



**2010/2011 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season Seven**

**Final Results: Horseshoe Hammond
Event #5**

No Limit Hold'em

Buy-In: \$300 (+50)

Total Entries: 608

Total Prize Pool: \$173,504

October 18 – October 19, 2010

Final Results:

<u>Finish</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Prize</u>
1	Rodriguez	Juan	Carmel	IN	36439
2	Buettner	John	Indianapolis	IN	22536
3	Filtz	Justin	Stevens Point	WI	16479
4	Lacey	Patrick	Mundelein	IL	12229
5	Davis	Chris	Naperville	IL	9201
6	Blythe	Ralph	Lafayette	IN	7018
7	Crisp	Lloyd	St. Charles	IL	5427
8	Au	Scott	Pekin	IL	4254
9	Shade	Edward	Hurricane	WV	3380
10	Martinellich	Vincent	Chicago	IL	2721
11	Laconte	Jacob	Waukesha	WI	2721
12	Ford	Douglas	Fort Wayne	IN	2721
13	Kosmerl	Thomas	Joliet	IL	2217
14	Pasley	Michael	Hoffman Estates	IL	2217
15	Klonowski	Joseph	Crete	IL	2217
16	Mohn	Robert	Chicago	IL	1830
17	Groh	Jeffrey	Chicago	IL	1830
18	Lubiner	Laurence	Chicago	IL	1830
19	Witt	Ronald	Mount Prospect	IL	1530
20	Worden	Bret	Wolcottville	IN	1530
21	Traylor	Michael	Conroe	TX	1530
22	Nguyen	Hoang	Chicago	IL	1296
23	Kellikidis	Ilias	Norridge	IL	1296
24	Hill	Jordan	Elmhurst	IL	1296
25	Maynard	Robert	Racine	WI	1110
26	Hyde	Glenn	Woodstock	GA	1110
27	Ferrise	Gabriel	Dearborn Heights	MI	1110
28	Rothwell	Randall	Dayton	TN	963
29	Quinn	Brian	Willow Brook	IL	963
30	Skreens	Bryan	Naperville	IL	963
31	Mink	James	Houston	TX	847
32	Ovsyannikow	Eugene	Des Plaines	IL	847
33	Wahba	Mark	Cleveland	OH	847
34	Salzstein	Scott	Buffalo Grove	IL	753
35	Jewell	Kurt	Frankfort	KY	753
36	Bos	Steven	Crown Point	IN	753

37	Slaughter	John	Chesterton	IN	677
38	Eisenhut	Jamie	Bluffton	IN	677
39	Palmer	William	Palos Heights	IL	677
40	Fillingham	Donald	Mattawan	MI	677
41	Alberth	Andrew	Las Vegas	NV	677
42	Mazzocchi	Michele	Northlake	IL	677
43	Frazin	Michael	Deerfield	IL	677
44	Calderon	Ramon	Streamwood	IL	677
45	Brasel	Edward	Collinsville	OK	677
46	Britton	Arthur	Skokie	IL	616
47	Roester	Brandon	Walworth	WI	616
48	Maniaci	Steven	Hammond	IN	616
49	Lim	Harold	Prospect Hts	IL	616
50	Zhang	Jian	Dunlap	IL	616
51	Magdeuski	Plamen	Malibu	CA	616
52	Elimeleh	Noy	Richmond Hill	ON	616
53	Chou	Joshua	Hoffman Estates	IL	616
54	Nolfe	Steve	Woodridge	IL	616
55	Blomdahl	Corey	Milwaukee	WI	567
56	Leibman	Joseph	Fort Atkinson	WI	567
57	Steinberg	William	Glencoe	IL	567
58	Mendez	David	Chicago	IL	567
59	Sturgeon	Bruce	Bedford	IN	567
60	Rosales	Raul	Chicago	IL	567
61	Torcolese	Jack	Niles	IL	567
62	Bolahood	Jeremiah	Peterborough	ON	567
63	Leathers	Eric	Normal	IL	567

Juan Rodriguez's Two Amazing Tales of Pocket Kings

Three Years after Hilarious Blunder, Peruvian-Born Semi-Pro Wins Gold Ring

Hammond, IN – Juan Rodriguez remembers the first time he ever played in a live poker tournament. Three years ago at O'Shea's Casino in Las Vegas, the sweaty-palmed poker novice entered a \$45 buy-in daily No-Limit [Texas Hold'em](#) competition.

On his very first hand, Rodriguez was dealt pocket kings. A player in front raised. Another player re-raised. Rodriguez, totally confused and inexperienced, mucked his cards. That's right. He mucked pocket kings pre-flop, in a \$45 buy-in tournament.

"I was so scared, that I didn't even know what I was doing," Rodriguez said later. "I had no shot to win. Of course, I busted out in just a few minutes. But I discovered that I loved to play poker and started reading books and slowly got better."

Fast forward three years later to October 19, 2010. At the latest World Series of Poker Circuit event, Rodriguez not only "slowly got better." He won. He managed to conquer a large field of 608 players and earned his first major [poker tournament](#) victory. Incredibly, he collected \$36,439 for first place, plus the coveted gold ring, presented to all WSOP Circuit champions.

However, there was at least one case of déjà vu along the way. Pocket kings played a huge role in what was the most unlikely of victories.

Down to about 40 players remaining in the two-day tournament, Rodriguez was slightly below average in chips. He was dealt pocket queens. He made a pre-flop raise. However, he was re-raised all-in by a player he described as one of the "toughest" in the tournament.

"I thought about it, and I decided to fold," Rodriguez said later. "That turned out to be the right decision because he showed me pocket aces. If I would have called, I probably would have lost. That gave me a lot of confidence."

An hour went by. Nothing seemed to go right. Rodriguez became short-stacked. He looked down and saw....bingo! Pocket kings! This time, Rodriguez led out with a raise and the very same opponent re-raised all-in. History was repeating itself again, on two fronts.

But this time, Rodriguez was pot-committed and quite low on chips. He figured there was no way his opponent had pocket aces – again. He had to call.

Wham!

The tough player showed....drum roll please....*pocket aces*. Worse, just before the flop was shown another player announced to the table that he had folded a king. Rodriguez was in big trouble.

Just as he was about to stand up and make the walk every tournament player fears, a funny thing happened. An amazing thing happened. A prayer was answered. And, a few gasps were heard.

Bam!

In the door....*a king!*

Indeed, this was to be Rodriguez's day. He ended up winning a most satisfying victory about eight hours later. The thrilling poker moment was made even more special by his father standing at table side watching the entire episode.

Rodriguez's father had flown to the United States from his home in Peru to visit his son. Rodriguez's victory and extraordinary moment of personal triumph could not have come at a better moment.

Some things are made to be, and are just right – and this was one of those moments.

The latest WSOP Circuit champion Juan Rodriguez is a 36-year-old tennis coach at Butler University, in Indianapolis. He came to the U.S. nearly 15 years ago as a college student to play tennis. After graduating, he later joined the university as a coach where he has been employed for more than a decade.

Three years ago, Rodriguez and his team traveled to Las Vegas to play in a tennis tournament. That presented him with his first opportunity to ever play in a poker tournament, which brings his entertaining tale of pocket kings full-circle.

Fittingly, he ended up winning holding a queen and a superior kicker. His kicker was – you guessed it -- *a king*.

Final table play began with Justin Filtz being the player to beat as the early chip leader. Rodriguez began play in fourth place. The starting seating positions and chip counts were as follows.

SEAT 1: Patrick Lacey (Mundelein, IL) – 748,000
SEAT 2: Scott Au (Peoria, IL) – 371,000
SEAT 3: John Buettner, Sr. (Indianapolis, IN) – 640,000
SEAT 4: Lloyd Crisp (Chicago, IL) – 200,000
SEAT 5: Vince Martinelli (Chicago, IL) – 550,000
SEAT 6: Chris Davis (Naperville, IL) – 211,000
SEAT 7: Juan Rodriguez (Indianapolis, IN) – 621,000
SEAT 8: Justin Filtz (Stevens Point, WI) – 1,394,000
SEAT 9: Ralph Blythe (Lafayette, IN) – 908,000
SEAT 10: Edward Shade (Hurricane, WV) – 236,000

Final table play began at 7 pm on a Tuesday night. The end time came shortly after midnight.

John Buettner, Sr., a 68-year-old retired doctor from Indianapolis, IN was the runner up. Buettner collected \$22,536 for second place.

The final hand of the tournament took place with Rodriguez covering his cross town rival (also from Indianapolis) by about a 3 to 1 margin in chips. Buettner re-raised and moved all-in holding [Qc] [Tc]. Rodriguez called with [Kc] [Qd]. The final board showed [Qs] [5d] [3d] [Jh] [6c]. Both players ended up making top pair, with queens. But Rodriguez held the higher kicker with his king, against Buettner's ten.

And so, Juan Rodriguez, a 36-year-old college tennis coach and semi-pro poker player earned his first major tournament victory. First place officially paid \$36,439 plus the WSOP Circuit Gold Ring. Rodriguez also received

paid seats into the \$1,600 buy-in Main Event and the \$10,000 buy-in Regional Championship, coming up next week at the Horseshoe Casino.

With his impressive victory, Rodriguez joins previous champions Cheech Barbaro, John Nguyen, Chad Graves, and Brett Schwertley -- all Gold Ring winners so far, here in Chicago. They are the early leaders in the points race to determine qualifiers for the WSOP Circuit National Championship. There will be 11 players from this Chicago series who will advance to the \$1 million freeroll national championship, to be played at season's end in Las Vegas.

This is the third consecutive year that Horseshoe Hammond has hosted a WSOP Circuit stop. Horseshoe Hammond is conveniently located just a short distance from the Illinois-Indiana border, just 20 minutes away from Downtown Chicago.

This is the third WSOP Circuit stop of the 2010-2011 season. Here is the remaining [schedule of events](#) taking place at Horseshoe Hammond from October 15-28. Here is the entire [WSOP Circuit schedule](#).

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ABOUT THE WSOP

The World Series of Poker (WSOP) is the largest, richest and most prestigious gaming event in the world awarding millions of dollars in prize money and the prestigious gold bracelet, globally recognized as the sport's top prize. Featuring a comprehensive slate of tournaments in every major poker variation, the WSOP is poker's longest running tournament in the world, dating back to 1970. In 2010, the event attracted 72,966 entrants from 117 different countries to the Rio in Las Vegas and awarded over \$187 million in prize money. In addition, the WSOP has formed groundbreaking alliances in broadcasting, digital media and corporate sponsorships, while successfully expanding the brand internationally with the advent in 2007 of the World Series of Poker Europe. The WSOP Circuit Tour is entering its seventh season in 2010-11, and will feature 12 stops throughout the U.S., plus for the first ever, a stop in South Africa. For more information on the World Series of Poker, please visit www.WSOP.com.

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Must be 21 years or older to gamble. Know when to stop before you start.® Gambling problem? Call 1.800.9.WITH.IT. ©2010 Harrah's License Company, LLC.

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