2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 13 Horseshoe Southern Indiana Elizabeth, Indiana Event #2 No-Limit Hold'em Re-entry

No-Limit Hold'em Re-entry Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)

Total Entries: 812 Prize Pool: \$243,600

September 30 - October 3, 2016



Rob James Scores a Breakthrough Victory in Event #2

Local neurosurgeon tops a huge field to win his first ring and nearly \$50,000

Elizabeth, Indiana (October 3, 2016) — Rob James is the champion of Event #2 at Horseshoe Southern Indiana, defeating a field of 812 entries to earn his first gold ring. James collected the top prize of \$47,502 for his performance, along with 50 points toward the race for seats in the Global Casino Championship.

The champ is 43-year-old neurosurgeon who was born in Quakertown, Pennsylvania. He makes his home in nearby Louisville now, though, where he is involved in the University's practice specializing in aneurysms and blood disorders of the brain. He's married with four children, and he's a local regular in the high-stakes cash games at the Horseshoe. While James was posing for his winner's photos, many of his fellow local players took turns dropping by the table to offer their congratulations.

"This is unbelievable," James said, beaming broadly in the moments after his win. "This is only the second WSOP Circuit tournament I've ever entered. I've played some small tournaments here and there, but nothing like this."

James had to skip Friday's Day 1A flight, but he showed up for Day 1B on Saturday with the intention of entering up to three times. "My strategy was to play very aggressive," he said. "Double up or bust out and try again. On my third buy-in, that worked."

James did manage to build a big stack on his final entry, though most of that work was undone on one of the day's final hands. James ran his Broadway straight into an opponent's aces full, dropping most of his stack and bagging up a paltry 22,400 chips — good for 109th place of the 119 survivors. He almost didn't even bother with Day 2.

"I actually considered not even playing on Sunday," he laughed. "I had to go to work in the morning, so I showed up late, and I had been blinded down to about 19,000."