2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 11 Horseshoe Casino Hammond, Ind. Event #7 No-Limit Hold'em Six-Handed

Buy-In: \$500 (+\$80) Total Entries: 292 Prize Pool: \$146,000 October 21-22, 2014



Ron Slucker Outlasts Chris Karambinis in \$580 Six-Handed

Five-hour heads-up battle ends with amateur Slucker denying two-time ring winner Karambinis his third. Slucker pockets \$37,960 and a \$1,675 Main Event seat.

Hammond, Ind. (October 22, 2014) — Ron Slucker gave a lesson in endurance at the Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, Ind. Wednesday night. The Chicago resident faced off against Chris Karambinis in Event 7 of the World Series of Poker Circuit, a \$580 six-handed tournament. The pair went back and forth in a five-hour heads-up battle that saw Slucker, an amateur, get the best of two-time ring winner Karambinis. For his efforts, Slucker went home with \$37,960, his first gold ring, 50 points toward the Casino Championship and a seat in the \$1,675 Main Event.

"It's pretty amazing," Slucker said. "You go in there with 292 people and just hope you can be one of the last men standing."

A David versus Goliath battle, the heads-up matchup between Slucker and Karambinis was decidedly one-sided on the rail. Karambinis, the seasoned pro and start-of-day chip leader, commanded the late stages of play and his rail grew in size with each pot he raked. Slucker, meanwhile, had no rail to speak of and was admittedly the less experienced player.

"When you play against a pro who has two rings already and everyone knows him, it can be a little intimidating," Slucker said. "He had an entire posse there and they didn't give me a chance. If you were listening to the comments today I should have just left hours ago."

Despite it's five-hour time stamp, heads-up play was quite uneventful. Slucker clung to life doubling through Karambinis three times. Eventually, play stretched so deep into the structure levels got the best of the stacks and less than 45 big blinds were in play. It was then that Slucker edged out Karambinis for the chip lead and soon sent him to the rail in a classic race situation.

"I just think it's fun," Slucker said of his experience. "It's cool that they bring events like this to Chicago. I think it's well run. It's fun to compete and that's what I'll remember. It's like a good golf shot. You can play bad all round, then you have one good shot and remember it. That's where I am. I played well and I want to try it again."

Joining Slucker and Karambinis in the late stages of play were a number of other notable Chicago area pros. Two-time ring winner Robert Edelstein was the first elimination on Day 2,