

**2016/2017 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 13
Horseshoe Baltimore
Baltimore, Md.
Event #12
No-Limit Hold'em Turbo Double Stack
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 185
Prize Pool: \$55,500
May 8, 2017**



Ronald McDonald Wins First Ring in Series' Last Event

Virginia asphalt contractor collects close to \$15k for one day's work at Horseshoe Baltimore

BALTIMORE, Md. (May 11, 2017) — Ronald McDonald was quite literally the last man left at the WSOP Circuit Horseshoe Baltimore. McDonald won the series' closing event on Monday, outlasting a tough field of 185 entries in the \$365 one-day turbo. The victory earned McDonald his first gold ring in addition to the top payout of \$14,429 — not bad a bad wage for the day.

“The Rooster” is a 61-year old asphalt worker from Centreville, Virginia. He was born and raised in the area, and he's been playing poker on the side for as long as he can remember. “Ever since I was old enough to see over the table,” he said. “Don't want to work, but I do. I want to play cards full time. This is a whole lot easier.”

Tournament poker is seldom easy, but McDonald enjoyed a relatively smooth run to the title. “Played a great game,” he said of his own performance. “Didn't make no mistakes. None.”

It's not like he was keeping things particularly close to the vest, either. McDonald won two significant pots with big call-downs on the way to the final table — one with pocket nines on an ace-king high board, and one with naked pocket deuces. He was correct on both occasions, and he entered the final table second in chips behind Jason Baldrige.

Baldrige ended up on the rail in sixth place at the hands of McDonald, though, and the latter ultimately picked his way into a heads-up match against Brian Caplan. The average stack was desperately shallow for much of the late levels, so things progressed quickly and with much confrontation. There were barely 30 big blinds in play when the last hand was dealt, with McDonald flopping trips tens and turning quads with jack-ten offsuit to defeat Brian Caplan and win the ring.

When asked about his key hands along the way, McDonald recalled those two big pots in which he'd gotten stubborn earlier in the day. “It's damned if you do, damned if you don't,” he said. “You've got to be into the game 100 percent. I take pride on reading people.”
