



WSOP CIRCUIT 2017-18 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Choctaw Casino and Resort	Date:	16 January 2018
(Durant, OK)		Entries:	1,006
Event:	No-Limit Hold'em	Prizepool:	\$301,800
Buy-in:	\$365		

WAYNE LOVELL WINS \$365 NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM

Retired military veteran and poker enthusiast wins second ring and \$55,892 in final event of Choctaw series

Wayne Lovell wasn't having a profitable two weeks at Choctaw until the final day of the World Series of Poker Circuit series.

Lovell was on the brink of finishing his time in Choctaw in the red, but won his second ring to close out the series after defeating 1,006 entries to earn his second Circuit ring and \$55,892.

"It's a relief," said Lovell. "I was having a very bad series so far. So, it's nice to end it on a high note."

Lovell defeated fellow Texas resident and grinder Seneca Easley heads-up to earn his second Circuit title. The two are familiar with one another from being regulars in the Dallas area poker world and were both battling for their second ring.

"We play a lot together," said Lovell about his relationship with Easley. "We both travel and meet up a lot in New Orleans and of course here, also. I travel to a few more different locations than he does, but we usually play together a lot."

Lovell came into the final table as one of the chip leaders and used that momentum to carry him into heads-up play with a chip lead against his buddy. Billy Parsons, who started the final table as the chip leader, was eliminated in fifth place.

Lovell used his position on the former chip leader to his advantage. He played more pots than normal to exploit Parsons' aggression.

“He was pretty much picking off everyone,” said Lovell. “I stayed out of the way a lot at first and tried to pick him off with premium hands. I got into hands with Billy because I knew he was very aggressive and knew he would pay me off, even with just middle pair. I was running good too. I had the chip lead for a long time.”

The 50-year-old New York native picked up his love of card games during his 24-year active duty service in the military. During his service, he relocated to Texas, met his wife, had three kids and settled in Killeen, a city north of Austin near Fort Hood.

He spent almost his entire professional career in both the Army and the Marine corps. He recently retired from his military career and started traveling the country playing poker.

“We played a lot of poker and other types of card games in the military,” said Lovell. “I played in casinos all over. So, I’ve been playing hold’em for a while. There has been a big learning curve.”

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name: Wayne Lovell
Nationality: American
Birthplace: New York
Current Residence: Killen, TX

Age: 50
Profession: Retired Military
WSOP Bracelets: 0
Previous WSOP Circuit Rings: 1

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