2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit Horseshoe Tunica Event #10 No-Limit Hold'em

Buy-In: \$1,675 Total Entries: 646

Total Prize Pool: \$969,000 January 29-February 1, 2016

## **David Kruger Wins Horseshoe Tunica Main Event**

## Kruger wins his first World Series of Poker Circuit Ring

**Tunica, Miss. (1 February 2016)** – Freddie Krueger is a monster in people's dreams, but today it was <u>David Kruger</u> who had the monster stack, the monster hands, and a dreamy victory to the tune of almost \$200,000.

In the Main Event at the World Series of Poker Circuit at the Horseshoe Tunica, David Kruger came into today's third and final day with the chip lead and spent the day putting those chips to work, but even though he began as the big stack, this tough final table saw everyone's chips fluctuate, including Kruger, who had to battle back from a chip deficit heads-up against a player who has already won one Circuit Main Event this year, Horseshoe Southern Indiana winner Russ Head.

In the end, Kruger prevailed though, rallying back with a huge hand where he made a straight flush, then finishing off his heads-up opponent with none other than pocket aces to win his first-ever Circuit ring, \$198,657, and a seat in the WSOP Global Casino Championship.

It was a long road to victory for Kruger, who survived a field of 646 entries to take the title. The turnout for this event saw a huge uptick from last season, jumping from 457 to 646. Among the notables to turn out for this year's event include Tommy Vedes, six-time ring winner Kyle Cartwright, five-time ring winner Mark Smith, past Tunica Main Event Champs Jonathan Gaviao and Johnny Landreth, bracelet winner Jonathan Hilton, and 2003 WSOP Main Event Champion, Chris Moneymaker.

With such a strong turnout, the prize pool narrowly missed out on the million-dollar mark, but did award 72 payouts to notables like John Holley (64th), Mina Greco (45th), Warren Sheaves (41st), Cartwright (35th), Martin Zentner (26th), Sean Small (17th), and Jessie Bryant (14th).

Kruger said the final table was the toughest one he has ever played, and it is with good reason. It featured three Circuit ring winners in Head, Christian Rodriguez (9th), and Ryan Tepen (6th) as well as another big stack, Jeremy Drewery, who finished Day 1A as the big stack and stayed near the top of the counts until his exit in fourth place.

Kruger, 54, is a Slater, MO resident who plays poker recreationally when not running a waste management company back home. His wife was on the rail cheering him on, and his four children were sweating their father's success via the live updates. While this is Kruger's first

victory, he has an impressive number of Circuit final tables to his credit. Of his 11 ITM finishes on the Circuit, seven of them have been final tables, but it was only today that he could call himself a ring winner.

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

-----

At the conclusion of this event, Andrew Brinkley retains the lead in the Casino Champion race. Brinkley now has 87.5 points from a one victory and one runner-up finish. The player who accumulates the most overall points in the twelve gold ring tournaments at the Horseshoe Tunica earns the title of Casino Champion and receives an automatic entry into the \$1 million 2016 WSOP Global Casino Championship. The winner of the Horseshoe Tunica Main Event also earns an automatic entry to the Global Casino Championship. 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 the Horseshoe Tunica so far:

EVENT #1: Johnny McNally defeated 276 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$19,875.

EVENT #2: Romeo White defeated 138 players (\$365 Pot-Limit Omaha) for \$11,589

EVENT #3: Robb Idsinga defeated 430 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$28,379

EVENT #4: Josh Turner defeated 1,346 entries (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em Re-entry) for \$71,665.

EVENT #5: Andrew Brinkley defeated 245 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$18,010

EVENT #6: Kevin Davis defeated 264 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$20,895.

EVENT #7: Robert Hankins defeated 235 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$17,621.

EVENT #8: Kyle Cartwright defeated 457 players (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em Monster Stack) for \$29,484.

EVENT #9: David Sutton defeated 249 players (\$580 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$30,504.

EVENT #10: David Kruger defeated 646 entries (\$1,675 MAIN EVENT) for \$198,657.

EVENT #11: Janet Fitzgerald defeated 189 entries (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em) for \$14,739.

EVENT #12: Vincent Moscati defeated 107 entries (\$365 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo for \$9,629.

All rings at the Horseshoe Tunica are furnished by <u>Jostens</u>, 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 <a href="https://www.wsop.com">wsop.com</a>.

For additional information please contact:

Robert Kirschen (WSOP Digital Content Manager) @ rkirschen@caesars.com.