WSOP CIRCUIT 2017-18 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Seminole Casino (Coconut Creek, FL)		Date:	17 September 2018
			Entries:	153
Event:	No-Limit Hold'em Turbo Double Stack		Prizepool:	$50,490
Buy-in:	$400			

MARK STEPHEN EDWARDS WINS $400 DOUBLE STACK TURBO

Local Florida poker pro scores second ring about a decade after winning his first in New Orleans.

Mark Stephen Edwards won the second World Series of Poker Circuit ring of his career on Monday night. The local poker pro from Longwood, FL defeated 153 entries in the $400 turbo double stack no-limit hold'em, earning $13,632 in process.

Edwards defeated fellow local regular Francis Margaglione heads-up for the title. The two have battled plenty before in cash games in the area.

"Francis and I used to play $5/$10 every day at the Isle in the morning," said Edwards after his win. "So, we have history and he's actually improved his game so much. We've logged a ton of hours together. So, we made the final table together and we were super fortunate to get heads-up."

Edwards started the final table as one of the shorter stacks, but Lady Luck smiled on him early on. He was able to run up a stack and take the chip lead into heads-up play against Margaglione.

"I probably hit four sets today," said Edwards about his rungood. "Then, I came in short and won a race. Just so gracious, you know? I'm super happy."

Even though he started with the chip lead, Margaglione scored a double up and the roles were reversed. They ended up battling back-and-forth for several levels before Edwards came out on top.

It was a change in his strategy that led Edwards to victory.

"I kind of got too aggressive," said Edwards. "I had a good read and I knew that he wasn't getting out of line preflop ever, you know? And he was kind of like one barrel post[flop], so I felt like I had an advantage… I just re-adjusted and we were even money and he was catching cards. I was tilting a little bit and I just stuck to my strategy. Just play post and small ball. Play the streets rather than just dump it all in preflop."

Edwards finished third in this same event last February at the last Circuit stop at Seminole Casino Coconut Creek. He makes his money playing cash games, which fund his other business ventures, but made the decision to work on his tournament game and build a solid resume worth of results.

His hard work and change of plans resulted in his second ring. His first since winning a $500 no-limit hold'em at Harrah's New Orleans in 2008.

"I'm trying to get my Hendon Mob up," said Edwards. "So, I'm trying to play more tournaments. Cash games are my bread and butter. How I kind of make a living and tournaments are desert. But it's kind of your resume. People ask 'How many rings do you have? Have you been on TV?' So, I've been focused on playing more tournaments lately."

MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name: Mark Stephen Edwards

Age: 35

Nationality: American

Profession: Professional Poker Player

Birthplace: Eria, PA

WSOP Bracelets: 0

Current Residence: Longwood, FL

Previous WSOP Circuit Rings: 1

DIRECT LINKS

FULL RESULTS
EDWARDS' OFFICIAL WSOP PLAYER PROFILE
OFFICIAL WINNER PHOTO