

2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 13

Horseshoe Hammond

Hammond, Indiana

Event #9

The Main Event

Buy-In: \$1,500 (+\$175)

Total Entries: 1,308

Prize Pool: \$1,962,000

October 21-24, 2016



Dylan Linde Breaks Through at Horseshoe Hammond

Idaho pro scores a defining victory in one of the Circuit's largest-ever Main Events

Hammond, Indiana (October 25, 2016) – Dylan Linde is the newest champion on the WSOP Circuit, outlasting a huge field of 1,308 entries to claim the Main Event title at Horseshoe Hammond. Linde's performance earned him his first gold ring, the top prize of \$348,269, and a reserved seat in the 2017 WSOP Global Casino Championship.

Linde is a 35-year-old professional poker player from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. He grew up playing video games and strategic card games, so poker was a relatively easy transition. "I was in college for six and a half years doing... nothing," he said. "I stumbled into it." Linde and fellow-Idahoan Kevin MacPhee became close friends along the way, and the two of them started to learn and progress in the game together. At first, they were mostly just chasing bonuses from online poker sites. "I was just folding every hand to try to get the hundred bucks," Linde laughed. "Hell yeah, free hundred dollars? Thank you. But I'm so competitive that, eventually..." he let the thought hang.

Eventually, Linde started to spend more time playing tournaments, both live and online, and he soon built enough of a foundation to feel comfortable pursuing the game in a more serious way. His tournament stat sheet is full of results over the past decade, but none of them, to date, have been nearly as profitable as this one. This victory moves him well into seven figures in career live tournament earnings and into second place on Idaho's all-time money list. There's still, however, quite a gap between him and the leader on that list — Kevin MacPhee.

"This is fantastic," a smiley Linde started his postgame interviews. "It's nice to finally win a live tournament. I haven't really had that much success live. I've had a lot of, like, 8th- through 18th-place finishes." Not only is this Linde's first significant live victory, it's also his largest score ever, including some big results online.

It certainly didn't come easy for the champ. Linde had a bit of a slow start out of the gate, and he needed all four of his available entries to advance to Day 2. "Four bullets," he said. "Max pain. I

