

2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 11

IP Casino Resort and Spa

Biloxi, Miss.

Event #9

No-Limit Hold'em

Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)

Total Entries: 164

Prize Pool: \$49,200

September 11-12, 2014



Pete Lawson Lays Down the Law in Event 9

Cash-game pro returns to the tournament grind with early success. Lawson bests Sean Small and Jason Mayfield three handed to earn \$13,284 and his first ring.

Biloxi, Miss. (September 12, 2014) — Pete Lawson earned his first gold ring at IP Biloxi Friday night in Event 9, a \$365 no-limit hold'em tournament. A Southern California cash-game pro, Lawson came out on top of a 164-player field that saw three-time ring winner Jessie Bryant (14th), Russ Head (11th) and Jason Schwartz (fourth) make deep runs.

The tournament was a test from the start, but the three-handed battle between Lawson, Sean Small and Jason Mayfield proved to be the most difficult stretch of his journey.

“Both the guys were playing pretty much mistake free poker,” Lawson said of Small and Mayfield. “By far I was the most aggressive at the table but I still felt like it had to be either a coin flip situation or just me picking up a monster to knock them out. They were both playing incredibly solid.”

Lawson's shot at a coin flip against the two talents came when Small opened the button for his remaining stack. Lawson, the chip leader, was next to act. He looked down at pocket eights and proceeded to three-bet all in. Mayfield followed suit committing his stack and the at-risk players needed help heading to the flop.

Small held king-jack while Mayfield tabled ace-king. It was Lawson who was in the lead with pocket eights and the dealer burned the top card.

“I faded them. Six-high board,” Lawson said of the runoff.

Mayfield held the larger stack between him and Small, and thus, Small placed third and Mayfield second.

“It feels amazing,” Lawson said. “It feels really good to play a field with some great players and feel good about my play. It's an amazing feeling, it really is.”

The final table of Event 9 ran alongside Day 1A of the Main Event. Lawson's three-handed marathon against Small and Mayfield stretched deep into the late levels of the opening flight, and thus, his shot at another talented field will have to wait until tomorrow's Day 1B.

