

**2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 13
IP Casino Resort & Spa
Biloxi, Mississippi
Event #10
No-Limit Hold'em Main Event
Buy-In: \$1,500 (+\$175)
Total Entries: 382
Prize Pool: \$573,000
September 16, 2016**



Online Poker Legend Scores Main Event Title and First Career Gold Ring

Once the number one online poker player in the world, Chris Savage, bagged himself a huge victory in the IP Biloxi Main Event.

Biloxi, Mississippi (September 19, 2016) – Chris Savage navigated through three days of grueling, tournament poker and a field of 382 players to win his first Circuit gold ring. His crowning achievement came in Event #10, the No-Limit Hold'em Main Event, nonetheless. The tournament featured two starting flights. To claim the victory Savage had to get through a tough final table with notable poker pros, such as Tim “T.K.” Miles and Cauffman Talley. Savage shed some light on the mindset needed to play against the aggressive, young guns, such as Talley.

“I can change gears with the best of them. You have to adapt to his style,” said Savage.

Talley was the predominant chip leader throughout a majority of the later stages of the tournament and the final table. He lost a large portion of his stack by doubling up Lytle Allen when play was five-handed. Shortly after, a pivotal hand occurred. Talley moved all in on the button with pocket nines, Steve Bierman, with a big stack, shoved as well with ace king suited, and Savage, holding pocket aces, happily called both his opponents. The rockets held, eliminating Talley and crippling Bierman. The hand left Savage with a commanding chip lead, which eventually carried him to victory.

Savage, who is a businessman and father of twins, explained that he does not play poker on a permanent basis, but did once upon a time.

“I used to play professionally. I stopped when my kids were born in '05,” said Savage. “I’ve always been in business, so for me it was easy for me to step away and get back to the family life and just play recreationally.”

Even though he claims a part-time role in poker over the last decade, Savage’s résumé is still an impressive one. When it comes to live tournaments, Savage sticks to playing the bigger ones exclusively. He has won some other Main Events, outside of the WSOP, and took first place at the Jack Binion World Poker Open in Tunica, Mississippi.

His biggest claim to fame, however, came in the virtual realm. Savage was the number one online player in the world for six to eight months back in 2004/05. He humbly explained that his ranking came during the time before online poker blew up and a younger crowd flooded the scene. Savage mentioned that his number one ranking was eventually relinquished by “JohnnyBax” (Cliff Josephy), another seasoned veteran, who Savage will be routing for when the “November Nine” face off for the 2016 WSOP Main Event Championship.

“The old guard, online people, are pulling for him. I’ll be pulling hard for him at the final table of the World Series of Poker Main,” exclaimed Savage. “I struck for the old school,” said Savage, alluding to his victory being in solidarity with his long time peers.

It was a big win to say the least. Not only did Savage walk away with a Main Event gold ring, he also banked \$126,059, which surpasses any of his tournament payouts to date. Savage was also awarded an automatic bid to the 2016/17 Global Casino Championship. He will be one of two, IP Biloxi horses in the prestigious tournament.

The Main Event was the tenth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the IP Biloxi series. The \$1,675 No-Limit Hold'em Main Event attracted 382 players generating a \$573,000 prizepool. The top 45 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
EVENT #4: Douglas Carli defeated 110 players (\$365 NLHE 30 Minute Levels) for \$9,901
EVENT #5: Nate Bandy defeated 127 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$10,668
EVENT #6: Scott Cooper defeated 84 players (\$365 PLO) for \$8,063
EVENT #7: David Aker defeated 175 players (\$365 NLHE 6 Max) for \$14,701
EVENT #8: Andrew Hines defeated 229 players (\$365 NLHE Monster Stack) for \$17,174
EVENT #9: David Cossio defeated 126 players (\$580 NLHE) for \$17,639
EVENT #10: Chris Savage defeated 382 players (\$365 NLHE Main Event) for \$126,059
EVENT #11: Corey Bierria defeated 99 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$8,911
EVENT #12: Jaymie Virtusio defeated 86 players (\$365 NLHE 30 Minute Levels) for \$8,256

This was the final and most prestigious gold ring handed out at the IP Biloxi series.

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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