

**2015/2016 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 12
Harrah's Atlantic City
Atlantic City, NJ
Event #7
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$500 (+\$80)
Total Entries: 123
Prize Pool: \$61,500
March 21-22, 2016**



Ari Engel Wins Eighth Gold Ring, Second in Atlantic City

Decorated pro climbs back into second place on the all-time list

Atlantic City, NJ (March 23, 2016) — Ari Engel is the champion of Event #7 at Harrah's, defeating a field of 123 entries to win his eighth career gold ring. That moves him back into a tie with Chris Reslock for second place on the all-time list, both men now just one behind current leader Alex Masek. In addition to the jewelry, Engel collected the top prize of \$17,221 and 50 points toward the race for seats in the WSOP Global Casino Championship.

The champ is an accomplished professional poker player who lives in Las Vegas. He learned the game from his college roommate, Andrew Brown, who is himself a bracelet winner with an impressive list of poker accomplishments. In this case, the student has become the master to some extent, as Engel's results easily rival those of his mentor.

"I just overall ran like god," Engel reflected on this most recent in a long list of tournament wins. "Won all the flips, you know the way it goes."

Engel absolutely dominated Day 1, entering the final table with more than 100 big blinds and 40% of the total chips in play. The nine finalists returned to the ballroom on Tuesday to play it out, though Day 2 seemed like a formality at times. "There was a lot of pressure because I started with huge chips," Engel said. "I was getting congratulations messages before it even started. And I always put a lot of pressure on myself not to mess up."

He did not mess up. There were a few small setbacks along the way, but Engel picked his way through the final table, taking an insurmountable lead into the head-up match against David Hom. The duel only lasted a few hands before Engel collected the last of his opponent's chips.

As was the case with Reslock after his own eighth win, Engel mentioned how much the race for rings means to him. "There's a lot of added motivation because of the rings," he said. "There's a lot of heated competition to accumulate them, and there's been a little drought for me lately." After a moment, he caught himself, adding, "In rings, that is..."

