've never really gone all the way after being a short stack. It feels great."

The pace of the tournament on its first day was fast and they reached the final table early in the structure. There was a chance that it finished in one day, but after running poorly in the first half of the final table, Lee was happy to get some sleep and come back on Wednesday.

"Earlier last night, I had a lot more chips and I wanted it to be a one-day tournament," said Lee. "Afterwards, when we got to a final table, I just kind of got a little bit card dead and I felt like I would rather restart today instead of playing it out last night. I knew last night I wasn't going to get it done and today I felt great all day."

With the win, the 47-year-old California native scored his first WSOP cash, but he's not new to the game. His family business in the Los Angeles area and his travels abroad kept him from playing a lot of WSOP events.

“I went overseas and played a lot in Macau and stuff when poker started getting going over there,” said Lee. “I would play a lot over there and then come back here for a while. I liked playing cash games more than tournaments. Now, I’m definitely much more into tournaments.”

Lee took over his family’s business after his father passed away a decade ago. While he has been successful in the business world, His battle and victory with his weight created some hardship for him on him.

“I was really heavy before,” said Lee. “After my dad passed away, I was gaining like 10-15 pounds a year and that affected my poker playing and it also affected how people played against me too.

“They used to over bluff and some stuff, but finally last year, I was able to lose weight. I lost a good 50 pounds. Now, I just feel so much better. It reflects on my play and overall life.”

According to Lee, he noticed changes in the way people played against him as a heavier person as opposed to when he lost the weight again.

“I used to beat these L.A. people and then once I gained the weight, those same people wouldn’t throw away their hands anymore and they would call me on the river with anything or they would bluff me,” said Lee. “It’s a long story, but that’s the short version.”

With his health under control, a successful business and now a Circuit ring to put in his trophy case, Lee would like to get out of the area and make his mark in tournaments outside of Los Angeles.

“I definitely want to go out to Vegas more and I want to go back and play more tournaments,” said Lee. “I’ve kind of aspired to be a poker pro, but I have too many other obligations right now. I have a lot of friends who are poker pros. They show me a lot, both in cash games and tournaments.”

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name: Lang Lee

Nationality: American

Birthplace: Monterey Park, CA

Current Residence: Rosemead, CA

Age: 47

Profession: Entrepreneur

WSOP Bracelets: 0

Previous WSOP Circuit Rings: 0

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