

**2012/2013 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season Nine
Harrah's Resort Atlantic City
Atlantic City, NJ
Event #9
No-Limit Hold'em Turbo
Buy-In: \$320 (+\$45)
Total Entries: 326
Prize Pool: \$99,104
December 7, 2012**



Champion in a Day: Kunal Shah Wins \$365 Turbo

Randal Sklar, Stephen Hesse, Daniel Vehring fall short of Casino Champion's lead. Shah moves into nine-way tie.

Atlantic City, NJ (December 8, 2012) — It took Kunal Shah less than 13 hours to lay claim to his first WSOP Circuit gold ring in Event 9, a \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo tournament, Friday at Harrah's Resort. The event began at 12 p.m. and Shah held all the chips by 1:40 a.m. Take into account the one-hour dinner break and you've got a tournament that played out in its entirety in 12 hours and 40 minutes.

"I think the turbo tournaments are great," Shah said. "It gives a lot of opportunity to players who are worried less about the money and want the ring. It's an amazing feat for them and it gives something to prove."

Shah won \$23,289, a gold ring and moved into a nine-way tie in the Casino Championship at Harrah's Resort, but the final table had much larger Casino Championship implications for a few other entrants, specifically the runner up, Stephen Hesse.

Hesse came a mere one spot short of taking the outright lead, finishing second and earning 37.5 points. He previously earned 10 points for a 15th place finish in Event 7, a \$1,125 No-Limit Hold'em event.

Additionally, Randal Sklar needed a fifth place finish in Event 9 to tie the leaders and a fourth place finish to surpass them. He finished sixth, earning 22.5 points. Sklar sits in solo second with 47.5 points while Hesse is in a three-way tie for third with 42.5.

Daniel Vehring also had a chance to take the Casino Champion's lead, but came up well short of the first place finish necessary, cashing in eighth.

Three events remain for players to earn points to the season-ending National championship.

Event 9 was the ninth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Harrah's Resort. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo tournament attracted 326 entries. The total prize pool came to \$99,104 and the top 33 players were paid.

The tournament played out in its entirety in one day beginning at 12 p.m. Friday. The nine-handed final table began at 11 p.m. Play finished at about 1:40 a.m. making the total duration of the final table two hours and 40 minutes and the total duration of the tournament 13 hours and 40 minutes including a one-hour dinner break.

Notes on the Event

- Event 9 was the first of two turbo tournaments schedule at Harrah's Resort. The second takes place Monday.
- There is a nine-way tie atop the leaderboard through nine events.
- Randal Sklar (6th) would have tied the Casino Champion's lead with a fifth place finish and taken sole possession of it with a fourth place finish.
- Stephen Hesse (2nd) and Daniel Vehring (8th) could have taken solo possession of the Casino Champion's lead with a first place finish.

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 receive points that apply toward the Casino Champion's 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
EVENT #6: Alan Cutler defeated 329 players (\$365 NLH Six-Handed) for \$23,504
EVENT #7: James Gilbert defeated 196 players (\$1,125 NLH) for \$50,106
EVENT #8: John Cernuto defeated 164 players (\$365 Limit O8) for \$13,461
EVENT #9: Kunal Shah defeated 326 players (\$365 NLH Turbo) for \$23,289

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

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