

**2012-2013 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season Nine
Horseshoe Casino
Council Bluffs, Iowa
Event #5
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 186
Prize Pool: \$55,800
April 15-16, 2013**



Clears Skies for Ryan Krauss in Event 5

Nebraska resident outlasts Pavlin Karakikov in three-hour heads-up battle.

Instrument-rated pilot cashes in on \$14,505 worth of gas money for his Cessna.

Council Bluffs, Iowa (April 16, 2013) — Event 5 at Horseshoe Casino in Council Bluffs played from a starting field of 186 to just nine in less than 21 levels. Day 2 began with an official final table and from then it took three brief hours to reach heads-up play.

But then the action halted.

Unlike the players before them, Ryan Krauss and Pavlin Karakikov didn't have anywhere to go and they were at that final table for one reason -- gold.

The pair dueled for the better part of four hours. Krauss began with the chip lead but relinquished it to Karakikov who, at one point, found himself at about a 3-to-1 advantage. Next thing you knew, Krauss held a 10-to-1 advantage. Then his lead crumbled to just 5-to-1.

The seesaw battle eventually saw Krauss' [Qx][9x] get the best of Karakikov, who would finish second earning \$8,962.

"It feels great, man," Krauss said of the victory. "When we were head-to-head, [Karakikov] was tough. He was playing tight and I had to grind it out a little bit."

Krauss was awarded \$14,505, a WSOP Circuit gold ring and 50 points toward the Casino Championship. The win marks the first for the 38-year-old investment advisor and instrument-rated pilot who by his own account was due for a tournament win.

Krauss resides in Saint Paul, NB. and when he's not on the tournament felt you can find him in the sky flying between work meetings.

"How I get back and forth from all my client meetings is by flying my small Cessna," Krauss said. "It beats the heck out of driving, man. I don't miss the interstate one bit."

Joining Krauss in the money were WSOP gold bracelet champion Nick Jivkov (10th) and 2011-2012 Horseshoe Council Bluffs Casino Champion Mike Nellis (5th). The late stages of the

tournament also included the likes of gold ring champion David Chishko (6th) and WSOP final tablist Eric Hettinga (3rd).

This was the fifth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Horseshoe Council Bluffs. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em tournament attracted 186 entries. The total prize pool came to \$55,800 and the top 21 players made the money.

Day 1 began Monday at 12 p.m. and lasted 21 levels. Day 2 began Tuesday at 3 p.m. with nine players remaining. The nine-handed final table was reached during the last level of Day 1 play and concluded at 9 p.m. on Day 2 making the total duration of the finale six hours and 45 minutes over the course of two days.

Notes on the Event

- Nick Jivkov was the final table bubble boy, finishing 10th for \$1,059. Jivkov is best known for his gold bracelet victory at the 2012 WSOP, but he most recently won Event 1 right here in Council Bluffs last week.
- In 2012, Mike Nellis recorded two runner-up finishes en route to winning the Casino Championship. His 5th-place finish in Event 5 marked his third career WSOP Circuit final table, but he's still waiting on the elusive first ring.

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.

EVENT #4: Jason Mayfield defeated 186 players (\$365 NLH) for \$14,505.

EVENT #5: Ryan Krauss defeated 186 players (\$365 NLH) for \$14,505.

With the fifth tournament wrapped, seven more ring events remain at Horseshoe Council Bluffs. 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:

Lukas M. Willems (WSOP Media Coordinator) at lukasmwillems@gmail.com.