

World Series of Poker Circuit Events Season Nine Harrah's Philadelphia Event #3 No-Limit Hold'em Buy-In: \$580 Total Entries: 99 Total Prize Pool: \$49,500 April 28 – April 29, 2013

## DJ Mackinnon Wins Event 3 at Harrah's Philadelphia

## New York poker pro surges near top of National Championship Points leaderboard, secures one of 60 Seats to \$1 million freeroll at Harrah's New Orleans

CHESTER, PA (April, 29 2013) - DJ Mackinnon can breathe a little easier now.

Before the start of the Harrah's Philadelphia WSOP Circuit Events, the poker pro from East Amherst, NY was among the logjam of players near the current qualifying points cutoff for one of the 60 at-large seats to the WSOP National Championship in May.

With 120 points, Mackinnon could have quite possibly squeaked his way into the \$1 million freeroll bracelet event, but with two stops still remaining in the season, he decided not to leave his fate to chance but to take matters into his own hands and secure a seat outright to the big tournament at Harrah's New Orleans.

Mackinnon accomplished his goal Monday evening with a win in Event 3, \$580 No-Limit Hold'em at Harrah's Philadelphia. Mackinnon, who had made three previous Final Tables this season and made a Final Table at the 2011 World Series of Poker, was also able to get over that hump to secure his first WSOP win. He also collected \$14,850 and a gold ring.

With the conclusion of Event 3, Mackinnon's to-do list was suddenly much lighter.

One player who unfortunately was unable to get over that proverbial hurdle was Rex Clinkscales. The poker pro from Las Vegas, NV had made his 14<sup>th</sup> Final Table appearance in Event 3, and with the second largest stack of chips, had high hopes to break the curse and seal one up.

It wasn't meant to be however, as Clinkscales ran into a couple of early coolers included a hand where he doubled Eugene Kotlyarevskiy after running pocket aces into Kotlyarevskiy's flopped trips for over a third of his stack.

After taking more damage to his stack, Clinkscales was unable to recover and was eliminated in 9<sup>th</sup> place.

A few hours into the Final Table, it became evident that this was a group of calculated poker players unwilling to gamble, but eventually play made it down to heads up with Mackinnon and Nathan Goldstein playing for the title.

The two started even in chips, but Goldstein was able to chip up to 2-1 advantage. An critical all-in flip put Mackinnon back just slightly ahead, where he stayed, eventually forcing Goldstein to settle for the runner up spot (\$9,178).

With the win, Mackinnon joins previous event winners, Drake Roetker and Sean Britt atop the Casino Champion leader board with 50 points each.

The Casino Champion is the player who earns the most points through the 12 events at Harrah's Philadelphia. This player will earn an automatic seat to the WSOP Circuit National Championship to be held May 22– May 24 at