

**2012-2013 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season Nine
Horseshoe Casino
Council Bluffs, Iowa
Event #10
No-Limit Hold'em Turbo
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 203
Prize Pool: \$60,900
April 19, 2013**



Mark Fink Breaks Through in Council Bluffs

Newest gold ring winner tops the Casino Championship leaderboard.

Mark Bonsack falls short of second gold ring of the series.

Council Bluffs, Iowa (April 20, 2013) — Prior to Friday, Mark Fink's WSOP resume boasted 10 cashes. Of those, eight took place at Horseshoe Council Bluffs and three were final table appearances. Fink established himself as a competent player -- but he hadn't established himself as a champion. That changed Friday night.

Fink outlasted a start-studded final table in Event 10, a \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo tournament, that included Robert Chow (3rd) and runner-up Mark Bonsack. The victory awarded Fink \$15,835, a WSOP Circuit gold ring and gave him the lead in the Casino Championship race.

"I'm basically at a loss for words," Fink said following the win. "Just like everyone, I so badly want to win that ring. It's so soon [after the victory], I don't even know what I'm feeling."

Fink found himself heads-up with Event 6 Champion, Bonsack, needing a victory to take the lead in the race to New Orleans. The only problem was--Bonsack found himself in the same position.

Fink began Saturday with 45 points toward the season-ending freeroll while Bonsack began with 50. With the duo heads-up, no matter what happened the champion would be the points leader while the runner-up would be second. Fink came out on top, finishing first and catapulting to a points total of 95. The 37.5 points awarded to Bonsack for his 2nd-place finish put him firmly in second place, 7.5 point ahead of Jason Mayfield.

Two points-eligible events still remain -- the Main Event begins Saturday with the first of two starting flights at 12 p.m. and Event 12 begins Sunday at 2 p.m.

For now, though, let's let Fink revel in his victory -- because he deserves it.

He had been close to a title many times before, finishing third twice and fifth on the WSOP Circuit alone. He admitted to seeing progress in his game, but he couldn't help second-guessing

some of his decisions late in tournaments. Like Jonathan Hilton before him, Fink gave much of the credit of his breakthrough victory to his faith.

“I was really impressed by what [Hilton] had to say [after his Event 8 victory],” Fink said. “He was such a good player and he had such a good attitude. The way he gave credit to Christ, that’s exactly the way I try to play. I really feel I would be amiss to not give glory to God for being with me and helping me. I really am pulling for Hilton in all his tournaments now, too.”

Holding the Casino Championship lead, it’s an unwritten rule Fink will be playing each subsequent ring event prior to the series’ conclusion Monday afternoon. Though he doesn’t plan to play Event 12 Sunday. Why, you ask?

“I plan to be on Day 2 of the Main Event,” Fink said.

Event 10 was the tenth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Horseshoe Council Bluffs. The \$365 No-Limit Hold’em Turbo tournament attracted 203 entries. The total prize pool came to \$60,900 and the top 21 players were paid.

The tournament, which played out in its entirety in one day, began Friday at 12 p.m. The final table began at 9:15 p.m. and play finished at 11:45, meaning the tournament lasted just 11 hours and 45 minutes including a one-hour dinner break.

Notes on the Event

- Six out of the 10 unofficial final table participants previously recorded final tables during the 2012-2013 series in Council Bluffs (Jeff Heiberg, Jerry Johnson, Pavlin Karakikov, Chow, Bonsack and Fink).
- Karakikov, Bonsack and Fink each had a shot at overtaking the Casino Championship points lead.

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.

EVENT #6: Mark Bonsack defeated 134 players (\$365 Limit O8) for \$11,254.

EVENT #7: Matthew Weber defeated 184 players (\$365 NLH Six-Handed) for \$15,179.

EVENT #8: Jonathan Hilton defeated 221 players (\$365 NLH) for \$16,576.

EVENT #9: Nathan Bjerno defeated 203 players (\$580 NLH) for \$26,390.

EVENT #10: Mark Fink defeated 203 players (\$365 NLH Turbo) for \$15,835.

With the tenth tournament wrapped, two 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:

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