



WSOP CIRCUIT 2022-23 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Harrah's Cherokee	Date:	11 August 2022
Event:	No-Limit Hold'em	Entries:	415
Buy-in:	\$1,100	Prizepool:	\$404,625

MATT EMMEL WINS 1ST CIRCUIT RING AT CHEROKEE

Poker pro and Circuit regular from North Carolina finally wins a WSOP ring

After two days of play, Matt Emmel has taken down Event #9: \$1,100 No-Limit Hold'em for \$84,297, a gold World Series of Poker Circuit ring and a seat into the Tournament of Champions in 2023. Some have said Emmel was one of the better players on the Circuit without a ring, but the poker pro has finally gotten the monkey off his back. "It feels good. It's been a running joke for quite some time 'Emmel zero rings' that kinda thing. I'm gonna be disappointed for the joke to go away," laughed Emmel.

The poker pro from North Carolina started playing poker when he was 19 and immediately became enamored with the game. "I very quickly I realized that there was more to it than just gambling and I obsessed over it and I completely emersed myself in it." Emmel specialized in heads-up sit n go's and eventually transitioned to cash games and tournaments. "During Covid when I wasn't playing as much, I supplemented what I used to play a lot more poker with two things: playing against solvers on the phone, and chess of all things. I'm trying to teach myself chess."

Now that Emmel has won a ring, his next goal is definitely not out of reach. "As dumb as it is, this doesn't quite get me my six-figure score. I just need a six-figure score on my resume," laughed Emmel.

While Emmel ended up on top, it was not without some added adversity. The poker pro found out his son Liam had a bad allergic reaction and was rushed to the hospital. "I really am appreciative of my wife, and my Mom, who came to town to help watch my son," he explained. "I made sure everything was okay before the tournament, but I've been checking my phone this whole time."

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name:	Matt Emmel	Age:	36
Nationality:	USA	Profession:	Poker Pro
Birthplace:	Syracuse, NY	WSOP Bracelets:	0
Current Residence:	Charlotte, NC	Previous WSOP Circuit Rings:	0

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