



**2011/2012 World Series of Poker Circuit
Caesars Palace Las Vegas
Event #2
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$300 (+50)
Total Entries: 887
Total Prize Pool: \$258,117
January 20-22, 2012**

OFFICIAL FINAL RESULTS

1	Aaron Klausman	BIRMINGHAM, AL, US	\$50,329
2	William Gibbons	MIDDLETON, WI, US	\$31,103
3	Richard Dugger	CORONADO, CA, US	\$22,910
4	Doug Lee	CALGARY, AB, CA	\$17,098
5	Robert Mercer	LAS VEGAS, NV, US	\$12,926
6	Edilberto Pina	LA QUINTA, CA, US	\$9,899
7	Larry Wright	MC QUEENEY, TX, US	\$7,676
8	Daniel Wojcik	NEWARK, NJ, US	\$6,027
9	Richard Jackson	KEY WEST, FL, US	\$4,791
10	Nima Delveaux	DE	\$3,854
11	Nipun Java	NORTHRIDGE, CA, US	\$3,854
12	Bruce Tysdal	Calgary, AB, CA	\$3,854
13	David Larson	CHICAGO, IL, US	\$3,136
14	Douglas Johnson	MIAMI, FL, US	\$3,136
15	Benjamin Egger	Zurich, CH	\$3,136
16	Michael Del Vecchio	Prt Jeff St., NY, US	\$2,584
17	Kory Mitchell	DENVER, CO, US	\$2,584
18	Christopher Phares	SEASIDE, CA, US	\$2,584
19	Cody Cheek	CUTLER BAY, FL, US	\$2,153
20	Sam Sheikhan	Las Vegas, NV, US	\$2,153
21	Karga Holt	ATLANTA, GA, US	\$2,153
22	Marcus Acuna	Indianapolis, IN, US	\$1,815
23	Robert Lauria	HENDERSON, NV, US	\$1,815
24	William Gaffney	BARTLETT, IL, US	\$1,815
25	Eric Blair	WEST HARTFORD, CT, US	\$1,546
26	David Curre	Fairport, NY, US	\$1,546
27	Ty Stafford	Tempe, AZ, US	\$1,546
28	James Koley	OMAHA, NE, US	\$1,332
29	Joseph Pfluger	Southfield, MI, US	\$1,332
30	Stefan Georgi	Poway, CA, US	\$1,332
31	Charles Tuberville	Franklin, TN, US	\$1,162
32	Peter Nigh	SAINT LOUIS, MO, US	\$1,162

33	Adam Wilbur	Denver, CO, US	\$1,162
34	Ellis Ace	BLUE SPRINGS, MO, US	\$1,025
35	Stanley Silver	Sacramento, CA, US	\$1,025
36	Brent Ballentine	Southgate, MI, US	\$1,025
37	John Valevich	Philadelphia, PA, US	\$914
38	Sung Kim	San Diego, CA, US	\$914
39	Mark Schmid	GRAND RAPIDS, MI, US	\$914
41	Scott Delekta	LAS VEGAS, NV, US	\$914
42	Benjanin Amlin	HILLIARD, OH, US	\$914
43	Timothy Sullivan	STATHAM, GA, US	\$914
44	Michael Shank	Huntington Bch, CA, US	\$914
45	Jason Ginsbach	Las Vegas, NV, US	\$914
46	William Carlton	Palm Harbor, FL, US	\$823
47	Ryan Olisar	NAPERVILLE, IL, US	\$823
48	Jesse Hurtado	COACHELLA, CA, US	\$823
49	Matthew Button	Lansing, MI, US	\$823
50	Arthur Stgelais	Marathon, ON, CA	\$823
51	Alan Throw	MOKENA, IL, US	\$823
52	James Robertson	HENDERSON, NV, US	\$823
53	Leon Riley	Billings, MT, US	\$823
54	Matthew Adamson	Naperville, IL, US	\$823
55	Scott Scholz	Palm Springs, CA, US	\$749
56	Thomas Collins	LAS VEGAS, NV, US	\$749
57	Geoffrey Champion	Las Vegas, NV, US	\$749
58	Daniel McAuliffe	BETHPAGE, NY, US	\$749
59	David Salazar	La Puente, CA, US	\$749
60	Erich Kiener	Appenzell, DE	\$749
61	Adam Laskey	FARGO, ND, US	\$749
62	Brandon Rivera	KURTISTOWN, HI, US	\$749
63	Radu Iuhas	Los Angeles, CA, MH	\$749
64	Chong Won	Wadsworth, OH, US	\$689
65	Carl Merkling	EAGLE, CO, US	\$689
66	Chris Back	VANCOUVER, BC, CA	\$689
67	Ann Potter	Las Vegas, NV, US	\$689
68	Leonid Ryadynskyy	KHARKOV, UA	\$689
69	Richard Alati	PHOENIX, AZ, US	\$689
70	Bengt Eddeland	Stockholm, SE	\$689
71	David Watters	Neenah, WI, US	\$689
72	Michael Polcari	LAS VEGAS, NV, US	\$689
73	Benjamin Perrine	Flagstaff, AZ, US	\$635
74	Seyed Fazeli	Houston, TX, US	\$635
75	Patrick Lee	SAN DIEGO, CA, US	\$635
76	Richard Aluzzi	REDONDO BCH, CA, US	\$635
77	Gary Hurst	WASHINGTON, GB	\$635
78	Joseph Peacock	Las Vegas, NV, US	\$635
79	Richard Matsuura	Blackfoot, ID, US	\$635
80	Stephen Pietropaula	PHILADELPHIA, PA, US	\$635
81	John Loker	Chicago, IL, US	\$635
82	Jeffrey Puchalski	Silver Spring, MD, US	\$583
83	Brian Littlefield	Rimrock, AZ, US	\$583
84	Joseph Conti	PARK RIDGE, IL, US	\$583
85	John Brown	EASTMAIN, QC, CA	\$583

86	Joseph Tuccini	LAS VEGAS, NV, US	\$583
87	Scott Davies	LAS VEGAS, NV, US	\$583
88	Steven Massey	GLENDALE, AZ, US	\$583
89	Matthew Rashbrook	VICTORIA, BC, CA	\$583
90	John Burr	EL PASO, TX, US	\$583

TOURNAMENT REPORT

Aaron Klausman Wins Largest Poker Tournament Ever Held at Caesars Palace

‘Bama Poker Player Rolls With the Tide and Outlasts Huge Field of 887 Players

Las Vegas, NV (January 23, 20112) – Caesars Palace is accustomed to doing things on a grand scale. But the legendary Las Vegas casino that first opened its doors in 1966 outdid itself this past weekend by hosting the largest poker tournament ever held at within the confines of the famed white marble landmark.

A total of 887 players from all over the U.S. and several foreign nations flooded into the Caesars Palace poker room to participate in the most recent World Series of Poker Circuit event. Tournament attendance shattered the previous record established at Caesars, which was set five years ago during the 2006 Circuit opener. That similar tournament which took place in the midst of the so-called “poker boom.” attracted 652 players – which seemed like a huge number at the time. But as the old saying goes – records are made to be broken. Make that “shattered.”

Standing alone atop of the mountain of buried poker dreams, bad beat stories, and bitter bust-outs was Aaron Klausman, from Birmingham, AL. Remarkably, this was the first time Klausman has cashed in any WSOP-related tournament. He not only collected a whopping \$50,329 in prize money for the victory, he was also presented with the coveted gold ring, which is the top prize awarded to all WSOP Circuit champions.

Klausman’s tournament resume includes five major cashes. Up to this point, his best showing had been a sixth-place finish at a tournament held in Mississippi. In fact, his profit for this event was more than four times the combined total winnings from his four previous cashes.

Aside from a record field size and a big payday for the amateur poker player from Alabama was the grueling marathon this tournament turned out to be. Originally scheduled as a three-day competition, the battle stretched deep into a fourth day. Most WSOP Circuit events wrap up in the late hours of the night or perhaps run until midnight. But this finale stretched out until 6:45 am. That meant the final day lasted an almost unbearable 19 hours.

Of course, “unbearable” is a relative term. For Aaron Klausman, the day was anything but unbearable. In fact, it was beautiful.

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Event #2 was a three-day \$300 (+50) No-Limit Hold’em tournament – which actually played into an unscheduled fourth day due the large field size and long hours. Play began on Friday at noon and concluded early Monday morning. The total prize pool came to \$258,117. The top 91 finishers were paid. All players who cashed received WSOP Circuit National Championship

ranking points – used to potentially qualify for a seat in the season-ending championship, to be played in Las Vegas.

A full list of all players who cashed in Event #2 can be seen at WSOP.COM

The first day resulted in the elimination of 739 players. There were 148 survivors who resumed action on Day Two. After another ten hours of play, the field was trimmed down to the final table.

With his victory, Klausman rocketed onto the summit alongside Event #1 champion Dan Di Zenzo as the two early leaders in this WSOP Circuit's "Best All-Around Player" standings. The player who accumulates the most overall points in Caesars Palace's twelve combined gold ring tournaments receives a pre-paid entry into the \$1 million 2011-2012 WSOP Circuit National Championship. At least two players from this tournament series will qualify for the WSOP Circuit National Championship, which is classified as a WSOP gold bracelet event. The other automatic qualifier will be the winner of Main Event championship (to be held Jan. 27-30).

Here are the two winners from Caesars Palace's WSOP Circuit gold ring events, so far:

Event #1 – Dan Di Zenzo defeated 482 players (\$350 NLHE) and won \$30,151

Event #2 – Aaron Klausman defeated 887 players (\$350 NLHE) and won \$50,329

With the first two tournaments wrapped up, there are still ten more gold ring events remaining in what is being billed as a "12 rings in 12 days" poker series. The WSOP Circuit at Caesars Palace continues through January 30th. This year's schedule includes not only all the gold ring events, but multiple second-chance tournaments, single table and mega satellites, plus cash games going around the clock inside the action-packed Caesars Palace poker room

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MORE ABOUT THE WSOP CIRCUIT AT CAESARS PALACE

This marks the seventh consecutive year that Caesars Palace Las Vegas is hosting the widely-popular World Series of Poker Circuit, which is currently in the midst of its most successful season. Attendance is currently running about 20 percent ahead of last year (which set a record).

Caesars Palace is already home to many of the game's most popular and exciting poker events – including the Caesars Classic, NBC Heads-Up Poker Championship, and last year's inaugural WSOP Circuit National Championship. However, between the dates of January 19-30, the primary focus will be on 12 gold ring tournaments with the \$1,600 buy-in Main Event coming January 27-30.

"Caesars Palace has always carried with it a special aura -- whether we're talking about gambling, entertainment, or poker," said Andy Rich, Director of Poker Operations for Caesars Palace. "We've always been the 'where it's at' in Las Vegas. Over the next 12 days, we're rolling out the red carpet for thousands of poker players who are expected enter our events and play for a gold ring. As the saying goes, 'you can't get a hit if you don't stand up to the plate and take swing.'"

This marks the first time ever that the WSOP Circuit has come to Las Vegas so early in the season. In previous years, WSOP Circuit events have taken place in April. However, with so many exciting activities happening in Las Vegas early in the year, more players than ever before will have the opportunity to participate in a WSOP Circuit event, many for the first time.

To encourage more players to give the WSOP Circuit a try, Caesars Palace is offering \$70 buy-in Turbo Super Satellites, with \$50 re-buys each morning starting at 10 am. These Turbo Super Satellites will be held prior to the start of gold ring events (most of which start at noon). The dailies will guarantee at least ten seats to be given away for that day's event. In short, it's a less expensive way for many players to come in early and win a seat for a gold ring event at a fraction of the cost.

In addition, daily No-Limit Hold'em tournaments (non-gold ring events) take place most days at 9 am (\$70 entry fee, with 3,000 in starting chips), 7 pm (\$110 entry fee, with 10,000 in starting chips) and 10 pm (\$85 entry fee, with 7,500 in starting chips). The bottom line is – no poker room in Las Vegas (or anywhere for that matter) will host more tournaments over the next 12 days. Moreover, cash games will be running inside the poker room around the clock. Caesars Palace boasts one of the most luxurious poker rooms in the game. The multi-million dollar facility located adjacent to the world-famous sportsbook and Pure nightclub has a special tournament room, which is adorned with the portraits of many of poker's most legendary players.

This is the ninth WSOP Circuit stop of the season, following previous tournaments held in several other locations throughout the U.S. The 2011-2012 season includes a total of 18 WSOP Circuit stops.

All tournament players become eligible to compete in the WSOP Circuit National Championship, which takes place at season's end. The top 100 players who qualify based on a points system will compete in a nationally-televised championship, which is expected to be played in late May. Two guaranteed seats will be awarded at Caesars Palace and will go to the "Best All-Around Player" and the Main Event champion.

In previous year's, some very notable names have won gold rings at Caesars Palace and added to their legacy as the best players in the game. Previous WSOP Circuit Main Event Champions crowned at Caesars Palace include:

2006 – John Spadavecchia
2007 – Cory Carroll
2008 – Allen Cunningham
2009 – Justin Bonomo
2010 – Andrew Lichtenberger
2011 – Christopher Johnson

The complete WSOP Circuit schedule at Caesars Palace can be seen at WSOP.com. Special room rates for players are available.

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