2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit
Planet Hollywood Las Vegas
Event #12
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: $365
Total Entries: 306
Total Prize Pool: $91,800
November 19, 2015

Cory Waaland Wins Sixth Career WSOP Circuit Ring

Waaland now tied for fourth on the all-time rings list.

Las Vegas (20 November 2015) – On Friday, Cory Waaland won Event #12: $365 No-Limit Hold'em at the World Series of Poker Circuit at Planet Hollywood in Las Vegas. Waaland earns $21,571 for the victory. He has now won six Circuit rings in his career, tying him for fourth place on the all-time list.

Waaland has said on numerous occasions that one of his goals is to win six Circuit rings. It's a way of symbolically matching the accomplishment of his sports hero, Michael Jordan, who earned six championship rings during his NBA career. Waaland was nearly speechless after the last card was dealt. He almost immediately escaped to a quiet corner of the tournament room to call his father with the good news. "This is huge for me," he said later. "This is a big moment. I made a deal with God two and half years ago that I would work to win six rings. And this means more to me than any other ring because of that." Now that he's reached that goal, he has no plans to slow down. "I'm just going to keep on with this and keep doing what I'm doing, giving Him all the glory, and whatever happens happens."

Waaland won his fifth ring exactly a month ago at the Circuit stop in Hammond, Indiana, and he now has three cashes here at Planet Hollywood. "I'm on a mission this year," he said after securing his win. "I knew, going into this season, that I'm going to be the first one to win four rings (in a season)."

Throughout the final table today, Waaland used his signature card protector, a large glass stone with the image of an eye on it. "This is the eyeball. This is my pops." He explained that his father has been having health problems of late. "I wasn't traveling a lot because I didn't want to be on the road if, god forbid, something happens. And I had lost my card protector. So, for my birthday, He got me a gift, and it was this. 'Use it in your next tournament,' he tells me. 'It's me keeping an eye on you at the tables.' So this is my pops keeping an eye on me. And this necklace is my mom. She gave me this ring, and I just put it on a necklace, so I have my mom with me and my dad with me at every tournament."

A total of 306 players played the event, creating a prize pool of $91,800. The top 33 players made the money. The player with whom Waaland is tied with six career rings, Valentin Vornicu, finished in 20th place ($935).

The tournament was played over the course of two days starting Thursday, November 19th. Of the 306 entrants, nine returned for Day 2, which began at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, November 20. Waaland earned his victory at about 7:45 p.m., making the final day a little under six hours.

Full results from the event are available on WSOP.com.

At the conclusion of this event, Jon Lactaoen takes the lead in the Casino Champion race with 70 points. Lactaoen finished runner up in this event, and has two other cashes here at Planet Hollywood. The player who accumulates the most overall points in the twelve gold ring tournaments at Planet Hollywood earns the title of Casino Champion and receives an automatic entry into the $1 million 2016 WSOP Global Casino Championship. The winner of the Planet Hollywood Main Event earns an automatic entry to the Global Casino Championship as well. All players who cash in ring events will receive points that apply to both the Casino Champion race and the season-long race to claim one of the 50 at-large Global Casino 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 Planet Hollywood so far:

EVENT #1: Brandon West defeated 1,162 entries ($580 No-Limit Hold'em Re-entry) for $106,303.
EVENT #4: Jason Schwartz defeated 144 players ($365 No-Limit Hold'em) for $12,095
EVENT #5: AJ Thompson defeated 127 players ($365 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo) for $10,866.
EVENT #6: Rick Austin defeated 276 players ($365 No-Limit Hold'em) for $19,875.
EVENT #7: Jim Juvancic defeated 120 players ($365 Pot-Limit Omaha) for $10,801
EVENT #8: Brian Shugart defeated 218 players ($580 No-Limit Hold'em) for $27,253
EVENT #10: Venkataramana Ganne defeated 632 players ($365 No-Limit Hold'em Monster Stack) for $38,874.
EVENT #12: Cory Waaland defeated 306 players ($365 No-Limit Hold'em) for $21,571.

With the eighth ring event now wrapped up, there are still four more before the WSOP Circuit at Planet Hollywood concludes on November 23.

All rings at Planet Hollywood are furnished by Jostens, the official ring supplier of the 2015-2015 WSOP Circuit season.

For more information about the World Series of Poker Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter @WSOP or check out WSOP.com.

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