



**2012/2013 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season Nine
Horseshoe Hammond (Chicago)
Hammond, IN
Event #8
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In \$1,000 (+125)
Total Entries: 222
Prize Pool: \$222,000
October 17-19, 2012**

Ari Engel Wins Fourth Career WSOP Circuit Gold Ring

Phone Call From Sister Re-Energized Online Poker Pro – Who Takes \$55K Top Prize in Chicago

Hammond, IN (October 19, 2012) – Did the phone call really make a difference?

Only Ari Engel knows for sure. The highly-respected veteran online and tournament pro from Canada (who also resides part-time in Las Vegas) just won his fourth World Series of Poker gold ring victory. The moment of glory came in the \$1,125 buy-in No-Limit Hold'em tournament, which was held at Horseshoe Hammond, outside of Chicago.

Engel's victory came just a day after a disappointing final table appearance in Event 7, when he finished in ninth place. This time, Engel was not to be denied.

However, there were some tough moments, especially put by the runner up, Darren Rabinowitz. In fact, Engel lost his chip lead and was on the ropes at one point, needing something desperately to happen that might change the course of events.

He got his inspiration from an odd source.

During a break in the action, Engel called his sister Naama, living in New York. She was celebrating her birthday. Engel came back a changed player after that phone call. Perhaps it was the mental break or just the ability to take inspiration from a beloved family member that seemed to re-energize his game and refocus his commitment to victory. Engel ended up winning the tournament within the next hour.

The victory gives Engel his fourth gold ring victory, which places him within one win of catching the all-time leaders. The high mark of five wins is jointly shared by Mark “Pegasus” Smith and Kyle Cartwright. He also collected the top cash prize totaling \$55,503.

Engel has been playing on the WSOP Circuit for the past six seasons. He won his first victory back in 2007 (Caesars Atlantic City). He also won in 2009 (Caesars Las Vegas) and again in 2012 (Harrah's Chester)

Engels is one the best and brightest young poker minds in the game. He's been a highly-successful online player for years, gaining a top sponsorship by one of the major sites. But Enge's live tournament abilities appear just as strong, given his impressive record of accomplishment.

Moreover, Engel appears to have higher goals and addition motivation to win.

“Winning a fifth gold ring is something I'm definitely after,” Engel said afterward. “I really respect the other players who have five rings, but I am going to try and go after the record.”

Engel was born in Canada. However, he spent some of his youth in Brooklyn, NY. He also lived all over the world, finally settling down on a duel national scene which includes both Toronto and Las Vegas.

But from watching Engel play and win, his real home seems to be the poker table.

The top-ten finishers were as follows:

1	Ari Engel	LAS VEGAS	NV	US	\$55,503.00
2	Darren Rabinowitz	MERCER ISLAND	WA	US	\$34,303.00
3	Corey Burbick	DAVIE	FL	US	\$24,966.00
4	Jeffery Winchell	JOLIET	IL	US	\$18,464.00
5	Gregory Jennings	OVERLAND PARK	KS	US	\$13,868.00
6	Matthew Colvin	DALLAS	TX	US	\$10,578.00
7	Joel Casper	CHICAGO	IL	US	\$8,192.00
8	Ngoc Nguyen	WICHITA	KS	US	\$6,438.00
9	Corrie Wunstel	BATON ROUGE	LA	US	\$5,135.00

Tournament Notes

- Day One began with 222 starters for the 5 pm start. By the end of ten hours of play, 43 remained. The survivors returned for Day Two and played another six hours before the final table session began.
- When the final table began, Engel was in the middle of the pack. The early chip leader was Gregory Jennings. He finished fifth.
- The runner up was Darren Rabinowitz, from Mercer Island, WA. He put up a tough fight. The duel lasted more than two hours.

- Two-time gold ring winner Matthew Colvin finished in sixth place.
- The final table went about nine hours, which is considerably longer than the average time span of play for WSOP Circuit events.

Through the conclusion of Event 7, Gary Lindesmith (Lowell, IN) had moved into a tie with Mike Leah (Toronto, Ontario – Canada). They were the co-leaders in the Casino Champions race. Both players have 57.5 points. There's a logjam of players in second place, since all of the eight gold ring winners have 50 points at present.

However, with Engel's victory he is likely to be the new leader once the latest points total is tabulated with all recent finishers.

The player who accumulates the most overall points in Horseshoe Hammond's twelve combined gold ring tournaments will earn the title "Casino Champion" and shall receive automatic entry into the \$1 Million 2012-13 WSOP Circuit National Championship. The qualifier will join the winner of the Horseshoe Hammond Main Event, who also wins an automatic seat.

All players who cash in ring events receive points that apply to both the Casino Championship race (good for Horseshoe Hammond only) and the season-long race to claim one of the 60 at-large National Championship bids to be awarded to the top point earners throughout the season. More information on the points system is available on WSOP.com.

The 2012-13 WSOP Circuit at Horseshoe Hammond in Hammond, IN runs through October 22, 2012.

For more information on the World Series of Poker Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter at @WSOP or check us out on WSOP.com.

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