2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 11 Palm Beach Kennel Club West Palm Beach, Fla. Event #12 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo

Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65) Total Entries: 110 Prize Pool: \$33,000

Feb. 16, 2015



Justin "Choctaw" Kruger Wins the Final Event at the Kennel Club

Justin Kruger earns his second career gold ring and sets himself up a good position to make this year's National Championship.

West Palm Beach, Fla. (February 16, 2015) -- Justin "Choctaw" Kruger collected his second gold ring by winning the final event at the Palm Beach Kennel Club in West Palm Beach, Florida. He won Event #12 – \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo for \$9,901. It took just under nine hours from the start of the tournament until Kruger held all of the chips in play.

Kruger defeated two-time gold ring winner, Tim West, heads up to earn his second gold ring. Also at his final table was the Casino Champion of this stop, Marshall White. White finished in third place.

Kruger has started out the year of 2015 in the right direction. This marks his sixth WSOP Circuit cash since 2015 began. He cashed three times in Choctaw and now three times in West Palm Beach. Three of those six cashes were 11th place finishes, two were fifth place finises and now he adds a first place finish to that.

Kruger finished in 11th place in Event #11 - \$365 No-Limit Hold'em at this stop. He was knocked out last night and just missed out on making Day 2. He then went on to play this turbo event and won it before Event #11 even finished.

Kruger is hoping to make the National Championship this year. He has collected a lot of points the past two months to put him in a good position to make a run at earning one of the 50 at-large bids. He currently sits with 130 points. The projected number of points needed to earn an at-large bid is 125-160 points. With still several stops remaining on the 2014-2015 Circuit schedule, Kruger is in great shape to earn an at-large bid. This wouldn't be the first time Kruger would be going to the National Championship though; Kruger qualified for the National Championship in 2011.

"I didn't make it out of Day 1," said Kruger about his first time at the National Championship. "I was very young then and I have learned a lot since then."

Kruger said that he will be ready to go if he makes it to the National Championship this year. Kruger said that he may play the back half of the St. Louis stop as well as the New Orleans stop. One or two more deep runs should cement a spot for Kruger in the National Championship.

Kruger is a true Circuit grinder. He has earned more than \$85,000 on the Circuit since 2011 with his largest cash only being \$17,505.

"I am just a grinder," said Kruger. "Hard work, it will slowly pay off. I will eventually get my big score."

Event #12 was the final gold ring event on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Palm Beach Kennel Club in West Palm Beach, Florida, but 11th to finish. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo tournament attracted 110 players, generating a \$33,000 prize pool. The top 12 players were paid.

This was a one day tournament. It began at 11 a.m. with 110 players and concluded at around 7:45 p.m.

Notes on the event:

- Kruger cashed in back-to-back events to conclude the series.
- This marks Kruger's third Circuit final table of the year.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Palm Beach Kennel Club twelve combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP National Championship set to take place at the end of the year.

All players who cash in ring events receive points that apply toward the Casino Championship race and the season-long race to claim one of 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 the Palm Beach Kennel Club:

EVENT #1: Juan Restrepo defeated 2,050 players (\$580 NLHE Re-Entry) for \$161,452

EVENT #2: Mitch Meltzer defeated 114 players (\$365 PLO8) for \$10,261

EVENT #3: Jeff Charlton defeated 81 players (\$365 H.O.R.S.E.) for \$7,776

EVENT #4: Scot Masters defeated 193 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$15,056

EVENT #5: John Drikakis defeated 192 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$14,976

EVENT #6: Alex Nguyen defeated 193 players (\$365 NLHE Six Max) for \$15,925

EVENT #7: John O. Matson defeated 196 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$15,289

EVENT #8: Marshall White defeated 145 players (\$365 NLHE Turbo) for \$12,181

EVENT #9: Sam Panzica defeated 147 players (\$1,125 NLHE) for \$41,162

MAIN EVENT: Darryll Fish defeated 537 players (\$1,675 NLHE) for \$173,189

EVENT #12: Justin "Choctaw" Kruger defeated 110 players (\$365 NLHE Turbo) for \$9,901

With the final tournament wrapped up, the Palm Beach Kennel Club series is now complete.

For more information about the World Series of Poker Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter wsop.com.

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