

2013/2014 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 10

Harrah's Rincon

Valley Center, CA

Event #9

No Limit Hold'em

Buy-In: \$580

Total Entries: 126

Prize Pool: \$63,000

December 12-13, 2013



Drew Merrick Gets Second Win At Harrah's Rincon

Poker Hall of Famer Tom McEvoy Denied Ring, Finishes Second

Casino Championship a Virtual Lock for Merrick

Valley Center, CA (December 13, 2013) -- Poker hobbyist Drew Merrick won his second gold ring today, just one week after winning his first ring here at Harrah's Rincon in event 1. In addition to the ring, the win today was good for \$17,639.

Merrick battled Poker Hall of Fame Member Tom McEvoy heads-up for over three hours. McEvoy was dead-last in chips at the start of Day 2, but by the start of heads-up play, Merrick had only a very slight chip lead. He grew that lead to 2:1, then saw their positions reversed when McEvoy doubled up with pocket Kings against Merrick's pocket 4s.

McEvoy then had the 2:1 chip lead, but Merrick never gave up. He continued to grind until he had the lead back, then on the final hand, flopped a straight with A4 against McEvoy's two pair. All the chips went in on the turn and McEvoy was drawing slim to four outs for a full house. When the river bricked, Merrick had the win and more gold. Four-time WSOP bracelet winner McEvoy earned \$10,903 for second place and was denied his first Circuit ring.

Third place and \$7,870 went to 'Cowboy' Kenna James, who was fourth of eight in chips when Day 2 began. He went on a rush early in the day, taking the chip lead after busting the 8th and 6th place finishers. Then Tom McEvoy cracked Kenna's pocket Queens with KJ and took the last of his chips with pocket 9s over James' pocket 7s.

Seyed 'Sam' Fakhrai started Day 2 as the chip leader. He busted WSOP bracelet holder Dana Castaneda in 7th place, but never got anything going after that. Fakhrai finished in 4th place for \$5,783.

Day 2 began with only eight players. When they reached the final table of 9 on Day 1, only six minutes remained in level 18 (blinds 2,500/5,000/500 ante) and they opted to finish the level so that the 500 chips could be colored up before chips were bagged for the night. David Luttbeg busted out in 9th place during that six minutes.

