



WSOP CIRCUIT 2017-18 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Horseshoe Council Bluffs (Council Bluffs, Iowa)	Date:	1 April 2018
Event:	No-Limit Hold'em Re-Entry	Entries:	495
Buy-in:	\$365	Prizepool:	\$148,500

MATT HARTIGAN BAGS 1ST GOLD RING

Final table surge leads local rec to re-entry title.

Matt Hartigan bagged his first World Series of Poker gold ring and \$31,928 late Sunday night at the Horseshoe Council Bluffs Circuit series. The 33-year-old conquered 495 entrants in Event #3: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Re-Entry, a tournament that featured four separate starting flights and took three days to complete.

Flight B is where Hartigan found got his bearings. He finished as chip leader of the flight with nearly 160,000 to his name. Among the combined group of 58 players who advanced to Day 2, Hartigan comfortably reigned in the top five.

“I had a really good stack to start the day with,” said Hartigan “I didn’t really pick up much steam until... maybe when we got down to three [tables], when we did the redraw. It took me a while to cross half a million.”

Going into the unofficial final table of ten, Hartigan was a bit under that 500,000 mark, but still in the middle of the pack.

“There were quite a few moments of doubt at the final table. I got into some dicey spots, but somehow crawled out of them thanks to the dealer,” Hartigan mentioned.

A string of good luck put Hartigan in position to do some damage, and he eventually did. The biggest surge came during three-handed action when Christopher Parsley’s pocket nines ran into Hartigan’s pocket aces.

On a low flop, the two players got all the chips in the middle, a pot worth nearly four million. Hartigan scooped the massive double up, Parsley was left with scraps and went bust a few hands later, at the hands of Hartigan nonetheless.

After knocking out Parsley in third place, Hartigan faced off against an Omaha-based acquaintance of his, Bradley Sullivan. Throughout the final table the two players consistently socialized in a drinking-buddy manner, so the heads-up battle was tension-free one.

“The guy directly to my right [Sullivan], really nice guy, I’ve played with him in cash quite a few times, so we had some fun,” expressed Hartigan.

In the end, Hartigan's monumental chip lead could not be thwarted and Sullivan had to settle for second place. As the re-entry Champion, Hartigan recorded his third WSOP cash and largest score to date, by far.

“I mean, I’m not like a big player. I haven’t played in that many World Series stuff. I play in a lot of like smaller tournaments... mainly here at the shoe,” said Hartigan, whose main occupation is in the Life Insurance industry. “I do this for fun... But yeah... it was a great tournament. Winning it doesn’t hurt,” he concluded with a smile.

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name:	Matt Hartigan	Age:	33
Nationality:	USA	Profession:	Life Insurance
Birthplace:	Point Vedra Beach, Fla.		Salesman
Current Residence:	Omaha, Nebr.	WSOP Bracelets:	0
		Previous WSOP Circuit Rings:	0

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