



**2012/2013 World Series of Poker Circuit
The Bicycle Casino
Event #12
Six-Handed No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$300 (+65)
Total Entries: 146
Total Prize Pool: \$43,800
January 14-15, 2013**

Krzysztof Stybaniewicz Doesn't Let Victory Get Away from Him

Krzysztof Stybaniewicz Triumphs Over Chris Bonita for the Final Ring of the Series

Los Angeles, CA (January 15, 2013) –

When you pose for a Circuit winner photo, the photographers from ImageMasters (the official WSOP Circuit photography partner) has you do some fun things like throw cards in the air, put your new ring on and pose with it, or throw chips in the air. It is a fun, albeit sometimes goofy, process that have produced memorable photos

While Krzysztof Stybaniewicz was posing for his official Circuit winner photos and doing all the antics described above, he looked down at the table had a moment of panic.

“Where did my ring go?”

For a minute, the new piece of hardware almost got away, having rolled off the table and over to the foot of one of the people observing the festivities. Thankfully, he quickly got it back and he was more than a little happy to slip it on his finger where it belongs.

It is a fitting end for Stybaniewicz, considering the ring almost got away from him tonight at the final table of the final event of The Bicycle Casino Circuit series, a \$365 Six-Handed No Limit tournament that drew 146 runners. Stybaniewicz didn't have a big stack most of the afternoon, but he managed to get heads-up for the title against a formidable opponent and longtime Circuit player, Chris Bonita.

When heads-up play began, nothing really went Stybaniewicz's way. For almost an hour, Bonita whittled Stybaniewicz's stack down until he had a nearly 8-1 chip advantage while Stybaniewicz was left with just 12 big blinds. Stybaniewicz battled back though, doubling twice to move into the chip lead. On the final hand of play, he completed his impressive comeback when he flopped two pair against Bonita's overpair of jacks. The two got it all-in and Stybaniewicz held to win the first Circuit ring of his poker career.

"I got really short at the end, so I'm fortunate that I could rebuild at the end and make it happen," Stybaniewicz said about his comeback victory. "Honestly, during the first level and a half, I think Chris held over me pretty well."

Stybaniewicz was very complimentary of his opponent's play at the final table. Bonita certainly had experience on his side with both Circuit and WSOP final tables to his credit. Even though experience was on Bonita's side, Stybaniewicz summed it up pretty well by saying, "I guess the poker gods were smiling on me tonight."

Stybaniewicz earned \$12,470 for the victory, while Bonita collected \$7,715 as runner-up.

This is the first Circuit win and final table appearance for Stybaniewicz. The recent UC-Boulder graduate from Lakewood, CO has a few other poker cashes to his credit, but he does not consider himself a professional. "I'm just taking some time off after graduation," he explained.

If today's performance at the poker table is any indication, taking his time, enjoying the moment, and making sure no opportunity gets away from him is an approach to life that certainly seems to be working out for Stybaniewicz so far.

This was the final event of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at The Bicycle Casino. Officially listed as Event #12 -- the \$365 buy-in No-Limit Hold'em tournament attracted 146 entries. The total prize pool came to \$143,800. The top 15 players were paid. All players who cashed received WSOP Circuit National Championship ranking points.

The tournament was played over two consecutive days, starting on Monday. Only seven survivors took seats on the second day of action, played on Tuesday. It took only twenty minutes on Day 2 to reach the six-handed final table. The final playing session began at 3:00 pm local time. Play finished at 7:30pm, making the total duration of the final table about four hours, most of which was heads-up action.

Notes on the Event

-The final table featured no previous ring winners.

-There was an element of suspense to this final table beyond simply who the winner would be, as David Pecaski had a chance at the Casino Champion title, having made a final table earlier in the series. He needed a victory to clinch the National Championship seat, but ultimately finished in fourth place, giving the Casino Champion honor to Nathan Bjerno.

-Chris Bonita does not have a ring, but he was easily the most experienced player with WSOP and Circuit final tables to his credit.

-Unlike most final events this Circuit season, this was a two-day event. Seven players returned for the second day of action and it took less than half an hour to lose Craig Vieregg in seventh place and set the official final table.

The conclusion of this event cements Nathan Bjerno's status as the Casino Champion for The Bicycle Casino. Thanks to a win in Event 5 and an eighth place finish in the Main Event, Bjerno earned the title Casino Champion and receives an automatic entry into the \$1 million 2013 WSOP Circuit National Championship presented by Southern Comfort 100 Proof. All players who cash in ring events will receive points that apply to both 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 all the gold ring winners from Caesars Atlantic City, so far:

EVENT #1: Clark Harney defeated 273 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$19,600
EVENT #2: Wendy Freedman defeated 167 players (\$580 NLHE) for \$22,545
EVENT #3: David Yoon defeated 723 players (\$365 re-entry) for \$43,340
EVENT #4: Amir Ghazvinian defeated 198 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$15,440
EVENT #5: Nathan Bjerno defeated 157 players (\$580 NLHE) for \$21,180
EVENT #6: Michael Taylor defeated 193 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$15,050
EVENT #7: Ray Henson defeated 157 players (\$1,125 NLHE) for \$42,390
EVENT #8: Stephen Gibbs defeated 177 players (\$365 Omaha Hi-Lo) for \$14,350
EVENT #9: Alexandru Masek defeated 212 players (\$365 Turbo) for \$15,905
EVENT #10 (Main): Baptiste Chavaillaz defeated 721 players for \$216,275
EVENT #11: David Lavin defeated 211 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$15,810
EVENT #12: Krzysztof Stybaniewicz defeated 146 players (\$365 6-Handed) for \$12,470

And with that, the 2012-2013 Circuit event at The Bicycle Casino is a wrap. All told, this series awarded just over \$2 million in prize money to an array of poker players, notable names and local grinders alike.

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

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