



**2011/2012 World Series of Poker Circuit  
Harrah's Rincon (North San Diego)**

**Event #1**

**No-Limit Hold'em**

**Buy-In: \$300 (+45)**

**Total Entries: 331**

**Total Prize Pool: \$96,321**

**March 15-16, 2012**

**Official Final Results:**

1	Randy Paguio	San Diego, CA, US	\$21,844
2	Rex Clinkscales	LAS VEGAS, NV, US	\$13,504
3	Randy Reyes	Gardena, CA, US	\$9,851
4	Andrew Sapiro	Alamo, CA, US	\$7,307
5	Steve Crockett	Costa Mesa, CA, US	\$5,505
6	Jason Jacintho	SAN DIEGO , CA, US	\$4,210
7	Christopher Daniel	Tempe, AZ, US	\$3,267
8	Dan Natarelli	SIMI VALLEY, CA, US	\$2,572
9	Mark Austria	Moreno Valley, CA, US	\$2,053
10	Srihari Mupparaju	San Diego, CA, US	\$1,661
11	Joseph Choueiri	Glendale, CA, US	\$1,661
12	Ricardo Quiroz	SPRING VALLEY, CA, US	\$1,661
13	Jason Taticzek	TEMECULA, CA, US	\$1,363
14	Anthony Ditomaso	EL CAJON, CA, US	\$1,363
15	Ebrahim Gozum	SAN DIEGO, CA, US	\$1,363
16	Michael Souza	SAN DIEGO, CA, US	\$1,133
17	Cody Markovich	Edinboro, PA, US	\$1,133
18	Tyler Wilson	San Diego, CA, US	\$1,133
19	William Spohn	Chula Vista, CA, US	\$954
20	William Morgan	Spring Valley, CA, US	\$954
21	Saad Pattah	Escondodo, CA, US	\$954
22	Chris Back	VANCOUVER, BC, CA	\$815
23	Pablo Lopez	SAN DIEGO, CA, US	\$815
24	Albert Atwood	SAN DIEGO, CA, US	\$815
25	Nicholas Miller	Sun Lakes, AZ, US	\$705
26	Brandon Bowyer	RIVERSIDE, CA, US	\$705
27	Jaison Jones	Vista, CA, US	\$705
28	Gregory Ives	San Diego, CA, US	\$617
29	Habib Khanis	SAN DIEGO, CA, US	\$617

30	Rafael Lopez	Chino, CA, US	\$617
31	Brian Orrico	Bellevue, WA, US	\$547
32	Chad Thyzel	TEMECULA, CA, US	\$547
33	Lars Rudholm	San Diego, CA, US	\$547
34	James Bolender	Poway, CA, US	\$491
35	Sandor Molnar	San Diego, CA, US	\$246
36	Michael Cushing	CHULA VISTA, CA, US	\$245

## Tournament Report:

### Randy Paguio Wins Opener at Harrah's Rincon

### Rex Clinkscales Takes Second Place – Now Has 12 Cashes This Season (National Leader)

### WSOP Circuit at San Diego Opens with 331-Player Field

### Poker Action in Southern California Continues through March 26<sup>th</sup>

**Rincon Reservation, CA (March 16, 2012)** – Ruth Paguio may no longer grace this earth. But she was certainly present in spirit at the latest World Series of Poker Circuit event, held at the Harrah's Rincon Casino and Resort, located near San Diego.

The late Mrs. Paguio, who passed away last December, provided the inspiration for her son Randy to play his best. He was ultimately rewarded with his first major tournament victory, which paid \$21,844 in prize money. He was also presented with his first WSOP Circuit gold ring, which is the crowning achievement for winning a tour event.

"I want to dedicate this victory to my mother," Randy Paguio said solemnly, moment after his victory. "She meant so much to me. This is for her."

Indeed, there was no fist pumping or wild celebration during, nor after, the opening WSOP Circuit tournament at Rincon. Perhaps due to a final table that took nine hours to complete and a long two days that drained the finalists, the last few players seemed to have no energy remaining after such an intense double session of play. A few of the final table players noted that this was as tough a finale as they had ever experienced. At one point when play was five handed, it took four hours to eliminate a player.

In the end, Paguio was the only player standing, making that sitting at the final table. He defeated a bulldog tough runner up, Rex Clinkscales, from Las Vegas. Clinkscales had experienced a wild roller coaster on the final day, standing in 18<sup>th</sup> place (out of 18 players) at one point. He had the chip lead at two late stages of the tournament, but was unable to overcome a fiercely focused and determined final adversary who proved that poker is far more than a game of cards.

Paguio's story bears telling, as it's an unusual path to a gold ring victory. Now 33-years-old, Paguio was born in San Diego, where he still resides. About 12 years ago, he began playing poker seriously. In fact, he was a professional pool player for a number of years, competing in the billiards parlors around Southern California. Paguio is often called a hustler, but he

pretty much made his living from late night confrontations on a different kind of green felt, aside from the poker table. He recalls his biggest pool game, which he played for \$4,000.

When asked which of the two is tougher . poker or pool . Paguio stated pool was a tougher game to master since it requires not just mental prowess, but remarkable physical ability and skill, as well. Then, there's the psychological mastery of getting lesser-skilled players to play for money (remember, it's not hustling+if the sucker is willing to make the bet). In a sense, overcoming the odds of a final table at a major poker tournament pales in comparison to the grueling daily life of a pool player.

When asked about how realistic the classic film "The Color of Money" is to the game of pool, Paguio revealed that it was dead on.

Perhaps after winning a few more poker tournaments, he'd be better qualified to discuss "Rounders."

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The first of a dozen gold ring tournaments began on Thursday with Event #1 . a \$345 buy-in No-Sit & Go tournament. The tournament attracted 331 entries. The total prize pool came to \$96,321. The top 37 players were paid. All players who cashed received WSOP Circuit National Championship ranking points.

Among those who were Michael Souza, the bombastic San Diego poker pro, who currently owns three WSOP Circuit gold rings. This marked his 23<sup>rd</sup> time to cash on the Circuit, which places him in the top-20 all-time. Souza took 16<sup>th</sup> place.

A full list of all players who cashed in Event #1 can be seen at [WSOP.COM](http://WSOP.COM)

The tournament was played over two consecutive days. Only about 5 percent of the starting field -- 18 survivors -- took seats on the second day of action, played on Friday.

Following two hours of play on Day Two, the final table was set. Oddly enough, Rex Clinkscales, who had returned to Day Two as the player lowest in chips out of 18 players, arrived among the final ten as the chip leader.

The final table featured no former WSOP Circuit gold ring winners. Hence, a first-time champion was guaranteed. A few of the players were experienced professionals who had enjoyed previous tournament success. But virtually all of the nine finalists were searching for their first live major tournament win.

The final playing session began at 4:30 pm local time. Play finished at 1:30 am making the total duration about nine hours. The official order of finish was as follows:

**9<sup>th</sup> Place** – Mark Austria was the ninth-place finisher. He is a 29-year-old student from Moreno Valley, CA. Austria previously served in the U.S. Navy. This was his first time to play in a WSOP Circuit tournament. His best previous showing in a poker event was a third-place finish recently at the nearby Pechanga Casino.

**8<sup>th</sup> Place** – Dan Natarelli ended up in eighth place. He is a 43-year-old IT professional from Simi Valley, CA. Natarelli has an impressive record of finishes in WSOP-related tournaments . including 13 combined cashes. His best showing was a second-place finish earlier this season at the WSOP Circuit. For more information, visit [stackemcoaching.com](http://stackemcoaching.com)



gold bracelet event. The other automatic qualifier will be the winner of Main Event championship (to be held March 24-26).

With the first tournament wrapped up, there are still 11 more gold ring events remaining in what continues through March 26<sup>th</sup>. but multiple second-chance tournaments, single table and mega satellites, plus cash games going around the clock inside the action-packed poker room

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### MORE ABOUT THE WSOP CIRCUIT AT HARRAH'S RINCON (NORTH SAN DIEGO)

V@Pæ:æ@Üj& } Ôæ q [ Åj åÜ^ [ ! Ë^ q^ åÅ Å@& [ |Å [ ~ } æ • Å Í -miles away from sunny San Diego, is jointly owned and operated by the Rincon San Leandro Band of Indians and Caesars Entertainment.

Pæ:æ@Üj& } has been one of only three flagship Caesars Entertainment properties which have hosted a tour stop during each and every season, since the WSOP Circuit was launched back in 2005.

V@Å^æq ÅGÜj \* • Å ÅGÖæ • Åeries is taking place March 15-26. As has been the case for all previous major poker events, all action is held inside an expansive grand ballroom located on the first floor, adjacent to the main casino.

Pæ:æ@Üj& } Å Å æ^ | Å } • æ^ | åÅ Å Å } ^ Å - Å [ • Å ] • & æ^ Å [ | ] ^ | ç • Å } Å@Á ÜUÚÁ Circuit. The casino and poker room draws mostly from the Los Angeles and San Diego areas. The hotel has 662 rooms and a 21-story tower. The casino has 2,000 slot machines and 61 gaming tables . including a poker room with 11 tables located on the second floor and pool deck. The hotel and resort includes a health spa and the Woods Valley Golf Club.

This will be the 14<sup>th</sup> out of 17 stops of the 2011-2012 World Series of Poker Circuit season. Just two months ago, The Bicycle Casino (Los Angeles) became the second California casino to partner with the WSOP Circuit.

Hall:æ@Üj& } Å Å Å æ^ Å Å [ { Å • Å [ ~ Å ^ , @ | ^ Å Å [ ~ ç@ | } Å ç | } æ The luxury resort is located north of San Diego off of Interstate 15 and is about a two-hour drive from Downtown Los Angeles. Las Vegas is about a four-hour drive. The casino is located close to the cities of Temecula and Escondido (CA). Pæ:æ@Üj& } Å Å [ ~ Å Å Å } Å æ Å [ { Å@Á San Diego International Airport. Multiple direct flights are available from just about anywhere in the country. As a major hub of Southwest Airlines, San Diego offers many bargain airfares.

Ú [ \ ^ | Å ] æ ^ | • Å ç@ [ ~ ^ • Å } å Å } å • Å Å } & [ ~ | æ ^ å Å Å } • æ^ | Pæ:æ@Üj& } Å Å@Á ideal destination to mix poker with many leisurely resort activities. San Diego, with 70-degree weather, is one of Å ^ | Å Å Å [ • t popular tourist destinations.

With the current season now winding down, there's a lot at stake for poker players who make ç@Å æ Å Pæ:æ@Üj& } . Not only are a dozen gold rings up for grabs, lots of prize money will also be awarded to those who cash. All players who finish in the money will also earn ranking points, which are used to determine finalists for the season-ending WSOP Circuit National Championship.

Since the season began in September, all tournament players have been in the running for 100 guaranteed pre-paid seats in the \$1 million WSOP Circuit National Championship finale . which

will be a WSOP gold bracelet event to be played in Las Vegas . July 6-7 (final table to be played July 11<sup>th</sup>)..

To see the Harrah's Rincon tournament schedule, please visit WSOP.com.

Stay tuned to WSOP.com for the latest reports and updates. WSOP.com will carry a LIVE VIDEO STREAM of every final table, starting most afternoons.

*Note: Be sure and follow all WSOP news and updates on Twitter @wsop*

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