

**2012/2013 World Series of Poker Circuit**  
**Season Nine**  
**Choctaw Casino Resort**  
**Durant, OK**  
**Event #4**  
**No-Limit Hold'em**  
**Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)**  
**Total Entries: 338**  
**Prize Pool: \$101,400**  
**January 13-14, 2013**

## **Twice as Nice for Aaron Ruppert**

**Meteorologist weathers the storm to record his second WSOP Circuit victory.**

**Durant, Okla. (January 15, 2013)** — Aaron Ruppert joined the elite club of two-time WSOP Circuit champions Tuesday morning at Choctaw Resort. The Oklahoma-based pro bested 338 entrants in Event 4, a \$365 No-Limit Hold'em tournament, to take home \$23,326 and, of course, his second WSOP Circuit gold ring.

Ruppert's first victory came last year at Horseshoe Council Bluffs in a \$350 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo tournament when he bested 178 entrants to win \$13,983.

"I won [a ring] last year in Council Bluffs and this one is a little bit more [prize money] than that one, so hopefully the trend continues," Ruppert said of his wins.

Ruppert is a familiar face on the WSOP Circuit and close friends with three-time champion Huy Nguyen. Both are highly successful players in their own right, but Ruppert says his success is a direct result of the relationships he's formed in the poker community, not only with Nguyen, but with others as well.

"The number one reason I've gotten pretty good at poker is just from talking to my friends and going over strategy all the time," Ruppert said. "To have Huy [Nguyen] and a bunch of other friends who are probably better than me at poker; to learn from them and to learn from each other, it's key. You can't be overconfident and think you can do it yourself. You've got to use your friends to get better."

If that's true, Ruppert is certainly indebted to his colleagues. The 32-year-old from Norman, Okla. has almost \$175,000 in career earnings at the WSOP including back-to-back WSOP Main Event cashes and two Circuit victories.

Amazingly, Ruppert says poker isn't even his first love. His true passion lies in meteorology, a hobby he went to grad school for and practices to this day. When he's not on the felt Ruppert can be found chasing storms and even appeared on the Discovery Channel's "Storm Chasers" for a season.

"Weather is my number one love, poker might be number two now," Ruppert said.

