



## WSOP CIRCUIT 2018-19 EVENT REPORT

Circuit Stop:	Choctaw Casino & Resort	Date:	7 November 2018
(Durant, OK)		Entries:	164
Event:	No-Limit Hold'em	Prizepool:	\$54,120
Buy-in:	\$400		

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### JOSH VIZCARRA WINS \$400 NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM

*Poker pro scores second Circuit ring and \$14,612.*

There are banners hung all along the rafters of the Grand Theatre where the tournaments are held at Choctaw. They showcase the winners of all of the major tournaments they have held dating back to the Circuit's first stop in Oklahoma back in 2011.

Josh Vizcarra's picture is on one of those banners. It wasn't for a Circuit main event victory, but when it comes to poker in Oklahoma, he's one of the guys to look out for. He showed why on Wednesday night by taking down his second Circuit ring in the \$400 no-limit hold'em.

After a short, but swingy heads-up battle with John Haddad, Vizcarra emerged victorious. He defeated a 164-entry field and won \$14,612. His first ring came just over three years ago in a \$365 no-limit hold'em at Palm Beach Kennel Club. His second one is a little sweeter since the competition was a little tougher.

"This one was a little harder to get," said Vizcarra. "All the stops are tough, especially out here. There's a bunch of good players out here. I just kept showing up. Just not giving up at all at any point in time."

The Texas native has his banner on the wall, but doesn't have a finish better than sixth-place finish in a Circuit event at what could be considered one of his home casinos. A victory in Choctaw adds to the thrill of victory.

"It's been a long time. I've been playing for five years out here and Choctaw is pretty cool," said Vizcarra.

Any time there's a poker tournament at Choctaw, Vizcarra is likely one of the most talented players in the field. He's also one of the most well-liked by the poker community in the area. Any time you see him playing, he's laughing, joking, having a good time and sharing a drink or two with some of his opponents.

The atmosphere that surrounds most tables that Vizcarra plays only enhances his edge over the field.

"I feel like it makes it a little easier for me to maneuver around, just based on the fact that we are having a good time," said the Elgin, TX native. "It's pretty good for my game to loosen the table up."

Vizcarra started heads-up play with a roughly 4-to-1 chip lead against Haddad. That was thanks to some well-timed rungood against third-place finisher Ryan Luna. In two preflop all ins, nearly back-to-back, Vizcarra's queen-eight bested Luna's pocket nines and his jack-ten hit a three-outer against Luna's king-jack.

"He was a tough player," said Vizcarra about Luna. "He was really good and played solid all day. I played wit him yesterday for three or four hours. He didn't make any mistakes or get out of line. I thought it was going to be me and him heads-up, but I got lucky on him. That's poker."

Negative variance reared its head early on in the heads-up battle when Vizcarra's ace-king couldn't hold up against Haddad's ace-deuce. That put Haddad back in the lead, but a few hands later, Haddad turned trip sixes against Vizcarra's flush, which left him with just a couple big blinds.

Vizcarra won a flip two hands later to secure his second piece of WSOP jewelry.

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## MEET THE LATEST WSOP CIRCUIT RING WINNER

Name: Josh Vizcarra  
Nationality: American  
Birthplace: Elgin, TX  
Current Residence: Elgin, TX

Age: 31  
Profession: Professional Poker Player  
WSOP Bracelets: 0  
Previous WSOP Circuit Rings: 1

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