

## **2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit**

**Season 13**

**Horseshoe Hammond**

**Hammond, Indiana**

**Event #4**

**Monster Stack**

**Buy-In: \$300 (+65)**

**Total Entries: 619**

**Prize Pool: \$185,700**

**October 17-18, 2016**



## **Erik Anderson Wins His First Major Live Tournament**

**Chicago native scores another victory for the home team at Horseshoe Hammond**

**Hammond, Indiana (October 19, 2016)** — Erik Anderson is the champion of Event #4 at Horseshoe Hammond, defeating a field of 619 players to win the \$365 Monster Stack. The victory is Anderson's first on the Circuit and, in fact, his first live tournament result of any sort. He collected the top prize of \$39,004, his first ring, and 50 points in the race for Casino Champion at this venue.

Anderson is a 31-year-old telecommunications supervisor and a competitive golfer who was born and raised in Chicago. "I'm just a competitive person in general," he said. "Most of my free time is spent on the golf course. I really just played this on a whim. I saw that the Circuit was in town, and I thought I'd come out and try my luck." It's a story that's told often by local and first-time winners on the Circuit.

The champ said he draws heavily on his tournament golf experience at the poker table, too. "Mental patience," he said of the primary crossover between the two games. "Golf is very similar to poker. If you have a bad hole or hit a bad shot, a short memory really benefits you. If you have a bad hand or make a bad call, forget about it and move on. That hand is in the past. Golf is exactly the same."

Anderson did, indeed, have a stretch of bad holes in the middle of this round of poker. Early on Day 2, he got himself short-stacked and all in with deuce-four against pocket tens. Anderson said he was literally starting to walk out the door as the board ran out ace-king-king-jack-jack to give him his money back, with both him and his opponent playing the five cards on board.

That save sparked a furious comeback, and he was soon seated at the final table with the second-largest of the 10 remaining stacks. About six hours later, he eliminated Art Harb in third place, taking a 10:1 chip lead into the heads-up duel against local favorite Yousri Ali. The latter managed to double his short stack a couple times, but he could not fully recover from the deficit. Anderson soon collected the last of the chips, earning his first ring in his first-ever try.

