

**2013/2014 World Series of Poker Circuit  
Season 10  
Choctaw Resort and Casino  
Durant, OK  
Event #1  
No-Limit Hold'em  
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)  
Total Entries: 533  
Prize Pool: \$159,900  
January 9-10, 2014**



## **Sean Stevens Wins Choctaw Opener**

**2014 kicks off with 533-player no-limit hold'em tournament, victor earns \$34,380.**

**Durant, OK (January 10, 2014)** — Sean Stevens won the first Circuit of the new year late Friday night at Choctaw Casino Resort in Durant, OK. His win in the \$365 No-Limit Hold'em tournament earned him a smooth \$34,380, but didn't come without a fight.

Stevens matched up against Krzysztof Stybaniewicz, a Polish-born player, heads-up in the year's first finale. What began as a normal bout between proficient pros turned into a marathon for the ages.

First, Stybaniewicz held the lead, then Stevens chipped up, then chips found their way back to Stybaniewicz. Before the rail knew it, the heads-up battle was going on its second hour – then its third, then its fourth. Finally, a victor was crowned during the fifth hour of two-handed play and Stevens consoled his adversary with a firm handshake and a “good game”.

“I generally like to stretch the game out as long as I can,” Stevens told the WSOP. “Me prolonging the game, small playing, pot controlling, keeping the pots small, it allows me to control my own destiny kind of.”

Whether he controlled the outcome of the tournament remains to be decided, but regardless, the 37-year-old Vegas pro broke through for his first ring and took the early lead in the Casino Championship.

Stevens is a member of the old guard of online poker and even earned SuperNova Elite honors on PokerStars prior to Black Friday. He's said life since April 15th, 2011 has been filled with lots of traveling – often a burden for his wife and two children.

“She is very supportive,” Stevens said of his wife who works as a dealer for the WSOP in the summer. “She is in the poker business so she understands the travel and the variance and the stuff that goes with it.”

Support from his wife along with some good old fashioned talent has made for a good 2013/2014 Circuit season for Stevens. His win at Choctaw marks his fourth cash and third final table. Additionally, it moves him over \$50,000 in earnings since September of 2013.



