

2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 11

Foxwoods Casino

Mashantucket, CT

Event #8

No-Limit Hold'em

Buy-In: \$520 (+\$60)

Total Entries: 154

Prize Pool: \$77,678

May 19-20, 2015



Valentin Vornicu Joins Elite Club With His Sixth Ring

Mashantucket, CT (May 19, 2015) — Some players show up to the World Series of Poker Circuit to try to win their first ring. As we saw yesterday in Baruch Thaler, some players come to win their second. And sometimes a player wins their third ring, like Ryan Eriqezzo and Roland Israelashvili did in this series. But today saw Valentin Vornicu win his *sixth* WSOP-C ring joining Alexandru Masek, Chris Reslock, and Ari Engel in the “six or more” club.

The eight event at the World Series of Poker Circuit at Foxwoods Casino had 154 entries, creating a \$77,678 prize pool. The tournament started at 11am on May 19th, and by 11:30pm, the unofficial final table had been reached. Valentin led the final ten with 590,000, and the only other player with more than 200,000 was Patrick Chan.

“Looking at the last 18 players in the tournament, I felt like it was my tournament to win,” Valentin explained. He got most of his chips just before the final table, making a big call with ace-king on a A-Q-8 flop against 11th place finisher Brock Wilson. Brock held jack-ten for a double gut shot, and Valentin says he “was sweating bullets.” Valentin’s hand held up to get him to the final table with a big stack.

With his final table appearance, Valentin Vornicu had earned an additional 10 points on the National Leaderboard to put him at 135 points, nearly a lock to earn a seat at the National Championship. With the pressure off, Valentin focused on doing what most professional poker players do: win the tournament.

After knocking out three out of four opponents, the final six bagged up just after 1am and returned at 1pm to continue play. On Day 2, it seemed as if nobody wanted to play a pot with Valentin, so he played his big stack to perfection. When a player would finally make a stand, Valentin would show up with the goods. One by one Valentin singlehandedly eliminated each opponent until he was heads up with Patrick.

Patrick doubled through Valentin a few times, but only an hour after the final table resumed, Valentin finally eliminated his final opponent to collect his sixth ring and the \$20,974 payday. Valentin now sits very comfortably at 14th place on the National Leaderboard, and looks forward to his third appearance at the National Championship.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during Foxwoods Casinos’s 12 combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the

WSOP National Championship. Additionally, all players who cash in ring events earn points that apply toward the season-long race to claim one of 60 expected 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.

For more information about the WSOP Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter at [@WSOP](https://twitter.com/WSOP) or check out WSOP.com.

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