



WSOP CIRCUIT 2019-20 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Choctaw (Durant, Okla.)	Date:	7 November 2019
Event:	No-Limit Hold'em	Entries:	248
Buy-in:	\$600	Prizepool:	\$127,720

KYLE BIRDWELL GRABS GOLD RING NUMBER TWO

Texas native wins second Choctaw Circuit title less than four months after his first.

Kyle Birdwell earned his second World Series of Poker Circuit title at Choctaw Durant on Thursday. The 37-year-old topped an eclectic field in Event #9: \$600 No-Limit Hold'em. The tournament drew 248 entrants and it was Birdwell who collected every chip in play, claiming the top prize of \$29,564 as well as another WSOP gold ring.

The final table of Event #9 was reached on Day 1 and was lined with a variety of geographical backgrounds. Six players moved to Day 2, led by Koen Roelink from Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Chip stacks shifted a lot during Day 2. Roelink ended up going out in 5th place after Vietnam native Trung Pham placed 6th. Adam Hendrix, Alaska's #1 all-time money winner took 4th.

During three-handed action a pivotal hand occurred between the two chip leaders, Birdwell and Iranian-born Sid Naeimi.

"I actually led out on the button, had king-nine. He flatted me. He had pocket aces, didn't know at the time. It flopped nine-nine-six. He raised 200k. I flatted. It came another six on the turn. He raised 300k. Again, I flat called. Then, on the river he bet like 400k and I shoved all in and he called," Birdwell recounted. "It was a pretty easy hand for me."

With Birdwell holding a vast majority of the chips, three-time gold ring winner John Gallaher went out in 3rd place and it was left to him versus Naeimi. Naeimi did end up getting a chunk of chips back in his corner. However, later on, a skeptically played hand had Birdwell suspicious and turned out to be Naeimi's downfall.

“He tried to shove on the river and I felt it was a big bluff. There was a lot of stuff out there, but I called with fourth-high pair and took it down with a seven-six,” said Birdwell. It was a mirror image of Birdwell’s prior winning cards “Same exact hand. Must be my lucky hand.”

The victory arrived less than four months after Birdwell's first gold-ring run, which occurred at the prior Choctaw Durant Circuit in July. His monumental score of \$102,195 among 2,206 players in the multi-flight may have provided Birdwell with a more secure mentality when it came to tournament poker.

“It feels great. I think my confidence is a lot higher actually because I’m taking it a little more seriously,” said Birdwell. “It’s my hobby, but you know been able to turn it into some income and actually have a blast doing it.”

Birdwell works in Sales in his home state of Texas but has entertained the notion of a transition to poker for a living.

“You know, I think I would try to do both,” stated Birdwell. “There is a little bit of a way to do both. Like I said, I take it a little bit more seriously. I’m going to be hitting a lot more of the Circuits... “I’m headed to Vegas to the series out in December out at the Harrah’s. And then, I’ll probably be at Tulsa and back here in January.”

It is still early in the 2019/20 Circuit season and Birdwell now lays claim to slightly over 100 Casino Championship points. Although he admitted he does not want to fully dive into a point-chasing lifestyle, Birdwell does plan to participate in a few Circuit stops in the near future to see what happens.

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name:	Kyle Birdwell	Age:	37
Nationality:	USA	Occupation:	Sales
Birthplace:	Mineral Wells, Tex.	WSOP Bracelets:	0
Current Residence:	Fort Worth, Tex.	Previous WSOP Circuit Rings:	1

DIRECT LINKS

[FULL RESULTS](#)

[KYLE BIRDWELL'S OFFICIAL WSOP PLAYER PROFILE](#)

[OFFICIAL WINNER PHOTO](#)