

**2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 13
Horseshoe Tunica
Tunica, Mississippi
Event #2
Pot Limit Omaha Re-Entry
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 119
Prize Pool: \$35,700
January 19, 2017**



Switching Gears Provides Juan Rodriguez With Ring Number Two

Professional poker player, Juan Rodriguez, only recently took up Pot Limit Omaha and now has another ring to show for it.

Tunica, Mississippi (January 20, 2017) – Juan Rodriguez strategized his way to a second World Series of Poker gold ring Friday evening at the Horseshoe Tunica Circuit stop. The professional poker player zig-zagged through 119 entrants in Event #2: \$365 Pot Limit Omaha Re-Entry, eventually claiming his second WSOP Circuit title and \$10,709.

It was back in 2010 when Rodriguez grasped his original gold ring. After navigating a field of 608 players, the resident of Indiana stood atop Event #5 at the Horseshoe Hammond Circuit stop that year and banked \$36,439 in the process.

Even though his first Circuit title was reached on a larger scale than his most recent, there is a distinct factor to the fresh victory that makes it stand out to Rodriguez. It came in a poker style that he has only recently taken up.

“This is my fourth PLO tournament and I’ve made the money on three of them, and the one that I didn’t, I bubbled. So maybe I should be playing more PLO tournaments,” Rodriguez pointed out.

Rodriguez lays claim to WSOP cashes dating back to 2008, but they have all come from No-Limit Hold’em tournaments. He began playing PLO a couple of years ago, at the most. The change in game type has proven very fruitful for Rodriguez. However, his success is a mere byproduct of his foundational reasoning for switching gears.

“I really wanted to switch it up. I mostly play No-Limit [Hold’em],” claimed Rodriguez. “I just think that mixing it up in poker is really important because I don’t want to ever get burned out.”

The strategy seems to be going very soundly for Rodriguez. It was no easy road to the top though. Day 2 of Event #2 was a long and tactical endeavor. Rodriguez accumulated a sizable stack and picked his spots carefully in order to conquer the final table, which took around four hours to complete.

“It was very strategic. It was basically like playing a game of chess,” Rodriguez described. “I just felt like as long as I stayed on target I was going to be o.k.”

In the end, Rodriguez was more than o.k., he was triumphant. With the victory, Rodriguez records his 14th WSOP cash and has close to \$100,000 in earnings. He plans to continue playing the 12-event series at Horseshoe Tunica for the rest of the week.

Event #2 was the second of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Horseshoe Tunica series. The \$365 Pot Limit Omaha Re-Entry tournament attracted 119 players generating a \$35,700 prizepool. The top 12 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 Horseshoe Tunica series:

EVENT #1: Jeffrey Noblecourt defeated 218 players (\$365 NLHE One Re-Entry) for \$16,350
EVENT #2: Juan Rodriguez defeated 119 players (\$365 PLO Re-Entry) for \$10,709

This was the second gold ring handed out at the Horseshoe Tunica series. Ten more gold rings and Circuit titles are still to come.

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

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