

## **2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit**

**Season 12**

**Horseshoe Casino**

**Hammond, Ind.**

**Event #4**

**Monster Stack**

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

**Total Entries: 613**

**Prize Pool: \$183,900**

**October 19-20, 2015**



## **Cory Waaland Wins Fifth Career Circuit Ring**

**South Carolina pro finds success on his maiden journey to the Chicago area; moves to fourth on the all-time Circuit wins list following Monster Stack victory.**

**Hammond, Ind. (October 21, 2015)** — Cory Waaland made his presence known Tuesday night at the Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, Ind. The decorated Tournament Poker Edge pro made the journey from his hometown of Charleston, S.C. to the Midwest in search of his fifth and sixth career World Series of Poker Circuit victories and he did not disappoint.

“How sick would it be if I can win two rings in Hammond, then go take a selfie in front of the Michael Jordan statue [at the United Center] with five and six?” Waaland remembered thinking. “That was my goal three years ago, to win six rings just like Michael Jordan.”

The four-time gold ring winner wasted little time finding success in his first journey to the Chicago area, ultimately finishing first in the property’s \$365 Monster Stack tournament good for a \$38,623 score and his fifth ring. The victory moves him into a tie for fourth on the all-time wins list with Mark “Pegasus” Smith, Kyle Cartwright, Kurt Jewell and Kevin McColgan.

“I give all the glory to God,” Waaland said. “If it’s meant to be, it will happen. It was in His plan for me to win this, and I did. Let’s see what the rest of Hammond brings for me now.”

Waaland rounded out the 2014/2015 Circuit with a strong performance at Harrah’s Casino in New Orleans finishing as the Casino Championship runner up. He took a head of steam and some lofty goals into the summer’s WSOP, but would come up dry. The lack of victories motivated Waaland to dedicate himself like he never had before. Rather than just travel the Circuit in 2015/2016, he’s vowed to take it by storm and win four rings – a feat no one has accomplished in the tour’s 11-year history.

“It’s not so much about passing [all-time ring leader Alex Masek],” he said. “I have a goal this year to win four rings. I want to be the first one to do it. It’s something I want to prove to myself in a sense.”

Waaland’s trip to Hammond was one of chance. Not only did he have the time, a place to stay and a handful of friends urging him to come, but his previous four Circuit victories came at properties he had never been to. With that, he booked a flight and the rest was history.



