

2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 13

Horseshoe Baltimore

Baltimore, Md.

Event #2

No-Limit Hold'em (30-minute levels)

Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)

Total Entries: 291

Prize Pool: \$87,300

April 28, 2017



Dennis Tsai Wins \$365 One-Day Event

Local finance pro turns his last few big blinds into a gold ring and nearly \$21k in cash

BALTIMORE, Md. (Apr. 28, 2017) — Dennis Tsai is the newest winner on the WSOP Circuit. Tsai took down the one-day \$365 No-Limit Hold'em event, defeating a field of 291 entries to win the gold ring and the top prize of \$20,950.

Tsai is a 30-year-old finance professional from the local area. "I just play poker on the side," he said. "Mostly tournaments. I've had some luck in tournaments, so I sort of stick with it."

After experiencing good success online, Tsai transitioned into a live tournament player, and he's starting to accumulate some results in the brick-and-mortar realm, too. He finished as the runner-up in the very first WSOP Circuit event ever held at Horseshoe Baltimore in 2015 — "That was... nice... and very annoying," he said — and he's cashed in two of the three Main Events held at this property to date.

Tsai had to endure a bit of a rough start to his Event #2 run. "Today was crazy," he said after the win. "I bought in three times, and I almost didn't buy-in the third time." He did fire a third bullet, though, and it ended up being quite a profitable decision. Tsai doubled up just before dinner to claw back to average, then went on an after-dinner rush as the bubble approached.

Things started to unravel bit once the field crossed into the money, though. Tsai ran ace-king into pocket aces, had pocket kings cracked by pocket sevens, and ran ace-jack into ace-queen all within the span of a couple levels. That last loss knocked him all the way down to just five big blinds, but Tsai maneuvered his short stack with a deft hand.

"Shove, shove, shove," he said. "Got some stacks back. Everything went well after that. After I had five bigs, it was all good," he laughed. His fortunes turned around a bit at the final table, and he was able to win two huge pots to propel him toward the eventual victory.

In four-handed play, Tsai doubled up with pocket fours against pocket threes, and he found pocket aces against ace-eight to eliminate Brian Bailey in third place and take a big lead into the heads-up duel against Karlis Siljakovs III.

