



WSOP CIRCUIT 2017-18 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Choctaw Casino and Resort (Durant, OK)	Date:	13 January 2018
Event:	Pot-Limit Omaha	Entries:	174
Buy-in:	\$1,125	Prizepool:	\$174,000

SOCHETRA CHANSAN WINS \$1,125 POT-LIMIT OMAHA

"Johnnie Donuts" wins his first ring in the first Omaha tournament he ever played, takes home \$46,982

Sochetra Chansan never played a pot-limit Omaha tournament before it started on Thursday evening. Despite his miniscule experience in the game, the 43-year-old originally from Cambodia won his first ring in one of the tougher pot-limit Omaha tournaments outside of the summer in Rio.

The Texas native defeated a field of 174 entries to earn \$46,982 and his first ring in the \$1,125 pot-limit Omaha event. Chansan plays a lot of no-limit hold'em in Texas and is a gambler at heart.

"I feel excited," said Chansan. "I play home games every year and I come here to play the World Series of Poker here and I'll go to Vegas to play the World Series over there. Sometimes, I just play baccarat."

Throughout the tournament, Chansan was learning the game while he was accumulating chips. He knew he wasn't the best player at the table, so he observed the players he thought were better than him and tried to learn the game by watching their play.

"I learned to what he bet and what he raised and I try to compare my hand and learned a little bit from the good card player," said Chansan. "I learned to play tight or I learned to play loose against them."

Chansan immigrated to the United States from Cambodia in 2004, right at the start of the poker boom in America. He owns a doughnut shop in Texas and picked up the nickname 'Johnnie Donuts' from his poker friends.

At the end of Day 1, the 174 entry-field was trimmed down to just 27, who returned on Friday to play down to a winner. They reached a final table quickly, but the tournament hit a wall when three-handed play commenced between Chansan, Curtis Anderson and Nicholas Seiken. The final three played for over five hours before anybody hit the rail. Chansan was expecting a long day and was ready to strap in for the long haul.

“The first thing I knew when we came to play today was that it was going to be a long game,” said Chansan. “And I never played. This is the first time I played an Omaha tournament.”

Eventually Seiken fell in third place and Anderson was heads-up with Chansan. Anderson started heads-up play with the chip lead, but Chansan got it all in with twice with a flush draw and got there twice. Hitting his first flush draw gave him the chip lead and the second one gave him the win.

Instead of saying ‘cheese’ when he smiled in his winner photo, he said ‘flush draw.’ The added gamble and action in Omaha compared to hold’em was attractive to Chansan. It’s likely that he’ll be back in action soon.

“I like the game,” said Chansan. “I like it more than hold’em.”

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name: Sochetra Chansan

Age: 43

Nationality: Cambodian

Profession: Doughnut Shop Owner

Birthplace: Cambodia

WSOP Bracelets: 0

Current Residence: San Antonio, TX

Previous WSOP Circuit Rings: 0

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