

**2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 13
Palm Beach Kennel Club
West Palm Beach, Fla.
Event #1
No-Limit Hold'em Monster Stack
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 322
Prize Pool: \$96,600
Nov. 10-11, 2016**



Matthew Wright Scores Big in the First Event

Matthew Wright survives nearly five hours of heads up play to secure the first gold ring of the series.

West Palm Beach, Fla. (November 12, 2016) -- The eighth Circuit series of the 2016/2017 season began Thursday in West Palm Beach, Florida at the Palm Beach Kennel Club with Event #1: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Monster Stack. The tournament drew 322 players and generated a prizepool just shy of \$100k to get the series started on the right foot.

Matthew Wright decided to throw his hat in the ring and he was one of the 322 players to enter the event. He made it all the way through Day 1 of the tournament and entered Friday's Day 2 6th in chips out of the 17 remaining players. He battled his way to the final table and all the way to heads up play against Vicki Holmes.

Wright and Holmes battled it out heads up for four hours and 45 minutes. The tournament, scheduled to end Friday evening, bled into the early morning hours of Saturday. Wright got the best of Holmes in two big pots in a row to capture every chip on the table and end the tournament.

Wright only had positive things to say about his heads up opponent.

"She was tough," said Wright about Holmes.

Wright's toughest opponent turned out to be Holmes, but he also had to get through some other strong Circuit grinders just to get to the final table. Day 2's list of returning players included gold ring winners Cody Pack (11th) and Jason Seitz (12th). It also included Sean Shah (9th), who has over \$500k in live tournament earnings, and Jason Brewer (3rd), who has now reached five Circuit final tables in his career.

Wright said that he intends to play a few more of the events here in West Palm Beach.

"I'm definitely going to play the Omaha event. I might even jump into tomorrow's event," said Wright.

Wright is a retired salesman. He was born in Michigan and now lives in Perry, Florida. He said he plays regularly at bestbet in Jacksonville.

Event #1 was the first of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at the Palm Beach Kennel Club. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Monster Stack tournament attracted 322 players generating a \$96,600 prize pool. The top 33 players were paid.

Day 1 began Thursday at 12 p.m. and lasted 21 levels. Day 2 began Friday at 2 p.m. with 17 players remaining. The tournament concluded at about 12:15 a.m. Saturday at the beginning of Level 33.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Palm Beach Kennel Club twelve combined gold ring tournaments earns the title 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 Palm Beach Kennel Club series:

EVENT #1: Matthew Wright defeated 322 players (\$365 NLHE Monster) for \$22,705

With one tournament wrapped up, 11 more ring events remain at the Palm Beach Kennel Club series.

All rings at the Palm Beach Kennel Club series are furnished by Jostens, the official ring supplier of the 2016-2017 WSOP Circuit season.

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