

**2012/2013 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season Nine
Harrah's Resort Atlantic City
Atlantic City, NJ
Event #5
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$525 (+\$55)
Total Entries: 260
Prize Pool: \$129,675
December 4-5, 2012**



Yury Parad Wins \$580 No-Limit Hold'em at Harrah's AC

2011-2012 Choctaw Main Event Champion Abe Araya finishes third.

Atlantic City, NJ (December 5, 2012) — Yury Parad came to the United States from Ukraine to pursue one of the many business ventures that occupied his professional life for 30 years. Parad worked in the IT industry, real estate and was even involved in films. He says his business took him all over the world.

Now, as a retiree, he's found a new passion. He was given a seat into a satellite for the \$10,000 L.A. Poker Classic Main Event for his 60th birthday. Parad, a poker novice at the time, won the satellite and took his seat in the LAPC Main Event some days later.

Miraculously, he rode a hot streak of cards and finished 16th in the championship tournament.

"I had my birthday together with Phil Ivey and Phil Hellmuth. They were on my table and we cut my cake," Parad said. "I was clueless. Only now do I start to comprehend how clueless I was. I felt overwhelmed. I felt (Ivey and Hellmuth) read me so well."

Things have changed for Parad in the four years since his LAPC run. He's recorded multiple five-figure cashes and even placed 11th in a WSOP Circuit Main Event at Harrah's St. Louis. Most recently, he won Event 5, a \$580 No-Limit Hold'em tournament Wednesday night at Harrah's Resort in Atlantic City, NJ for \$31,770.

The score isn't his largest, but it holds a special place in his heart.

"I did it for my grandson," Parad said of his first major tournament victory. "He is five years old and is darling. He wants to play poker, but for now he's focusing on chess. I said, 'first learn about chess, then you can play poker.'"

Parad's grandson should certainly be proud of his grandfather's feat. Parad outlasted WSOP Circuit champion Mukul Pahuja (5th) and two-time WSOP Circuit champion (including a Main Event victory in 2011-12 at Choctaw), Abe Araya (3rd).

He plans to take a few days off from poker until the Harrah's Resort Main Event on Saturday.

Event 5 was the fifth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Harrah's Resort. The \$580 No-Limit Hold'em tournament attracted 260 entries. The total prize pool came to \$129,675 and the top 27 players were paid.

Day 1 began Tuesday at 12 p.m. and lasted 21 levels. Day 2 began Wednesday at 3 p.m. with 18 players remaining. The nine-handed final table began at about 4:45 p.m. Play finished at about 9:30 p.m. making the total duration of the final table four hours and forty-five minutes.

All players who cashed received WSOP Circuit National Championship ranking points.

Notes on the Event

- The final table included two gold ring champions. Pahuja (5th) won a ring at Harrah's Resort in a \$2,150 buy-in event in 2009. Araya, who owns two rings, won his first in the 2012 Choctaw Main Event and second two months later at Caesars in Atlantic City.
- Kevin Elia (2nd) made a final table in a \$1,000 buy-in event at the WSOP this summer. His resume now boasts two cashes, both coming at final tables.
- Event 5 was the second of two \$580 tournaments to take place at Harrah's Resort.

The player who accumulates the most overall points in Harrah's Resort's twelve combined gold ring tournaments will earn the title "Casino Champion" and receive automatic entry into the \$1 Million WSOP National Championship to take place in New Orleans May 2013.

All players who cash in ring events will receive points that apply toward the Casino Champion race and the season-long race to claim one of the 60 at-large National Championship bids awarded to the top point earners throughout the season. More information on the points system is available on WSOP.com.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from Harrah's Resort:

EVENT #1: Jacob Coker defeated 536 players (\$365 NLH) for \$35,033

EVENT #2: Brandon Fish defeated 858 players (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$50,862

EVENT #3: Daniel Marcus defeated 197 players (\$580 NLH) for \$25,546

EVENT #4: Moshe Bernstein defeated 422 players (\$365 NLH) for \$28,223

EVENT #5: Yury Parad defeated 260 players (\$580 NLH) for \$31,770

With the fifth tournament now wrapped, seven more ring events remain at Harrah's Resort.

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