

**2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit  
Season 12  
Horseshoe Council Bluffs  
Council Bluffs, Iowa  
Event #4  
No-Limit Hold'em (One-Day)  
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)  
Total Entries: 118  
Prize Pool: \$35,400  
April 3, 2016**



## **U.S. Air Force Officer, Tommy Hoard, Wins His First Gold Ring**

**Tommy Hoard heads home with a gold ring and over \$10,000.**

**Council Bluffs, Iowa (April 4, 2016)** -- Tommy Hoard has defeated a field of 118 players in the first of two Horseshoe Council Bluffs One-Day events to win his first career gold ring. The one-day event featured a structure with 20 minute levels and finished in just over 11 hours. Hoard defeated a tough final table that included gold ring winners, Woody Moore and Daniel Lowery.

Hoard learned to play poker as a child. He would play with nickels, dimes and quarters in the kitchen. He didn't think that he was any good until he was stationed in Korea; Hoard is a pilot for the U.S. Air Force. He played in Korea for nickels, dimes and quarters.

"I did a 15 month assignment and when I left I had about \$300 in nickels, dimes and quarters. I thought this might be something for me and I started playing online," said Hoard.

From there Hoard improved his game and started playing a little bit of live poker after being stationed in Las Vegas. This was the first time Hoard has ever cashed in a Circuit event, but he had plenty of previous WSOP experience from living in Vegas. Since 2009 Hoard has cashed in five events at the World Series of Poker in Las Vegas. His biggest score came in 2014 when he finished 22nd in the Little One for One Drop. Hoard now lives in Rapid City, South Dakota and work keeps him close to home.

Hoard is set to retire from the Air Force next year around this time. He will have put in 25 years of service by the time he retires.

Prior to this event it had been a disappointing series for Hoard. He fired four bullets into the re-entry and came away without a cash. He also was down \$500 playing cash. He considered cutting his losses and going home early, but decided to give it one last go in the one-day event. His decision to stay was good one because his victory was worth \$10,617 and a WSOP Circuit gold ring.

Hoard's series is now over as he returns back to work.

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Event #4 was the fourth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Horseshoe Council Bluffs series, but third to finish. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em (One-Day) tournament attracted 118 players generating a \$35,400 prize pool. The top 12 players were paid.

This was a one-day event. The tournament began Sunday at noon and concluded at about 11:30 p.m. that night.

Notes on the Event:

- All levels were 20 minutes long.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Horseshoe Council Bluffs twelve combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP Global Casino 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 Global Casino Championship bids awarded to the top point earners throughout the season. More information on the points system is available on [WSOP.com](http://WSOP.com).

Here is the list of gold ring winners from the Horseshoe Council Bluffs series:

EVENT #1: Doug Hutcheson defeated 179 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$14,500  
EVENT #2: Mark Fink defeated 141 players (\$365 NLHE Bounty) for \$7,898  
EVENT #4: Tommy Hoard defeated 118 players (\$365 NLHE 1-day) for \$10,617

With three tournaments wrapped up, nine more ring events remain at the Horseshoe Council Bluffs series.

All rings at the Horseshoe Council Bluffs series are furnished by [Jostens](http://Jostens), the official ring supplier of the 2015-2016 WSOP Circuit season.

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

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