2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 13 Horseshoe Council Bluffs Council Bluffs, Iowa Event #4 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo Buy-In: \$365

Total Entries: 197 Prize Pool: \$59,100

April 2, 2017



Brandon Fish Wins His Fourth Gold Ring

Brandon Fish captures his fourth gold ring after winning a crazy three-handed all-in pot that left him with all but one chip.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa (April 2, 2017) -- Brandon Fish found two black aces in the hole at the perfect time to propel himself to a fourth career WSOP Circuit victory. He defeated a 197-player field in Event #4: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo to earn the top prize of \$15,366 and 50 Global Casino Championship points. Fish, a pro poker player from Kearney, Nebraska, now has 38 career WSOP cashes.

Fish's last two opponents standing between him and ring number four were Jason Balaban and Ali Zakeri. During three-handed play the chip stacks were nearly even and it was any ones game with the blinds increasing rapidly because of the turbo structure. In a flash, the tournament went from the three players being stuck in a stalemate to Fish celebrating another gold ring victory.

The hand that essentially ended the tournament started with Zakeri moving all-in from the button. Then Fish moved all-in for slightly more from the small blind. Balaban said he couldn't fold and called Fish's all-in raise. All three players tabled their hands.

Fish showed two black aces, Balaban showed two kings and Zakeri flipped over two jacks. Fish couldn't believe the great situation he was in, but his hand still needed to hold up. The aces held and after the chips were counted, it was found out that Fish had Zakeri covered by 20,000 chips, but Balaban had Fish covered by 5,000 chips. Zakeri was eliminated in 3rd place for \$6,854 and Balaban was left with a single grey tournament 5,000 chip, which amounted to just one ante. Fish won the tournament on the very next hand.

"What an ending to a fun tournament," said Fish.

This isn't the first time Fish has found success in the WSOP Circuit turbos. Fish's last Circuit gold ring came in a turbo event at the 2016 Bally's Las Vegas stop.

"It's not letting myself get too low before making moves. Some people wait too long," said Fish about finding success in turbos. "Don't wait too long to gamble and get a stack."

Fish said that it was nice to win a ring locally with friends supporting him at the final table. He intends to play the remainder of the series. The win awarded Fish 50 Global Casino Championship points. He is now in the position to make a run at earning one of the 50 at-large

bids to the 2017 Global Casino Championship. Fish now has 100 points on the season with the bubble expected to end up between 130 and 145 points. He said that he is now considering hitting another Circuit stop before the season is up to chase points.

Fish ended his interview with a prediction. He predicted that fellow Circuit grinder Neil Scott would win a WSOP Circuit gold ring this week here at Council Bluffs.

Event #4 was the fourth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Horseshoe Council Bluffs. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo tournament attracted 197 players generating a \$59,100 prize pool. The top 21 players were paid.

This was a one-day event. The tournament started at 3 p.m. Sunday and finished at 1:25 a.m. Monday midway through Level 27.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during the Horseshoe Council Bluffs twelve combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry in 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 Council Bluffs series:

EVENT #1: Rod Novotny defeated 175 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$14,176

EVENT #2: Kennii Nguyen defeated 151 players (\$365 NLHE Bounty) for \$8,154

EVENT #3: Josh Reichard defeated 646 players (\$365 NLHE Re-Entry) for \$39,731

EVENT #4: Brandon Fish defeated 197 players (\$365 NLHE Turbo) for \$15,366

With four tournaments wrapped up, eight more ring events remain at the Horseshoe Council Bluffs series.

All rings at the Horseshoe Council Bluffs series are furnished by <u>Jostens</u>, the official ring supplier of the 2016-2017 WSOP Circuit season.

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