

**2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 13
Horseshoe Council Bluffs
Council Bluffs, Iowa
Event #5
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 198
Prize Pool: \$59,400
April 3-4, 2017**



Charlie Nguyen Gets the Points and the Ring

Charlie Nguyen dedicates his first WSOP Circuit gold ring to his late dog Brownie.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa (April 4, 2017) -- Charlie Nguyen came to Council Bluffs, Iowa to chase points for the Global Casino Championship. The series is only half way over, but Nguyen already has the points he was after, plus he'll head home with his first career WSOP Circuit gold ring. Nguyen defeated a 180-player field in Event #5: \$365 No-Limit Hold'em on Tuesday at Horseshoe Council Bluffs to score \$14,582, 50 Global Casino Championship points and a WSOP Circuit gold ring.

"I've been working at it this whole time. I have been traveling trying to get it," said Nguyen about trying to qualify for the Global Casino Championship. "It feels good to be in it and to go and compete against the top 120 players or so."

This victory moved Nguyen's season point total to 167.5 points and put him in the top 10 of the season standings with just three stops remaining in the season after this one. Nguyen is almost a sure lock to finish in the top 50 point earners on the season, and if he does he will head to the Global Casino Championship for the first time in his career.

Nguyen intended to make one last push for points after this stop at Harrah's New Orleans, which is the final Circuit stop of the season. Now that he is sitting comfortably with 167.5 points, New Orleans is no longer necessary for Nguyen's Global Casino Championship aspirations.

"I'll probably still go to New Orleans because I love that stop," said Nguyen.

After New Orleans, it's off to Vegas for Nguyen. He said that he has created a spreadsheet with a full schedule of events that he intends to play this summer. He has grinded the series before, but never to the degree that he plans on this summer.

Nguyen is a professional poker player from Houston, Texas. He primarily plays in tournaments, but dabbles in cash games every now and then. This marked his 13th career WSOP cash and eighth Circuit cash of the season.

Nguyen dedicated his victory to his dog Brownie. Nguyen was playing with a heavy heart yesterday because Brownie was put down after being diagnosed with cancer a few days earlier.

"He lived a full life," said Nguyen.

Event #5 was the fifth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Horseshoe Council Bluffs. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em tournament attracted 180 players generating a \$54,000 prize pool. The top 18 players were paid.

Day 1 began Monday at noon and lasted 21 levels. Day 2 began Tuesday at 2 p.m. with five players remaining. The tournament ended at about 5:10 p.m. midway through Level 23.

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
EVENT #5: Charlie Nguyen defeated 198 players (\$365 NLHE) for \$14,582

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

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

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