

WSOP CIRCUIT 2019-20 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:The Bike (Bell Gardens, Calif.)Date:7Event:No-Limit Hold'emEntries:9Buy-in:\$1,125Prizepool:\$

e: 7 December 2019 ries: 94 epool: \$94,000

MIKE DOLLINS WINS 1ST GOLD RING IN \$1,125 NLHE

Amateur poker player tops tough field for debut WSOP title.

Mike Dollins took down Event #10 at the The Bike's World Series of Poker Circuit stop on Saturday. The 51-year-old Financial Advisor came out on top of a tough field of 94 players in the \$1,125 buy-in, No-Limit Hold'em tournament, which finished in two days.

"It's pretty sweet," said Dollins following his triumph. "You know, I've won tournaments before. I like to think for an amateur I'm pretty good, but I'm not a shark or anything."

Being a four-figure buy-in tournament, there were a considerable number of sharks in opposition to Dollins, but he held his own in a big way. During Day 1, Dollins, on his first bullet, fell to critical condition early on in the action.

"I was like three big blinds at the time," he said. "Made it easy to just punt that stack off, but I just kept playing my best and gradually worked it up."

After recovering from the brink of defeat, Dollins went on to bag with an above-average stack to carry into Day 2. Also moving to the next leg were players such as six-time gold ring winner Maxwell Young, Ryan Lenaghan who boasts one million dollars in WSOP earnings, and WSOP gold bracelet winner Phil Laak.

Thirteen players advanced to Day 2 and that number fell to nine just over an hour into play. Then, a pivotal hand for Dollins occurred shortly after the final-table redraw.

"It was a little crazy, little bit questionable on my part. I mean, I had ace-ten suited in the small blind. That's a pretty strong hand right there, so I raised." Dollins began.

Dollins found himself in a blind-versus-blind situation against Daniel Song.

"He [Song] three bet," said Dollins. "I had not played with him before, at all. And he looked, just by appearance, like he probably would play a little bit wild," he continued. "So, when he three-bet me, that didn't necessarily mean he had a big hand. So, I four bet him back and he called, and then I hit second pair."

Sitting with middle pair on a queen-high board, Dollins was first to act and was positive that if he checked, Song would bet into him, putting him in a tough spot.

"So, I bet and he shoved and I'm just trying to put him on what's he got right there," said Dollins. "Maybe ace-queen... There was just so many chips in the pot. You got to get chips to win. I took a gamble."

The gamble paid off handsomely for Dollins who called the shove. Surprise fell over the faces of players at the table when Song flipped over ace-king for ace high and Dollins showed his ace-ten for middle pair, which ultimately held.

It was the biggest pot of the tournament and Dollins was the one to rake it in. From there, he waltzed through to the winner's circle with ease. For the win, Dollins took home his first WSOP gold ring and \$27,565.

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name:Mike DollinsNationality:USABirthplace:Lakewood Calif..Current Residence:Los Alamitos, Calif.

Age:51Occupation:Financial AdvisorWSOP Bracelets:0Previous WSOP Circuit Rings:0

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