

WSOP CIRCUIT 2019-20 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop: Choctaw (Durant, Okla.) Event: No-Limit Hold'em Monster Stack Buy-in: \$400 Date:6 January 2020Entries:604Prizepool:\$199,320

KYLE CHANCE WINS \$400 MONSTER STACK

Recreational player conquers sizable Circuit event for first gold ring.

Kyle Chance seized his first World Series of Poker gold ring, late Monday night at the Choctaw Durant Circuit series. The 32-year-old out of Wilburton, Oklahoma ultimately topped a 604-entry field in Event #3: \$400 No-Limit Hold'em Monster Stack and endured a nearly three-hour battle against a tough opponent.

The signature WSOP tournament took two full days to reach a champion, culminating with a heads-up match between Chance and three-time gold ring winner La Sengphet. Sengphet had numerous friends on the rail cheering her on.

"I mean, she's pretty well known in the community I guess, around here," Chance deduced during the finale. "Yeah, it was nerve-wracking, man. But, what can you do? Just play the cards. I tried not to worry about them."

Although Chance could feel the room pulling for his adversary, the New Mexico native kept his focus and played his game.

Chance has only recently begun to participate in tournament poker. With three min cashes already to his name, he was determined to close one out and aware of what it truly takes.

"It seemed like min cashing was as far as I could get," stated Chance. "Honestly, it just comes down to, you got to get hot and just winning flips. Today it just seemed like I won almost every flip. They finally went my way. I felt like I played well too. I made some really good calls. It was just a good day, man." Winning flips was certainly a key factor in Chance's ascension to the winner's circle. However, the climactic hand was won by him making an incredible call.

On a ten-high flop including two diamonds, Chance hit middle pair with an eight in his hand. He was faced with a bet from Sengphet but stuck around. "I thought she was trying to rep the ten and I just didn't believe her," mentioned Chance.

A big face card hit on the turn and another ten on the river. With a completed board, Sengphet put on the ultimate pressure by moving all in. Chance barely had her covered, so a call would essentially mean his tournament life, or hers.

"Yeah, I was super nervous," Chance revealed. "When the king came, it also made possible straight draws. That other ten felt like such a brick to me. So, I really just sat on it for a minute and I convinced myself to make the call, and I did."

It turned out to be a \$37,764 call as Chance's eights were good to take down the final pot. Not too bad for a recreational player in his seventh-ever live tournament. After his win, Chance was asked whether he will continue to pursue competitive poker.

"This probably helps. My bankroll just exploded," Chance said with a smile. "I have so much fun doing this. All this does is fuel the fire. I already loved it and love coming to these and playing in these tournaments."

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name:Kyle ChanceNationality:USABirthplace:Albuquerque, N.M.Current Residence:Wilburton, Okla.

Age:32Occupation:Oil Field WorkerWSOP Bracelets:0Previous WSOP Circuit Rings: 1

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