

**2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 13
IP Casino Resort & Spa
Biloxi, Mississippi
Event #1
No-Limit Hold'em Double Stack Re-Entry
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 800
Prize Pool: \$240,000
September 12, 2016**



David “Bama” Walters Wins His First Gold Ring in the No-Limit Hold'em Double Stack

The grueling four-day tournament led to a cash-prize of \$47,992 and WSOP gold ring for David “Bama” Walters.

Biloxi, Mississippi (September 12, 2016) – David “Bama” Walters won his first career gold ring in Event #1: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Double Stack Re-Entry by defeating a large field of 800 players. The tournament featured three starting flights, a Day 2 restart, and an unplanned for Day 3. After the long road, which turned out to be an exciting battle for the Circuit history books, Walters came out with feelings of elation.

“I feel fantastic. First win, it was grueling. Four days it took to get there. I came in as the chip leader. So, I’ve been blessed,” Walters said.

Walters bagged up in Flight B and was the outright chip leader after all three starting flights concluded and the fields were combined. This towering position does not always bode well for poker players. Walters, who runs a car dealership now, made an industry reference referring to his tournament journey.

“It’s rare that you take it from the beginning to the end. In the car business we call that cradle to grave,” Walters explained.

Coming away with the conquest was no easy task. Following an exhausting Day 2, the final four players sighed at the notion of having to reset for a Day 3. On their return, a couple of quick eliminations left Walters heads up with Benjamin Cardenas, a tough competitor from Coahuila, Mexico. These two duked it out for a good while, swapping chip leads multiple times. Each player, at one point or another, was down to a mere one million chips and had to claw their way back with a slew of double ups. After the dust settled, Walters was the last man standing.

Walters, a retired deputy sheriff, did not start playing poker in a serious fashion till around 2013. Before this victory, Walters’ biggest cash came in the 46th annual World Series of Poker in Las Vegas, where he finished 57th out of 1,655 players in Event #45: \$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em. Although an impressive feat, this triumph proved to be a more fruitful one. Walters walked away

with \$47,992, a WSOP gold ring, and 50 Casino Championship points. He plans on playing more events here at the IP Biloxi series in hopes of being crowned Casino Champion.

Event #1 was the first of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the IP Biloxi series. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Double Stack Re-Entry tournament attracted 800 players generating a \$240,000 prizepool. The top 81 players were paid.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Circuits twelve combined gold ring events earns the title of Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP Global Casino Championship set to take place at the end of the season.

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.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from the IP Biloxi series:

EVENT #1: David Walters defeated 800 players (\$365 NLHE Double Stack) for \$47,992

EVENT #2: Steve Giddings defeated 96 players (\$365 NLHE Turbo) for \$8,638

EVENT #3: Dallas Berry defeated 95 players (\$365 NLHE Turbo) for \$8,551

This was the third gold ring handed out at the IP Biloxi series. Nine more gold rings and Circuit titles are still to come.

All rings at the IP Biloxi series are furnished by Jostens, the official ring supplier of the 2016-2017 WSOP Circuit season.

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For additional information please contact:

Eric Lusch (WSOP Media Coordinator) at lusch.eric@gmail.com.