

**2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 13
West Palm Beach, Florida
Palm Beach Kennel Club
Event #10
The Main Event
Buy-In: \$1500 (+\$175)
Total Entries: 261
Prize Pool: \$391,500
November 18-21, 2016**



Maurice Hawkins Wins the PBKC Main Event

Maurice Hawkins wins his third WSOP Circuit Main Event of 2016.

West Palm Beach, Fla. (November 21, 2016) – "Three in a year, beat that," said Maurice Hawkins.

Hawkins has made World Series of Poker Circuit history in his hometown of West Palm Beach, Florida. He has become the first player in the history of the Circuit to earn eight career gold rings and win three Circuit Main Events. Hawkins defeated a 261-player field Monday at the Palm Beach Kennel Club to earn his eighth career Circuit gold ring, which puts him tied for second all-time. The victory was also his third career Circuit Main Event win of 2016.

This was Hawkins' first ring of the season, but his fourth of 2016. At the end of last season Hawkins went on a heater of a lifetime. In early April Hawkins traveled Council Bluffs, Iowa to catch the end of the series there. The first event he played in was the monster stack event and he won it for just under \$20k and his 5th career Circuit gold ring. The next day Hawkins played in the Main Event and he ended up winning that too. The victory was Hawkins' first career Circuit Main Event win and earned him his 6th career gold ring.

From Council Bluffs Hawkins traveled to Harrah's Cherokee, which was the very next stop on the Circuit. He scored a runner-up finish in a prelim event and then took down the massive 1,008-player Main Event for \$279k. With that victory Hawkins became the first player in Circuit history to win Main Events in back-to-back stops. Hawkins earned his 7th career gold ring for that win.

Hawkins' absence from WSOP victory lane didn't last long. Just seven months after his Main Event win in Cherokee, Hawkins took down Monday's Palm Beach Kennel Club Main Event for his third Main Event title of 2016. This win earned him \$95,921 and his eighth career Circuit gold ring.

The Circuit has never seen a run like this before. Only two other players have three career Circuit Main Event titles - Blair Hinkle and Chris Ferguson - and neither of the them were able to win their three in nearly as short of time spans as Hawkins. Hawkins has won his three Circuit Main Events in an eight-month span. Ferguson's three wins were over a two and a half years and Hinkle's were over a four-year span.

The \$95k Hawkins takes home for this win pushes his career Circuit earnings over the \$1 million mark. He becomes only the second player in Circuit history to reach seven-figure territory. Ferguson was the first player to ever cross the \$1 million earnings mark and he did it by playing when the buy-ins were much bigger than they are now. Last year at this time Hawkins had \$470,973 in career Circuit earnings. He has collected an astounding \$570,973 since, and now has \$1,011,946 in Circuit earnings.

"I set a goal and I accomplished it," said Hawkins. "I feel very happy."

Hawkins was the short stack in the tournament when the unofficial final table was reached late on Day 2. [He eliminated Tim Seidensticker in 10th place](#) to jump up to third in the counts and then went on to dominate the final table. He ended Day 2 with the chip lead and never surrendered it after that point. Day 3 began with five players remaining and [Hawkins knocked out Filipp Khavin](#) in 5th place right at the beginning of the day. He then proceeded to eliminate his three remaining opponents over the next three and a half hours.

"We don't need to explain who won. We all know when he got to the final table he was going to take it down." said Hawkins.

The victory stamped Hawkins' pass to the Global Casino Championship for the second straight year. All Main Event winners on the Circuit earn free entry to the \$1 million guaranteed bracelet event.

"I want to win everything," said Hawkins.

Final table seating assignments:

Final table action began with 23 minutes left Level 23 – 8,000/16,000 with a 2,000 ante

Seat 1: Khoan Ho – 400,000 (25 BBs)
Seat 2: Maurice Hawkins – 625,000 (39 BBs)
Seat 3: Josh Hillock – 1,150,000 (71 BBs)
Seat 4: Ryan Chase – 458,000 (28 BBs)
Seat 5: Bryan Rosen – 267,000 (16 BBs)
Seat 6: TJ Shulman – 526,000 (32 BBs)
Seat 7: Jason Bullock – 314,000 (19 BBs)
Seat 8: Filipp Khavin – 915,000 (57 BBs)
Seat 9: Lacy Wills – 500,000 (31 BBs)

Matthew Wright accumulated the most overall points during the Palm Beach Kennel Club twelve combined gold ring tournaments and earns the title Casino Champion. He receives automatic entry into the 2017 WSOP Global Casino Championship set to take place at the end of the season. Wright cashed four times and final tabled three events, including winning Event #1 - \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Monster Stack.

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
EVENT #2: Carlos Loving defeated 855 players (\$365 NLHE Re-Entry) for \$50,017
EVENT #3: Eddie Salaga defeated 92 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$8,210
EVENT #4: Steven Bennett defeated 109 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$9,810
EVENT #5: Tim Seidensticker defeated 129 players (\$365 PLO) for \$10,838
EVENT #6: Michael LaRocca defeated 168 players (\$365 NLE 6 max) for \$14,113
EVENT #7: Bob Beck defeated 60 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$6,750
EVENT #8: TJ Shulman defeated 193 players (\$580 Double Stack NLHE) for \$25,092
EVENT #9: Brett Bader defeated 47 players (\$1,125 NLHE) for \$17,625
MAIN EVENT: Maurice Hawkins defeated 261 players (\$1,675 NLHE) for \$95,921

All rings at the Palm Beach Kennel Clubs series are furnished by Jostens, the official ring supplier of the 2015-2016 WSOP Circuit season.

For more information about the World Series of Poker Circuit, be sure to follow us on Twitter [@WSOP](https://twitter.com/WSOP) or check out WSOP.com.

For additional information please contact:

Isaac Hanson (WSOP Media Coordinator) at ijhanson13@gmail.com.