



WSOP CIRCUIT 2017-18 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Choctaw Casino and Resort	Date:	10 January 2018
(Durant, OK)		Entries:	310
Event:	No-Limit Hold'em	Prizepool:	\$93,000
Buy-in:	\$365		

JIANMIN XU WINS \$365 NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM

Engineer from Texas wins his first ring in only his third career WSOP Circuit cash

At the last WSOP Circuit stop at Choctaw last November, Jianmin Xu secured his first two World Series of Poker cashes. On Wednesday afternoon, Xu won his first Circuit ring. The 52-year-old Texas resident defeated 310 entries to win \$21,854 along with his first title.

"It feels great," said Xu. "Especially because I've been struggling before today. So, today, the last two hours, I had a crazy run. So, I'm happy about it.

When the final table was down to three-handed play Xu was the shortest of the three stacks with Andy Kondler and Wade Lightsey still vying for the title. Over the course of a few hours, Xu went on a heater and took the chip lead.

After taking the chip lead with three players left, Xu made short work of the last two eliminations. In just a matter of a few hands, Xu sent Lightsey home in third and Kondler to the rail with a runner-up finish. Lightsey went home with a \$9,814 and Kondler won \$13,513.

"Those two guys were the largest chip stacks for sure and I was just hanging there, hanging there and trying to chip up," said Xu. "I caught a lucky break and got to chop a pot. After that, I just had a crazy run."

Xu immigrated to America about 24 years ago and was an Engineer by trade. With his engineering background, the math aspect of the game comes easy for him and poker became a serious hobby.

He is the definition of a recreational player, but still has hopes and dreams of playing under the bright lights at a final table over the summer at the Rio.

“I think I just hold the expectation low in each game,” said Xu. “But the ultimate goal is to see you in July. That’s the ultimate dream. I think that’s every poker player’s dream. I just want to build a bankroll to be able to go to the Rio and be able to play the Main Event. Hopefully, if I’m lucky enough.”

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name: Jianmin Xu

Age: 52

Nationality: Chinese

Profession: Engineer

Birthplace: China

WSOP Bracelets: 0

Current Residence: Frisco, TX

Previous WSOP Circuit Rings: 0

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