



WSOP CIRCUIT 2019-20 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Choctaw (Durant, Okla.)	Date:	11 January 2020
Event:	No-Limit Hold'em	Entries:	198
Buy-in:	\$400	Prizepool:	\$65,340

STEVEN MCCARTNEY CAPTURES 1ST WSOP TITLE

Series momentum carries Oklahoma Poker Pro to first gold ring after four final table runs.

An outstanding performance has been put on lately at the World Series of Poker Circuit at Choctaw Durant, by one player, Steven McCartney. After making four final tables in the past five days, the 35-year-old Poker Pro finally broke through to the winner's circle in Event #11: \$400 No-Limit Hold'em on Saturday, winning \$15,761 and his first WSOP gold ring.

The inception of McCartney's stellar, series run at Choctaw began with a 4th-place finish in Event #6. He then went on to place 3rd two tournaments later in Event #8. Directly after that, McCartney recorded another 4th-place finish in Event #9.

McCartney was asked what was behind all his recent success. "I don't know. I've just been grinding a lot. I've been running bad lately, so I feel like it was due. I feel like I was due to come up," he responded. "Run good, obviously, too."

Although he was solidified as a final-table machine, McCartney was still without a gold ring. That is, until Event #11 where McCartney continued his momentum, bagging yet another Day 1. The Alabama native moved to Day 2 and secured a fourth final-table appearance.

"I came short stacked with 130,000, so 11 big blinds," recounted McCartney. "I got a couple shoves through and then I got in king-jack of diamonds, versus ace-nine of spades, versus two sixes, preflop. We ended up rivering a flush so that was a big hand."

A pivotal pot for McCartney manifested as a three-way all in, which ultimately led to him sending Andrew Adelson and nine-time gold ring winner Daniel Lowery to the rail. From there, McCartney was established as the big stack and sailed to the top spot.

Another award for first place, and arguably more important for McCartney, is 50 additional points. The Oklahoma resident now sits with a total of 140 points and an immense stronghold in the Choctaw Casino Champion race.

It is a spot McCartney never imagined himself in ahead of the WSOP Circuit coming to town.

“I’ve been playing for about 13 years, but I probably play 15 tournaments a year... Besides that, I just play cash,” mentioned McCartney. “After the first one I felt good, so I was like ‘let’s just try this again,’ and then I final tabled. And then I had Kessler in my ear saying ‘Well, you have to go to for the points now.’ So, I just started playing everything.”

Including the Main Event, there are two other events available for players to earn points in. If his points total holds, McCartney will be deemed the Casino Champion and receive an automatic bid to the 2019/20 Global Casino Championship, a seat valued at \$10,000.

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name:	Steven McCartney	Age:	35
Nationality:	USA	Occupation:	Poker Pro
Birthplace:	Alabama	WSOP Bracelets:	0
Current Residence:	Calera, Okla.	Previous WSOP Circuit Rings:	0

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