

2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit
Foxwoods Resort Casino
Event #9
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$580
Total Entries: 176
Total Prize Pool: \$88,773
August 21-22, 2014

Randal Sklar Wins \$580 No Limit Hold'em Event for His First WSOP Circuit Ring

The Peabody, Mass. Native Moves into 2nd Place in Casino Champion Standings

Mashantucket, Conn. (August 22, 2014) – Four Days ago, Randal Sklar sat at a final table at Foxwoods. It was his first final table of this World Series of Poker Circuit season, and like each of his opponents, he had his eye on winning a WSOP Circuit ring and the first-place prize money. Unfortunately for Sklar, his deep run was cut short. He was the first player eliminated from the final table, finishing in 9th place. Today, though, he earned vindication, finishing in 1st place in the \$580 No-Limit Hold'em tournament. It was the first Circuit win of his career, and he earned \$23,969.

Sklar took a positive attitude toward his earlier final table experience, and it served him well today. "Getting 9th in that first one was a good warm-up for the series," Sklar said after his victory. "It felt great. I had a lot of confidence coming into this final table." He entered the final table second in chips, and stayed near the top most of the day. When Alex Foxen, who started the day with the chip lead, was eliminated in 4th place (\$7,812), Sklar held the chip lead, and after one more quick elimination, he was heads up against Jeff Hall.

Sklar held a chip lead of about 3-1 when heads-up play began, and he immediately started chipping away at his opponent's stack, a little at a time. He said later that was strategy. "I wanted to play small ball. I didn't think there was any need to get it all in preflop, and I just wanted to wither him away." It worked, and before long, Hall was all in and at-risk. He ended up turning a straight, though, and Sklar went to work chipping away at his stack again. A few minutes later, it seemed like history was repeating itself. Once again, the players were all in, and Hall turned a straight. "It's a little frustrating," Sklar said, "when you get down to heads up, and wither your opponent away, and win all the small pots, and then he wins the big ones. You feel like everything's working against you, but you just have to get back in the saddle, and keep doing what was working before to get back to that same spot." Sklar's did exactly that, and won the third all-in confrontation when his pocket aces held up against Hall's ace-jack.

The victory vaults Sklar into second place in the [Casino Champion race at Foxwoods](#). He earned 50 points for his win, and now has 65 points total. James Watt is still in the lead with 75 points.

The tournament attracted 176 players, generating a prize pool of \$88,773. It was played over two consecutive days, starting on Thursday. Only 9 survivors took seats on the second day of

action, played on Friday. The final playing session began at 1 p.m. local time. Play finished at 5:45 p.m., making the total duration of the final table a little less than five hours.

Notes on the Event

-Alex Foxen, who finished in 4th place, earned a Circuit ring at Harrah's New Orleans in 2012.

At the conclusion of Event 9, James Watt is still the frontrunner in the Foxwoods Casino Champion race with 75 points. Randal Sklar is now in second with 65 points. After Sklar, there are three players tied with 52.5 points: Michael Nye, Matt Smith, and John Matson. The player who accumulates the most overall points in Foxwoods's twelve gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives an automatic entry into the 2015 WSOP National Championship. The winner of the Foxwoods Main Event earns an automatic entry to the WSOP National Championship as well. All players who cash in ring events will receive points that apply to both the Casino Champion race and the season-long race to claim one of the 50 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 Foxwoods so far:

EVENT #1: James Watt defeated 588 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$35,235.
EVENT #2: Bassioni Hammouda defeated 143 players (\$1,125 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$40,199.
EVENT #3: Bill Delsanto defeated 140 players (\$365 Omaha Hi-Lo Eight-or-Better) for \$11,788.
EVENT #4: Joseph Delgobbo defeated 451 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$29,158.
EVENT #5: William Kopp defeated 352 entries (\$580 No-Limit Hold'em Re-entry) for \$40,836.
EVENT #6: Matt Smith defeated 255 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$18,787.
EVENT #7: Jesse Mercado defeated 148 players (\$580 Six-Handed No-Limit Hold'em) for \$18,787.
EVENT #8: Michael Thibeau defeated 281 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$20,280.
EVENT #9: Randal Sklar defeated 176 players (\$580 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$23,969.

With the 9th tournament now wrapped up, there are still three more gold ring events before the WSOP Circuit at Foxwoods concludes on August 25.

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