WSOP CIRCUIT 2017-18
EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Seminole Casino (Coconut Creek, FL)		Date:	20 September 2018
			Entries:	69
Event:	No-Limit Hold'em Turbo		Prizepool:	$35,535
Buy-in:	$600			

MATTHEW ZARCADOOLAS WINS $600 NO-LIMIT TURBO

Local pro scores first ring and $12,436 in an event he didn't plan on playing.

Coming into Thursday, Matthew Zarcadoolas had high hopes and was looking to score a Circuit ring. He did, but it just wasn't in the event he thought he would.

Zarcadoolas won the $600 no-limit hold'em turbo event, besting a field of 69 entries and taking home $12,436 along with his first Circuit ring.

"It's a great feeling winning a poker tournament," said Zarcadoolas. "It doesn't matter how big or small it is. Every tournament is tough to win, so it just feels great and I was really happy I got the win."

The local poker pro from Hollywood, FL came to the tournament area with a stack in Day 2 of the $400 no-limit hold'em monster stack. He just snuck into the money, earning a three-way chop of the first two spots in the money. The 28-year-old officially finished 62nd and earned $422.

He knew he was going to continue playing and hop into another event, so after collecting his money, he refocused and got back to work.

"Right after I busted, I took a walk around, I got something to eat and listened to some music," said Zarcadoolas. "I just relaxed and cleared my mind. I just prepared myself and was ready to go play again. I wasn't frustrated anymore."

He went to register for a satellite for the high roller, but there weren't enough people in it to award a seat, so the tournament was canceled. He hopped into the turbo event just before registration closed and spun up a stack.

"I just thought I'd buy into this," said Zarcadoolas. "I got into this by accident. It wasn't even the plan. I got into this late with about 20 big blinds and just ran it up."

Zarcadoolas got a hold of chips early and continued to chip up throughout the tournament. He came into the final table with the chip lead and exploited the bubble with eight players left to put him in a great position to win.

"I just ran really good and I just steamrolled the final table," said the 28-year-old. "I played super aggressive on the bubble while one player was really short. I was just busting out people left and right. Then with four players left I had half of the chips in play. It was just smooth sailing, and everything went my way."

Zarcadoolas never gave up the chip lead and defeated Jorge Aristizabal heads-up to secure the title.

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name: Matthew Zarcadoolas
Nationality: American
Birthplace: Hollywood, FL
Current Residence: Hollywood, FL

Age: 28
Profession: Professional Poker Player
WSOP Bracelets: 0
Previous WSOP Circuit Rings: 0

DIRECT LINKS

FULL RESULTS
ZARCADOOLAS' OFFICIAL WSOP PLAYER PROFILE
OFFICIAL WINNER PHOTO