

## 2012-2013 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season Nine

Horseshoe Casino

Council Bluffs, Iowa

Event #3

No-Limit Hold'em Re-Entry

Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)

Total Entries: 562

Prize Pool: \$168,600

April 13-15, 2012



## Zach Smith Makes his First Cash Count

21-year-old records victory in second WSOP Circuit tournament entered.

Cell phone sales rep comes in crystal clear in Council Bluffs re-entry event.

**Council Bluffs, Iowa (April 15, 2013)** — Zach Smith's resume didn't match that of many of his final table opponents in Event 3 at Horseshoe Casino, but that didn't matter. The 21-year-old fearlessly outlasted the likes of three-time Circuit champion Jessie Bryant, two-time champion William Byrnes and gold ring winner Katherine Bowen en route to his first WSOP Circuit victory and \$35,397.

"I've only played two Circuit events ever, so this is awesome," Smith said.

The victory was foreshadowed on Day 1 of the \$365 no-limit hold'em re-entry event when Smith got his last 7,500 chips in with pocket jacks versus the [Ax][Jx] of his opponent.

"He flopped an ace then I hit the case jack on the turn," Smith recalled. "That was the turning point in the tournament right there."

Admittedly, he had a long way to go, but hitting the one-outer gave Smith the confidence he needed to make a deep run in the event and he didn't go home disappointed.

An extra day was added to the structure to accommodate the large turnout and Smith began the final four-handed playing session second in chips behind Bowen, who made an early exit in 4th. Next to go was Mark Fink in 3rd. Impressively, Fink has now final tabled this event two years in a row, improving on his 5th-place finish of 2012. The last and most important player to fall victim to Smith was Nicholas Marsh. Marsh earned \$21,899 for what his second WSOP Circuit cash.

The tournament drew a monstrous field of 562 entrants and boasted a prize pool of \$168,600. Notable entrants included 103-time WSOP casher Doug Carli, 2013 Choctaw Main Event champion Jeff Fielder, gold bracelet champion Nick Jivkov, 2012 Council Bluffs Main Event champion Scott Stanko and the defending Council Bluffs re-entry champion Stephen Kats. Of those, just Kats (40th) and Stanko (18th) cashed.

Other notable in-the-money finishers included Brett Schwertley (37th), Jose Serratos (33rd), Byrnes (9th), Bryant (7th) and Bowen (4th).

Bowen, who in 2012 was one of just six females to qualify for the WSOP National Championship, was eyeing her second ring while Bryant was looking for his fourth and Byrnes his third.

Smith is a part-time student with aspirations of becoming a professional poker player. He's currently employed as a cell phone sales representative and spends his free time golfing or watching primetime television shows. A player who prefers full-ring games, he says he plans to play all the upcoming events at Council Bluffs except the \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Six-Handed event taking place Tuesday.

Event 3 was the third of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Horseshoe Council Bluffs. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Re-Entry tournament attracted 562 entries. The total prize pool came to \$168,600 and the top 63 players were paid.

Days 1A and 1B began Saturday at noon and 5 p.m. respectively and lasted 15 levels. Day 2 began Sunday at noon with 93 players remaining. The nine-handed final table began at about 11 p.m. and Day 2 play finished at about 2 a.m. Cards were in the air for Day 3 at 3 p.m. Monday with four players remaining and Zach Smith was crowned champion at 5 p.m. making the total duration of the final table about five hours over the course of two days.

#### **Notes on the Event**

- The re-entry event marked Smith's second WSOP Circuit tournament entered and his first cash.
- David Sutton took the Casino Championship lead with an 8th-place finish. He also became the first player to make two final table appearances during the 2012-2013 series at Council Bluffs.
- Katherine Bowen (4th) was one of only six females to qualify for the WSOP National Champion in 2012.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during Horseshoe Council Bluff's 12 combined gold ring tournaments will earn the title Casino Champion and receive automatic entry into the WSOP National Championship Presented by Southern Comfort 100 Proof.

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 Horseshoe Council Bluffs:

EVENT #1: Nick Jivkov defeated 260 players (\$365 NLH) for \$19,110.

EVENT #2: Jovan Sudar defeated 148 players (\$365 NLH Turbo) for \$12,434.

EVENT #3: Zach Smith defeated 562 players (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$35,397.

With the third tournament wrapped, nine more ring events remain at Horseshoe Council Bluffs.

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