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MORE PHILLY COMPETITION

SHOPPING GUIDE

HOLIDAY GIFTS FROM ANTE UP

JARED HUBBARD

Online pro wins main event
at Canterbury Park's
Fall Poker Classic

.....

BORGATA POKER OPEN
Oboodi wins main event

.....

ON THE BUTTON
Taylor Von Kriegenbergh

.....

ROAD TRIP
N.Y. & N.H.

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OUR MISSION

Ante Up, YOUR Poker Magazine, is dedicated to America's everyday poker players and their poker rooms.



Christopher
Cosenza

Scott
Long

HEY YOU, HIT THE ROAD!

Poker is a metaphor for life in so many ways. In life, we often reflect on our past to learn from it. The same can be said at the poker table. You remember situations that arose from previous hands and implement the optimal strategy from lessons learned. After all, those who don't learn from history are doomed to repeat it.

But life, like poker, is also about looking ahead. Goals, plans, decisions. When we launched *Ante Up* more than three years ago it was our intention to give everyday players a magazine they could relate to, a publication where they, and their poker rooms, would be the focal point, the stars.

We believe we have achieved that goal. And along the way we've taken many trips to poker rooms around the country so we could report back to you our findings in the form of our Road Trip feature each month. As we sit here writing this on a plane flying high over the Midwest en route back to Ante Up Headquarters from one of our West Coast trips, we couldn't help but reflect on some of the differences between the coasts. For instance, many rooms in California have chip runners who have apron-like pouches where they cash you out or sell you chips. There's no need to go to the cashier for either party. To those in California this is nothing new, but for those who play elsewhere it is unique.

The nuances of each poker community make traveling to different poker rooms, in your state and around the country, such a joy. This month, we feature New Hampshire and New York. The Northeast is so pretty in the fall, and there's nothing prettier than raking in a huge pot in a poker room you've never played in before.

In the coming months you can expect more road-trip stories from Arizona, California and Missouri, to name but a few. Plus, you can always head to anteupmagazine.com and check out our magazine archives for plenty of other past road trips, such as Atlantic City, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Nevada, Pennsylvania and more. We write these road-trip stories to give you an idea of what you can expect from these rooms and encourage you to travel this fine nation of ours to seek out different games and poker cultures. After all, isn't life (and poker) about living in the moment, too? We'll see you at the tables.

— Christopher Cosenza and Scott Long

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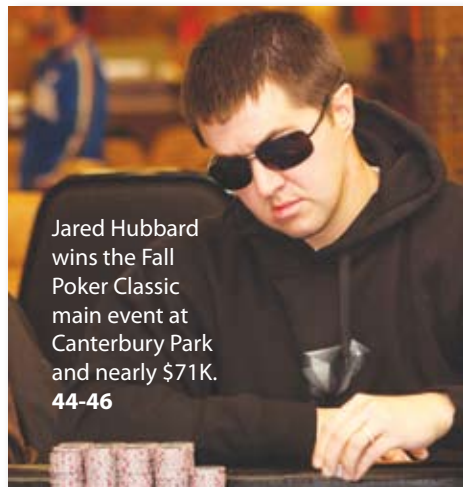
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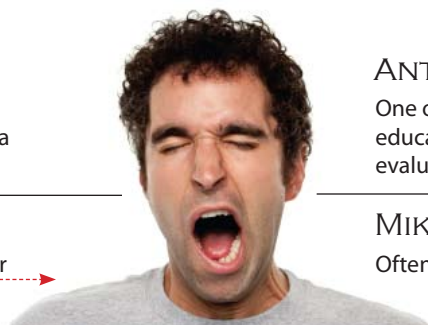
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ANOTHER YEAR, ANOTHER RECORD

By **Cris Belkewitch**

The World Poker Tour returned to Atlantic City in September as the Borgata Poker Open was again the center of the East Coast poker universe. Last year the BPO had a record 1,042 entrants, and given the impressive numbers at this year's World Series, this year's expectations were to set another record. Not only did 2011 break the record, it did so by more than most tournament series draw in total. A massive field of 1,313 players took to the felt in search of WPT glory.



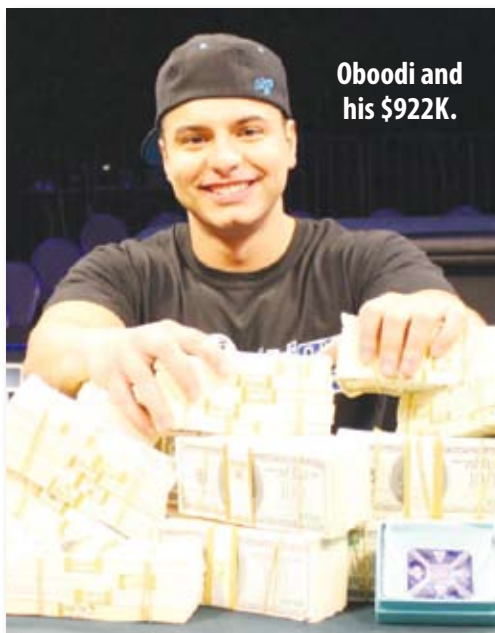
For full BPO results and recaps scan this tag.

Before the main event kicked off, a diverse schedule of events was under way, including Atlantic City's first H.O.R.S.E. tournament, which drew 123 players and went to **Jeff Duvall**, who came from London for the series. Duvall captured the mixed-game event title and more than \$14K. Other events included Omaha/8, six-max, pot-limit Omaha and heads-up, giving a little something for everyone.

Bahbak "Bobby" Oboodi, a 24-year-old pro from Morris Plains, N.J., took down the main event title and more than \$922K. Runner-up **Jin Hwang** was so convinced his run would be cut short of the final table that he checked out of the hotel on Day 4 before play resumed with 27 players. Hwang, a 56-year-old self-employed financial agent from Gambrills, Md., who started Day 4 in last place, was more than pleased with second.

"I'm so proud of myself; I think I did my best," said Hwang, whose more than half-million dollars in winnings likely softened the blow of not being the victor.

Quite a few top-notch pros turned out for one of the WPT's biggest and most popular events of the year, and a number of them fared quite well. **Will Failla** (11th), **Matt Glantz** (12th), **"Miami" John Cernuto** (14th), **Vanessa Selbst** (23rd), **David Williams** (31st), **John**



Oboodi and his \$922K.

Racener (35th) and **Jeff Madsen** (60th) cashed.

Heads-up play began with each player holding nearly 40 big blinds, but it lasted a mere 18 hands. The final hand saw Oboodi's flush overtake Hwang's two pair. Though heads-up action was quick, Oboodi saw it going another way.

"My strategy for heads-up was to small-ball it. I didn't want to get into any big hands where I'm going to be put in marginal situations," he said. "I was fortunate enough to make the flush against two pair on the last hand and it held up and here we are, champion."

With his title the Borgata and WPT put the lid on another hugely successful series, proving that despite a number of recent setbacks, poker still is flourishing.

— **Cris Belkewitch is the Ante Up Atlantic City Ambassador. A member of Team Bustout, his insight can be found at thepokerjourney.net.**



EVENT 1: NLHE
WINNER:
VINCENT
MAGLIO



EVENT 9: HORSE
WINNER:
JEFFREY
DUVAL



EVENT 11: PLO
WINNER:
PAUL
GREIM



EVENT 12: HEADS-UP
WINNER:
CHRISTIAN
HARDER



EVENT 19: 6-MAX
WINNER:
SPIROS
MARKATOS

BORGATA POKER OPEN

Sept. 7-23

Event 1 • \$450 NLHE

1,718 Entries • Prize Pool: \$687,200
Vincent Maglio, Revere, MA, \$140,852

Event 2 • \$400 Bounty

513 Entries • Prize Pool: \$179,550
Dennis Roitman, Brooklyn, NY, \$43,359

Event 3 • \$400 Omaha/8

190 Entries • Prize Pool: \$66,500
Yuebin Guo, Brooklyn, NY, \$19,352

Event 4 • \$560 NLHE

305 Entries • Prize Pool: \$152,500
Manh Nguyen, Munhall, PA, \$39,941

Event 5 • \$400 Seniors

226 Entries • Prize Pool: \$79,100
Fabio Balboni, Harrison, NY, \$21,481

Event 6 • \$1,090 NLHE

219 Entries • Prize Pool: \$219,000
Tom Lee, Denver, \$59,477

Event 7 • \$450 NLHE

476 Entries • Prize Pool: \$190,400
Kenneth Moyer, Hatfield, PA, \$47,190

Event 8 • \$400 NLHE

580 Entries • Prize Pool: \$203,000
Joseph Liberta, Berlin, NJ, \$49,029

Event 9 • \$450 H.O.R.S.E.

123 Entries • Prize Pool: \$49,200
Jeffrey Duvall, London, \$14,319

Event 10 • \$400 Bounty

317 Entries • Prize Pool: \$110,950
Stanley Combs, Brookville, OH, \$29,058

Event 11 • \$400 PLO

140 Entries • Prize Pool: \$49,000
Paul Greim, Helmetta, NJ, \$14,258

Event 12 • \$3,200 Heads-Up

53 Entries • Prize Pool: \$159,000
Christian Harder, Annapolis, MD, \$61,690

Event 13 • \$400 NLHE

374 Entries • Prize Pool: \$130,900
Michael Holm, Woodridge, IL, \$34,284

Event 14 • \$230 NLHE

1,218 Entries • Prize Pool: \$243,600
Mike Watters, Mid. Village, NY, \$51,974

Event 15 • \$400 PLO/8

120 Entries • Prize Pool: \$42,000
Thomas Blank, Stamford, CT, \$12,222

Event 16 • \$2,150 Bounty

246 Entries • Prize Pool: \$369,000
Kunal Patel, Friendswood, TX, \$100,225

Event 17 • \$400 NLHE

398 Entries • Prize Pool: \$139,300
Roland Israelashvili, F. Hills, NY, \$36,483

Event 18 • \$560 NLHE

430 Entries • Prize Pool: \$215,000
Terrance Beins, Jackson, NJ, \$53,280

Event 19 • \$1,090 Six-Max

410 Entries • Prize Pool: \$410,000
Spiros Markatos, Dix Hills, NY, \$93,259

Event 21 • \$400 Bounty

340 Entries • Prize Pool: \$119,000
Finian Anuforo, Brockton, MA, \$31,161

Event 22 • \$230 NLHE

1,048 Entries • Prize Pool: \$209,600
James English, Tamarac, FL, \$44,724

\$3,500 WPT Main Event

1,313 Entries • Prize pool: \$4,332,900
Bahbak Oboodi, Morris Plains, NJ, \$922,441

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Registration is open from 8AM - 9PM daily.

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NEW COMPETITION ON PHILLY HORIZON

By Mark Hoke

Harrah's Chester and the Parx Casino in Bensalem have had great success in an extremely competitive poker market. Parx has doubled its cash tables from 24 to 50 since opening a year ago while Harrah's hosted a popular World Series of Poker Circuit event. But the busy Philadelphia poker scene is about to get a little more crowded.

A third property is trying to become a player in the poker game. SugarHouse Casino in downtown Philadelphia has submitted plans to the city's planning commission to double its gaming space and make improvements to the casino.

Also, the Pennsylvania State Supreme Court recently upheld the state's Gaming Control Board decision to award a resort slots license to the Valley Forge Convention Center, also outside Philadelphia. In a 3-2 decision with two abstentions that was contested by the Parx Casino, the Convention Center wants to add 600 slots and 50 tables with plans to open in the spring.

That makes four players at the Philadelphia poker table, but **Ari Mizrachi**, Parx's poker room manager, is not terribly concerned.

"Will they pull some players?" he said. "Probably. Are we worried about it? No. By the time SugarHouse opens their room, we'll have had three years and created a solid base of players. We're celebrating our one-year anniversary soon, just got razz approved and submitted to add draw games such as badugi and triple-draw. We've established ourselves as one of the industry leaders and already had a great run.

We'll be fine."

Leigh Whitaker, communications director for SugarHouse, anticipates players lining up.

"The No. 1 question we get asked from guests coming into the casino is, 'Where is the poker room?' Obviously we want to be able to serve the community and accommodate the needs of our guests."

SugarHouse anticipates being a player in the market by 2013. And Whitaker is looking forward to the challenge.

"We know we're going into a very competitive market, but competition makes everyone perform better. We anticipated it and as we go forward we're always thinking of new ways to satisfy our customers."

Without question, it will be difficult for the new players on the block to break through what Parx and Harrah's offer. Both in a short time have become formidable, offering major events, large cash rooms and have seen unprecedented growth because of it. Fortunately for SugarHouse and Valley Forge, Philadelphia and its metropolitan area has such huge a population that all will have a strong chance to succeed without cannibalizing each other. The 30 percent of Atlantic City players that came from the Philadelphia area are deciding to stay home and will soon have even more choices on where to take to the felt. Pat's and Geno's may have nothing on what is shaping up to be an intriguing poker battle in the City of Brotherly Love.

— **Mark Hoke is the Ante Up Ambassador for Eastern Pennsylvania. Email him at hokeshouse@aol.com.**

'KITCHEN' BILLY TAKES OVER AT MEADOWS

The new poker room manager at the Meadows Racetrack and Casino in Washington, Pa., is **Billy Takacs**, and he's no stranger to the felt. Takacs, a 56-year-old poker player from Weirton, W. Va., has spent most of his life in the Monroeville, Pa., area and previously worked for the Mountaineer Racetrack and Casino in Chester, W. Va.

Early on in his career Takacs owned a kitchen design firm where he picked up his poker nickname "Kitchen Billy." With his knowledge of the game and local players there's no doubt he's the right man for the job. Meadows Casino hired Takacs because of his knowledge of poker and his numerous relationships with poker players in the area.

He plans to concentrate on making the poker room more player-friendly, including greeting players and being more generous with player comps.

"I've played and been around these players for nearly four decades. I know what they want and what they expect," he said.

Takacs has promised several new changes over the upcoming months and plans to revamp the tournament schedule to accommo-

date the serious tournament players. The starting times for weekly tournaments are 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily. As for weekend tournament action, Saturdays feature a \$175 deepstack at 5 p.m. with 15K chips and a 5K dealer add-on. Sundays feature tourneys at 11 a.m. (\$45) and 11 p.m. (\$65). As for cash games the room spreads all games at players' request.

The casino recently altered its bad-beat jackpot rules making it a little harder to hit. The losing hand must be at least four of a kind, with the player holding a pocket pair. Takacs said the new qualifying hand is less confusing for novice players.

PONGO PROMOTION: The Meadows has introduced Pongo as a promotion for hold'em cash-game players who make a full house, quads and straight flushes.

The Pongo board is setup with 25 squares. Each square contains a predetermined poker hand worth \$50 when hit. If a player hits a square that completes a row or column they win an additional \$100. If a player hits a square that completes a diagonal they'll win an additional \$200. The last remaining square will be worth \$1,000. The Pongo board will reset once all the squares have been hit.

— **Mike Owens is the Ante Up Ambassador for Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia. He's a poker player, journalist and creator of CheckRaze.com. He can be reached at anteupowens@gmail.com.**



MIKE OWENS



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Date	Day	Event #	Game Type	Time	Buy-in	Entry Fee
Dec. 1	Thu.	1	No-Limit Hold'em	12 P.M.	\$100	\$25
Dec. 1	Thu.	2	Pot Limit Omaha 8	4 P.M.	\$200	\$30
Dec. 2	Fri.	3	No-Limit Hold'em	12 P.M.	\$200	\$30
Dec. 2	Fri.	4	Omaha 8 or better	4 P.M.	\$200	\$30
Dec. 3	Sat.	5	No-Limit Hold'em	12 P.M.	\$300	\$40
Dec. 3	Sat.	6	6-Handed No-Limit with \$60 bounties	4 P.M.	\$360	\$40
Dec. 4	Sun.	7	No-Limit Hold'em	12 P.M.	\$200	\$30
Dec. 4	Sun.	8	Omaha 8 or better	4 P.M.	\$200	\$30
Dec. 5	Mon.	9	No-Limit Hold'em 1RB/1 ADD ON	12 P.M.	\$100	\$25
Dec. 5	Mon.	10	Stud 8/B	4 P.M.	\$200	\$30
Dec. 6	Tue.	11	No-Limit Hold'em Multiple rebuy	12 P.M.	\$100	\$30
Dec. 6	Tue.	12	No-Limit Hold'em Seniors	4 P.M.	\$200	\$30
Dec. 7	Wed.	13	No-Limit Hold'em	12 P.M.	\$100	\$25
Dec. 7	Wed.	14	2-7 No-Limit	4 P.M.	\$200	\$30
Dec. 8	Thu.	15	No-Limit Hold'em	12 P.M.	\$500	\$50
Dec. 8	Thu.	16	No-Limit Hold'em	4 P.M.	\$100	\$25
Dec. 9	Fri.	17	No-Limit Hold'em	12 P.M.	\$200	\$30
Dec. 9	Fri.	18	Mega Satellite	4 P.M.	\$130	\$20
Dec. 9	Fri.	19	Daily \$80 + \$20 Super with \$40 rebuys	8 P.M.	\$80	\$20
Dec. 9	Fri.	20	Late Night Mega Satellite	10 P.M.	\$130	\$20
Dec. 10	Sat.	21	Last Chance Mega Satellite	10 A.M.	\$130	\$20
Dec. 10	Sat.	22	No-Limit Hold'em Championship	12 P.M.	\$1,500	\$100
Dec. 10	Sat.	23	No-Limit Hold'em	2 P.M.	\$200	\$30
Dec. 11	Sun.	24	No-Limit Hold'em	12 P.M.	\$100	\$25

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BIKE'S 'QUANTUM RELOAD' TURNING HEADS

I don't get to play as much as I'd like to, or used to. Having a new baby last year and the near extinction of online poker this year made sure of that. I have been getting out more often recently, though, squeezing in some cash play. But except for the World Series of Poker, I haven't had the opportunity to play a tournament.



DAVE PALM

Well, with my wife and baby on a plane, the Bike was running its annual Big Poker Oktober tournament series, which had an event called the "Quantum Reload" with a \$50K guarantee. It was in my buy-in range so I decided to give it a shot. I wasn't sure what Quantum Reload meant, but it worked with my schedule and who knows when I might get another opportunity.

I've been pretty critical of the Bike's structures in the past. Since I hadn't played there in a while, I expected the same. I very much like the staff and tournament room, and there's a new tournament director.

Am I ever glad I was able to play in this tournament. The Bike revamped the structures for the lower buy-in tournaments and I thought it was great. And about the Quantum Reload, it added another level of strategy to the game.

Here are the basic details: The first four levels are 55 minutes each. The first two make up "Session A" and the second two "Session B." You can enter in either session, and if you bust from Session A, you can re-enter in Session B. No matter which session you're playing, you can rebuy OR add on one time in that session, but not both. After the end of



The Bike always tries to improve its product to keep the tables packed.

Session B, the levels go to 30 minutes.

You get 5K chips to start, and here's the twist: If you rebuy before the end of the session, you get 5K chips. If you make it to the end of the session, you can add-on for the same price and get 6K chips.

During a normal rebuy, I'd add chips right away. A few of the people at my table rebought immediately, but I opted to wait. It seemed like the bonus chips superseded normal strategy. I'd be interested to hear other input to the correct strategy here.

It only took me 19 minutes to lose nearly half my starting stack, but I was able to get to 7,500 at the end of the session, which after add-on gave me 13,500 going into 75-150, which was great. I was able to chip up pretty steadily and had a good mid-money finish.

All in all, I thought the tournament was great. I mentioned the structures have been

tweaked, and there was the usual percentage of poor players out of the 421 runners. First place was more than \$24K and a min-cash was \$390 for 45th and better. If you get the chance, I highly recommend playing one of these.

L.A. POKER OPEN: Coming up next for us low rollers is the L.A. Poker Open at Commerce Casino. It starts Nov. 2. There are buy-ins ranging from \$125 to the \$2,085 championship event on Nov. 18 and you're guaranteed a good **Matt Savage** structure.

Most of the events are \$340 or cheaper. The formats include NLHE, Omaha/8, stud/8, Omaha-Stud/8, H.O.R.S.E. and PLO with rebuys. Hopefully in the near future I'll have a positive report from one of these, too.

— Dave Palm is Ante Up's Los Angeles Ambassador. You can email him at LA.AnteUp@gmail.com.

SOCAL POKER

A look at the Southern California poker scene

Five-card Omaha/8 gaining popularity

One of the greatest things about traveling the country and seeing different poker rooms is game variation. In the coming months we will be reporting our Road Trip features for California, and there were so many unique things we found in SoCal. But one that really piqued our interest was five-card Omaha/8.

We had seen a variation of this game at Binion's in Las Vegas many years ago, but it was called Juarez and featured two flops, two turns and one river with the best overall high winning half the pot and the

best overall low (eight or better) winning the other half.

But on this trip we found a \$3-\$6 five-card Omaha/8 game that had a kill, and it was juicy (of course I lost my buy-in quicker than a rabbit crossing I-10 during rush hour). We only saw the game at Morongo and Pechanga, though it may be spread elsewhere, and floor supervisors at both cardrooms told us the game has been around awhile, usually spreads every day and has great action. We can attest to that.

WSOP QUALIFIERS: Sycuan Casino will hold WSOP main event qualifying starting Nov. 1 on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Call (619) 445-6002 for more details. — Christopher Cosenza, chris@anteupmagazine.com

Interested in California tournaments and promotions? Turn to our Where to Play pages in the back of the magazine.



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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RIPE WITH PROMOTIONS

With all of the cardroom competition in Northern California, we're faced with a multitude of promotions. As a Bay Area poker player, I truly enjoy the clubs fighting for my patronage by offering some extras. Bad-beat jackpots are the most common. The requirements may be different at each club, but typically it requires aces full of 10s or jacks beaten by four of a kind or better, with both players using both of their hole cards. Here is a rundown of some of the extras for the clubs:



BRET MILLER

- Artichoke Joe's in San Bruno has a \$100,000 bad-beat jackpot and a \$500 royal-flush bonus. As is the case with all clubs, both hole cards must play to be eligible.

- Lucky Chances in Colma has a bad beat exceeding \$100K, which is doubled on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday (6-8 p.m.) and on Friday and Saturday (9 a.m.-noon). It also has aces cracked daily (6-9 a.m. and 10-11 p.m.) In this promotion, the player receives a rack of the standard denomination chip for that game if their rockets get snapped.

- In Livermore, the Lucky Buck (a.k.a. Casino 580) gives each player in the first game of the day \$20 with two hours of play. Players who buy in at noon and play until 2 p.m. also get \$20 from the house. The deal is not restrictive, so if you'd like to come in at 10 and stay until 2, you get \$40.

The "Buck" also has a raffle every two hours, where the lucky tick-

et-holder gets to spin a prize wheel. Royal flushes pay \$200 and the bad beat is more than \$50K.

- At the Jackson Rancheria, the bad beat is \$25K. If you make aces full you get \$100 and high hand of the day gets \$100, too. Royal flush progressives cap out at \$500.

- Thunder Valley Casino, just outside of Sacramento, has a Monday night special during football season with \$1,000 drawings and a grand prize awarded in December where one lucky player will get to take a friend to see the Super Bowl. The prize package covers airfare, hotel and spending money.

Most clubs have some kind of promotion going on, and they often change. The only exception would be the two cardrooms in San Jose, which are not allowed to offer enticements based on a strict interpretation of the city's gaming ordinance. Be sure to check our Where to Play pages for promotions and websites.

Recently, I was playing a \$2-6 spread limit hold'em game at Boomtown in Verdi, Nev., and had my raffle number drawn to spin the prize wheel. I watched the numbers click by, \$10, \$15, \$20 ... the wheel stopped on HOT DOG. I laughed. Someone at my table said, "You know, it also comes with chips and a drink!"

Wherever you play, take a look around the room to see what bonuses or promotions are available. You may end up with a piece of \$100,000. ... or a hot dog.

— Bret Miller is the Ante Up Ambassador for Northern California. Email him at anteupbret@gmail.com.

Thunder Valley's Harvest Hold'em Series Nov. 20-27

Thunder Valley Casino Resort's Harvest Hold'em Series features four guaranteed events Nov. 20-27.

Action kicks off with a \$125 buy-in knockout bounty no-limit hold'em event at 6 p.m. Nov. 23. Players start with 5,000 units, earn \$25 for each bounty and the prize pool has a \$10,000 guarantee.

Play resumes the day after Thanksgiving with a \$150 NLHE event at 11 a.m. on Nov. 25. Players get 6,000 units and the prize pool is a guaranteed \$15,000.

The series main event is at 11 a.m. on Nov. 26. The \$350 deepstack event gives you 10,000 units and a \$40,000 guaranteed prize pool. Mega satellites for the main event run Nov. 20-24.

Players get one more chance at glory at 11 a.m. on Nov. 27 with a \$100 event (5K chips, \$10K guarantee prize pool).

Thunder Valley Casino Resort's 21-table poker room is offering \$5,000 in cash and prizes every Monday night through Dec. 26, including \$100 added to some pots and drawings for \$3,500 in cash. Players can earn entries for a grand finale drawing on Dec. 26 featuring \$18,000 in cash and prizes, including an all-inclusive trip for two to "The Big Game."

For more information, call Thunder Valley at (619) 408-7777 or visit thundervalleycasino.com.



Thunder Valley's 21-table poker room.

Interested in Northern California tournaments and promotions? Turn to our Where to Play pages in the back of the magazine.

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

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DATE	TIME	EVENT	GUARANTEE	BUY-IN	STARTING CHIPS
WED 11/23	6PM	KNOCKOUT BOUNTY NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$10,000 \$25 BOUNTIES	\$125	\$5,000
FRI 11/25	11AM	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$15,000	\$150	\$6,000
SAT 11/26	11AM	DEEP STACK NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM MAIN EVENT	\$40,000	\$350	\$10,000
SUN 11/27	11AM	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$10,000	\$100	\$5,000

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A look at the Central Florida poker scene

DERBY DEBUTS MONEY MAKER

While many businesses are feeling the downward force of the economic recession, the poker industry is continuing to rise. Ten years ago the biggest tournament in Central Florida was a \$45 freeze-out. Today, a high-stakes tournament occurs almost every day.



GARRETT ROTH

Derby Lane in St. Petersburg has made huge strides in giving customers action, and lots of it. Tournament enthusiasts are attracted to Derby Lane for its numerous high buy-in, large prize pool events, including the Money Maker tournament. Derby's new event has caught the attention of many locals.

"The Money Maker was a great success," manager **Pam Buzzetto** said. "The tournament has an \$800 buy-in and drew 144 players in its debut."

Among those in action were hometown pros such as World Series of Poker Main Event runner-up **John Racener** and WSOP bracelet-winner **Don Baruch**.

Despite its instant success, the Money Maker tournament will be put on hold until the beginning of next year.

"We will resume the Money Maker tournament in January 2012 after our WPT 12 Days of Poker," Buzzetto said. "The regional WPT event is being held Dec. 9-20 (see ad on Page 29 for schedule) and we have promotions running to give away chips to enter these events."

Derby Lane has signed an agreement with the World Poker Tour to host three upcoming events in the next calendar year. In addition to the WPT 12 Days of Poker, it also will host the WPT Poker Challenge (March 17-24) and the WPT Rebound Tournament (July 14-16).

Central Florida is finally getting the attention of largest poker corporations in the world as WPT and WSOP each have visited the heart of the Florida poker scene.

Derby Lane has many popular daily promotions, including high hands, Splash the Pot and frequent jackpots. The room also introduced Home Game Thursdays, where friends can take part in their own single-table tournament. Derby Lane even throws in free pizza and beer to sweeten the deal. Tournaments and promotions like these are what keep Derby Lane relevant in the eyes of the Florida grinder.

— **Garrett Roth is the Ante Up Ambassador for Central Florida and the Where to Play editor. Email him at roth@anteupmagazine.com and follow him on Twitter @GarrettRoth.**

EBRO GREYHOUND PARK

COLEMAN WINS EMERALD COAST TITLE



The Emerald Coast Poker Championship, Ebros signature tournament series, ran Sept. 9-18 as **Buster Coleman**, above, won the \$550 main event in a chop for nearly \$17K. **Bob Beck** and **Allan Soco** each captured two events. The series featured 11 events, including a LIPS tournament.



Event 1 Winner



Event 2 Winner



Event 3 Winner



Event 4 Winner



Event 5 Winner



Event 6 Winner



Event 7 Winner



Event 8 Winner



Event 9 Winner



Event 10 Winner

EVENT/GAME	BUY-IN	PRIZE POOL	WINNER, PRIZE
1. NLHE	\$110	\$4,998	Jayson Lee*, \$2,399
2. NLHE	\$220	\$6,138	Wayne Burnett*, \$3,070
3. H.O.R.S.E.	\$110	\$4,018	Five-way chop
4. LIPS	\$110	\$2,548	Arlene Edwards*, \$1,274
5. NLHE	\$330	\$11,920	Allan Soco*, \$5,960
6. Seniors	\$110	\$6,174	Ken Callis, \$2,779
7. NLHE	\$110	\$6,664	Allan Soco*, \$2,799
8. Omaha/8	\$110	\$3,430	Vic Steyerma*, \$1,715
9. NLHE	\$220	\$7,524	Bob Beck*, \$3,762
10. NLHE	\$330	\$7,450	Bob Beck*, \$3,725
11. Main event	\$550	\$42,330	W.H. "Buster" Coleman*, \$16,932

* Declared winner via chop

AUPT leaderboard

1. Samuel Barnhart, Little Rock, Ark., 1,155
2. John Riordan, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., 1,121
3. Mike Morton, Mays Landing, N.J., 1,058
4. Taylor Von Kriegenbergh, Mass., 1,040
5. Chris Conrad, Tampa, Fla., 896
6. Nick Schwarmann, Orlando, 817
7. Connor Drinan, Arlington Hgts., Ill., 794
8. Allen Bari, West Orange, N.J., 752
9. Curt Kohlberg, Western, Mass., 735
10. Alexander Kuzmin, Moscow, Russia, 731

Upcoming events

- Nov. 4: Hard Rock (Tulsa) Open
- Nov. 11: RN'R Open, Hard Rock Hollywood, Fla.
- Nov. 11-12: International, Daytona Beach, Fla.
- Nov. 12: Magnolia Classic, Horseshoe, Tunica, Miss.
- Nov. 19: WPT Regional, Orange Park, Fla.
- Nov. 26: Thunder Valley Harvest, Lincoln, Calif.
- Dec. 3: HPT, Peppermill Casino, Reno, Nev.
- Dec. 10: Gold Strike Winter Classic, Tunica, Miss.
- Dec. 9-10: Winter Open, Hard Rock Tampa, Fla.
- Dec. 16-17: Derby Lane WPT Reg., St. Pete, Fla.
- Dec. 16-17: Christmas Classic, Palm Beach, Fla.

Scan this tag for more AUPT details.



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BOU-NAHRA'S BIG BRACELET ADVENTURE

The November Nine is here as poker's most-coveted prize is on the line. This year, the moniker "World" Series of Poker is truly fitting as just three Americans join a melting pot of international players at the final table. Ireland, Czech Republic, Germany, England, the Ukraine and even the tiny country of Belize are all represented this month.



BIG DAVE LEMMON

American sports fans love the underdog, and I'm no different. So this year, I'll be pulling for the likable character from Belize City, a part-time South Florida resident who spends several days each month staying with relatives in Ft. Lauderdale.



Badih Bou-Nahra, a Lebanese immigrant who owns a wholesale grocery business and is part-owner of a poker room in Belize City, is the only amateur at the November Nine, a veteran player nearing age 50 at a table full of 20-somethings.

A table full of Internet poker whiz-kids who figure to send the old man packing early. Bou-Nahra is so unknown that his first and last names were reversed on official WSOP published chip counts for the first seven days of the event. He plays little online, preferring to concentrate on live games.

Though this is his fourth year at the WSOP, his only cash came in 2008 at a \$2K hold'em event, where he finished 51st.

But with his laid-back demeanor and infectious laugh, this man is tougher than they think, a grinder in the truest sense of the word, especially during the main event. On Day 5, he was 118th out of the 142 remaining players, and on Day 7 was the short stack with 27 players left.

The man known to friends as Bob has a habit of walking away from the table when his remaining chip stack is at risk, almost afraid to watch, a fact that led to one of the more humorous moments of the WSOP broadcasts during Day 5.

Bou-Nahra went all-in, for the first time in the tournament, with about 400K chips left and holding 8♥-7♥. He had run into the pocket kings of **Andrey Patychuk**, but a 4-5-6 flop gave him the straight, only to have another king come off on the turn. Standing about 15 feet from the table and sweating it out with friends on the rail, Bou-Nahra couldn't see the final card, but was needed by **Bryan Devonshire**, who signaled an opponent's full house.

Disconsolately returning to the table, a shocked Bou-Nahra realized there was no full house and gushed, "I won? I won!" The hand rejuvenated him. Though he would remain near the bottom of the

chip counts for another day and a half, he would continue to grind until a critical hand less than an hour into the final day of play would change his fortunes.

After seeing a 6-5-J rainbow flop, Bou-Nahra led out with a bet of about one quarter of the pot while holding 5-6 offsuit. **Phil Collins**, not the singer, but the former South Carolina student, shoved while holding K-J offsuit. Bob felt he had no choice but to call with his remaining 4 million chips. A harmless 10 on the turn and 4 on the river made it the right call, and suddenly the amateur from Belize found himself rocketing into the top half of the dwindling field. Later, with just 10 players left, Bou-Nahra would severely cripple **John Hewitt** with pocket kings vs. Hewitt's K-Q, leading to the elimination of Hewitt as the 2011 Bubble Boy.

Now with the 14-week hiatus between Day 8 and the final table nearly complete, Bou-Nahra makes his final preparations for the most important sit-n-go of his life. The big difference in this one, though, is a monstrous pile of cash awaits the winner, giving Bob the opportunity of a lifetime to take care of his family, including three children. Meanwhile, he has used this unique opportunity to promote his beautiful, yet unrecognized country of Belize, going so far as to ask reporters to "talk about my country, not me."

A 12-1 underdog at the final table despite his sixth-place chip stack of nearly 20 million, the semi-regular at the Seminole Hard Rock in Hollywood promises the pressure, the possible fame and looming fortune for the winner will not change him one bit. "I am not going to change my style of play," he told me, but would not offer a prediction either, saying, "No one knows what's in the cards."

Litvin named director at Big Easy

I'm pleased to announce the promotion of long-time friend **David Litvin** to director of poker operations for the Big Easy Poker Room at South Florida's Mardi Gras Casino. Litvin, 49, started at the Hallandale Beach property as a dealer in early 2009 and after being promoted to shift manager about a year ago was named the cardroom manager in August.

Promotion has been the key word as Litvin has instituted several aggressive and interesting ones to the Big Easy lineup, including a free-roll for area college students. Next month, I'll talk with David about his innovative ideas for attracting new customers in this competitive market, along with his background in the parimutuel business and an interesting side project he hopes will hit the stage in the near future: a poker-related theatre production.

— **Big Dave Lemmon** is Ante Up's South Florida Ambassador. Email him at bigdave@pokeractionline.com.

"I am not going to change my style of play. No one knows what's in the cards."

— **BADIH BOU-NAHRA**

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WIN UP TO \$300

9:15AM – 1:00AM • HIGH HANDS EVERY 45 MINUTES
WIN UP TO \$1,500

SUNDAYS:

3:00AM – 9:00AM • HIGH HANDS EVERY HOUR
WIN UP TO \$300

9:15AM – 12:15PM • HIGH HANDS EVERY 45 MINUTES
WIN UP TO \$1,000

2:30PM – 11:30PM • CASH DRAWINGS EVERY HOUR
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*November 11 not included.

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Get Winning!
POMPANO PARK



The final table of the Ante Up Poker Tour event on Sept. 24.

SCOTTY NGUYEN WEEKEND

SEPT. 24-25 • SEMINOLE CASINO • IMMOKALEE, FLA.

For years, poker room manager **Rick O'Connell** had dreamed of putting together a big tournament at Seminole Casino Immokalee near Ft. Myers, Fla. On the weekend of Sept. 24-25, his dream came true with two events featuring former world champion **Scotty Nguyen** in the casino's decked-out Events Pavilion.



The action started on Saturday, with an event that exceeded the casino's expectations and had O'Connell and his staff scrambling the night before to accommodate the growing numbers of players who wanted to enter. In the end, the event had accommodated 168 players, including alternates, by securing every table, tournament chip and dealer available to the casino.

All entrants in the \$230 Ante Up Poker Tour event got to meet-and-greet Nguyen beforehand, with Nguyen signing multiple autographs. Nguyen proved to be a gregarious host throughout the event, greeting each player at the table and checking in on many of them several times and continuing to sign more autographs and still managing to make a deep run in the event. Players were treated to a lavish dinner buffet, as well as free soft drinks and water and had a large projection screen on which to watch college football while waiting for their next big hand.

Bounties of future tournament entries were put on the heads of Nguyen and *Ante Up* publishers **Christopher Cosenza** and **Scott Long**. All three made it far in the event, with Long squeaking into the final table and finishing 10th. But the day belonged to **Louis Pfaff**, who won the custom-designed trophy and a chopped first-place prize of \$6,300.

Nguyen returned the next day for a \$75 charity event that raised \$3,600 for **Poker Gives**, an organization founded by **Mike Sexton**, **Linda Johnson**, **Jan Fisher** and **Lisa Tenner** that distributes money to a variety of charities. **Frantisek "Frank" Sloboda**, who had finished second the night before, won the trophy and a \$1,186 chopped first-place prize.



Louis Pfaff



Frantisek Sloboda

Ante Up Tour event

1. Louis A. Pfaff, \$6,300
2. Frantisek Sloboda, \$6,300
3. Walter Hess, \$3,024
4. Robert Ondre
5. Erik Moelvjang
6. Andrea Lloha
7. Daniel Gottlieb
8. Michael Justice
9. Melissa Kaywell
10. Scott Long

Poker Gives event

1. Frantisek Sloboda, \$1,186
2. Andrea Lloha, \$1,186
3. Steve Bederson, \$1,186

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DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT	BUY-IN	GUARANTEE
11/18	Fri	12PM	M/E No Limit Hold'Em Main Event Day 1A	\$3250 + \$200 + \$50	\$500,000
11/19	Sat	12PM	M/E No Limit Hold'Em Main Event Day 1B	\$3250 + \$200 + \$50	
11/20	Sun	12PM	M/E Main Event Day 2		
11/21	Mon	12PM	M/E Main Event Day 3		
11/22	Tue	12PM	M/E Main Event Final Day		

JACKSONVILLE FALL SERIES

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT	BUY-IN	GUARANTEE
11/11	Fri	12pm	#1 No Limit Hold'Em Day 1A	\$300 + \$30 + \$10	\$100,000
11/12	Sat	12pm	No Limit Hold'Em Day 1B	\$300 + \$30 + \$10	
11/13	Sun	12pm	Final - Event #1		\$50,000
11/13	Sun	2PM	#2 No Limit Hold'Em 2 day Event	\$500 + \$50 + \$10	
11/14	Mon	12PM	#3 No Limit Hold'Em	\$300 + \$30 + \$10	
11/14	Mon	2PM	Final - Event #2		
11/15	Tue	12PM	#4 No Limit Hold'Em With \$100 Bounties	\$300 + \$30 + \$10	\$50,000
11/15	Tue	3PM	#5 Limit Omaha 8 or Better (@ St. Johns)	\$200 + \$20 + \$10	
11/16	Wed	12PM	#6 Pot Limit Omaha 8 or Better	\$300 + \$30 + \$10	
11/16	Wed	3PM	#7 No Limit Hold'Em 6 Max (@ St. Johns)	\$300 + \$30 + \$10	
11/17	Thu	12PM	#8 No Limit Hold'Em 2 day Event	\$500 + \$50 + \$10	\$30,000
11/18	Fri	12PM	Final - Event #8		
11/20	Sun	2PM	#9 No Limit Hold'Em	\$300 + \$30 + \$10	\$30,000
11/21	Mon	2PM	#10 No Limit Hold'Em	\$200 + \$20 + \$10	
11/22	Tue	2PM	#11 No Limit Hold'em with \$50 Bounties	\$200 + \$20 + \$10	

All Events at Orange Park Kennel Club except # 5 and #7 at St. Johns • Main Event re-entry on Day 1B. • Event #1: three day event with re-entry day 1B. • Event #2: two day event. Day one will play down to final table or 2am, whichever comes first. • Event #8: two day event. Day one will play down to final table or 12am, whichever comes first. • Single table satellites daily starting November 1st • Nightly multi table satellites at 7pm starting November 1st • Management reserves the right to alter or cancel promotion/tournament at any time.



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DBKC CROWNS HPT CHAMP; INTERNATIONAL NEXT



Nick Schwarmann

Nick Schwarmann of Orlando came to the final table as chipleader of the Heartland Poker Tour stop at Daytona Beach Kennel Club and never surrendered his lead, knocking out every opponent en route to winning \$167,944.

After only a few hands heads-up, Schwarmann's Q-6 flopped a six against **Rebecca Koransky's** A-9, sending Koransky back to Longwood, Fla., with \$83,970 in second place.

Koransky was followed by **Travis Klein** (\$50,382), **Rod Rodrigue** (\$39,186), **Joe Stempel** (\$33,588) and **Ronnie Lamb** (\$27,990).

HPT will return to the property twice in 2012, in early February and in the fall. This stop will air nationally in January. Also on hand for this event were **Annie Duke** and **Greg Raymer**, both surviving till Day 2 but falling short of the money.

INTERNATIONAL SERIES: The poker room's signature tournament series returns Nov. 4-13, including a \$30K guarantee main event that begins Nov. 11 (Day 1B will be Nov. 12) and has

a \$550 buy-in. Qualifiers will be held each day (\$65 or \$125) leading up to the main event.

Other highlights from the series include a \$130 razz event Nov. 9 and a \$130 PLO/8 tournament Nov. 10. For a look at the full schedule please see the ad on Page 37.

HOLIDAY CHARITY CLASSIC: The Daytona Toyota Holiday Charity Classic is scheduled for noon on Nov. 20 at Daytona Beach Kennel Club.

The event, organized by the same staff that hosts the Deepstack Charity Classic in Daytona Beach each May, features a \$150 buy-in with a \$5,000 first-place prize.

All final-table players will earn seats in the May Deepstack Classic event in addition to cash and prizes. More than \$3,000 in bounties will be awarded, as well as door prizes, and all entrants will receive lunch.

For more information see the ad on Page 53 or call **David Kane** at (386) 872-8787 or email him at holidaycharity@cfl.rr.com.

CALDER RACE COURSE

The inaugural **Jeff Conine** Celebrity Poker Classic recently raised more than \$75,000 for the **Joe DiMaggio** Children's Hospital Foundation.

Michael Sage of Hollywood won the event and \$5K. He was followed by **Michael Barone** of Hollywood and **Alex Pou** of Weston.

DANIA JAI-ALAI



Henry Peraza, left, from Miami won the **Dan LeBatard** tournament as the final five players chopped for \$1,230 each. Peraza won the trophy as chipleader. The event had some local past NFL greats, such as, **Leon Searcy**, **Leroy Hoard**, **Darryl Porter**, **Jim "Crash" Jensen** and **Oronde Gadsden**.



WPT POINT Challenge

**December 17, February 11 & March 17
1pm • Event Pavilion • \$230 Buy-In**

It's your first stop on the way to a **\$10,000** seat for Florida's premier poker event.

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\$500 to the Highest Hand from 2am - 3am

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\$100 High Hand of First Hand of the Day

\$100 for Flushes of a randomly selected suite from 9am - Noon

\$100 Highest Hand for each table from 9am - Noon

\$100 High Hand every hour from 10pm - 2am

Friday Night & Saturday Night

\$100 High Hand Every 30 minutes from Midnight - 3am

\$200 High Hand Every 30 minutes from 3am-9am



GAMES OFFERED

Limit Poker - \$2/\$4 \$3/\$6 \$4/\$8 & Higher

No-Limit - \$1/\$2 \$200 \$2/\$5 \$500

\$5/\$10 \$1000 \$10/\$25 \$2,500

Various Pot Limit Games

Such as Omaha Hi-Lo and Pot Limit

HOURS OF OPERATION

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Open	9am	9am	9am	9am	9am	9am	9am
Close	3am	3am	3am	3am	3am	9am	9am

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\$5,000.00 GUARANTEED TOURNAMENTS

Every Friday except November 25, 2011
Buy-in: \$100 Chips: 7,500 • Begins at 7 p.m.

\$10,000.00 GUARANTEED TOURNAMENTS

Friday, November 25, 2011
Buy-in: \$150 Chips: 7,500 • Begins at 7 p.m.

WEEKLY TEXAS HOLD 'EM TOURNAMENTS

Monday – Noon • Buy-in: \$50	Saturday – Noon • Buy-in: \$80
Wednesday – Noon • Buy-in: \$50	7 p.m. • Buy-in: \$120
Friday – Noon • Buy-in: \$65	Sunday – Noon • Buy-in: \$65
	7 p.m. • Buy-in: \$80

PROMOTIONS

\$3,000.00 POKER FREE DRAW

Third Sunday of The Month
3 hours of consecutive play = one entry

\$5,000.00 CASH BLITZ

Sunday, November 27, 2011 Earn entries 10/1/11 - 8:45 a.m., 11/27/11
3 hours of consecutive play = one entry • Begins at 9 a.m.

BAD BEAT

Over \$150,000.00 at time of publication
Must have a qualifying hand of Aces Full of Jacks beat.

GAMES OFFERED

Limit Poker: \$2/\$4 • \$3/\$6 • \$4/\$8
No-Limit Poker: \$1/\$2 • \$2/\$5 • \$5/\$10
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MID-ATLANTIC

For tourney info see our Where to Play pages in the back

WHEN BLACK FRIDAY ISN'T A BAD THING

Black Friday has a different meaning to poker players than it does to the rest of the world. To non-poker enthusiasts Black Friday is the big shopping day after Thanksgiving, but Delaware casinos are trying to make Black Friday a positive poker term with big events Nov. 25.

The Crown Royal Poker Room at Dover Downs Hotel and Casino will host a \$10K guarantee with a \$125 buy-in for 7,500 chips at 7 p.m.



MICHAEL YOUNG

Delaware Park will hold a \$10,000 guarantee with a \$100 buy-in at noon.

Every Sunday during NFL season at 9 a.m.

DP hosts a freeroll limited to the first 100 players with 20 winners receiving a seat into that day's noon event. Registration for the freeroll begins a 6 a.m. Also cash players earn entries for a chance to win tickets to an Eagles or Ravens game. Active players receive entries on the hour from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m.. Tournament players

receive an entry for each tournament entered, except the 10 p.m. Tickets will be drawn at halftime of the Sunday night game.

• In Southern Maryland, the charity tournaments are going strong. A list can be found at smd.com/calendar/index.cgi.

• The \$125 "Hold'em for Hokies" charity event is 10 a.m. Nov. 19 at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department on 400 Center St. South in Vienna, Va. Players start with \$10K chips. For more information or to register go to rescue.vt.edu/lmaa/scholarship/poker/index.php

— Michael Young is the Ante Up Ambassador for the Mid-Atlantic area. Email him at anteupmike@gmail.com.

NORTHEAST CORNER

For tourney info see our Where to Play pages in the back



The Seneca Poker Room in Salamanca, N.Y., saw its bad-beat jackpot hit on Sept. 7 for \$52,153. **Buster Harper** of Warren, Pa., won \$26,076 when his aces over jacks got beat by **Luke Valentine's** aces over kings. Valentine of Hornell, N.Y., won \$13,038. The other six players at the table split the remaining pot, each taking home \$2,173. They were **Jeffrey Kocheff** of Bedford, Ohio, **Benjamin Charles Blalock** of Tyler, Texas, **Paul Roberts** of Olean, N.Y., **Robert A. Mecca** of Saint Mary's, Pa., **Aaron T. Smith** of Westfield, N.Y. and **Douglas Grant Kearney** of Lakewood, N.Y. For a Road Trip feature looking at the poker rooms of New York and New Hampshire please turn to Pages 50-52.

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15-30 Limit Holdem

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2-5 Pot Limit
Omaha High Only

5-10 Pot Limit
Omaha High Only

1-2 NL buy-in \$60 min-\$200 max

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7 CLANS ENDS SUMMER ON A HIGH NOTE

As the brutal summer drew to a much-anticipated close, most attention appeared to be focused on the North Louisiana poker market. The World Series of Poker Circuit stop at Bossier City could've been construed as a friendly reminder the Horseshoe still is the dominant force in these parts, at least where poker is concerned.



Someone forgot to send Coushatta Casino Resort that memo.

Coushatta rolled out the fall edition of its Seven Clans Poker Series in late September with a minimum of fanfare but a maximum amount of success. With a prize pool of more than \$250,000 for three events, the Seven Clans was an obvious choice for many players who elected to pass on the events in Bossier City.

Tournament poker in Louisiana has been largely defined by Coushatta, and its efforts have done more than simply provide events for tournament players here. By virtue of the Seven Clans as well as the LSC at the Isle of Capri Lake Charles, a mini-circuit has been created that has even begun to produce its own stars.

The final table at the Seven Clans main event included reigning state champion **Ly Do** as well as **Jacob Seale**, who is without question the most consistent player in the state this year. Both fared well throughout the South in multiple events. Despite all of this success, however, these players remain virtually unknown beyond the state line. Horseshoe Bossier wouldn't acknowledge Do as state champion, saying her title only applied to the Isle Lake Charles annual Louisiana State Poker Championships. Do responded by winning a weekly event at the Shoe just days after.

As a tournament, the Seven Clans still is largely underappreciated by many up north, but it continues to draw the most talented players the state has to offer. This speaks for itself. There's something to be said for a tournament geared specifically to showcase the local circuit, and the Seven Clans does that better than any event.

In addition, Coushatta also has created a standard for live play that's unmatched in Louisiana. It was the first to alter bad-beat rules, making the jackpot harder to hit and driving it to astronomical sums. As of this writing the bad-beat jackpot at Coushatta is more than \$250,000 and climbing. Cash-game players fill the room seven days a week while up north it's still difficult to find a game before noon except on weekends.

Despite the national attention focused on Bossier City during September, local players continue to speak loud and clear when it comes to local action. Taking home the title in the Seven Clans holds more local respect than a WSOPC ring, plain and simple. This can be chalked up in huge measure to the way the room is operated in Kinder.

It is one of the few rooms in Louisiana to employ a full-time tournament director as well as a room manager. **Thomas Helo** has done a fantastic job as tournament director at Coushatta, not only in staging the Seven Clans twice a year, but in providing weekly events that consistently draw the largest fields in the market.

Louisiana poker owes a debt of gratitude to Coushatta and the Seven Clans Cup for setting the standard for local tournaments.

— **Scotty "The Spokesman" Rushing** is a poker professional and sports journalist. Email him at scottyrushing@gmail.com or on Twitter: @scottyrush.

7 Clans Poker Cup, Coushatta Casino, Sept. 21-25



\$300 NLHE

Entries: 234 • Prize Pool: \$61,285

1. Peter Sheppard, \$9,806
2. John Merchant, \$8,000
3. Barry Pearson, \$8,000
4. Daniel Wu, \$7,900
5. Domingo Gutierrez, \$4,596
6. Jordan Pharris, \$3,370
7. Gordon Scott, \$3,064
8. Billy Wager, \$2,757
9. Hugh Boggs, \$2,144
10. Daniel Doucet, \$1,838
11. Richard Daly, \$1,532
12. Stephen Jordan, \$1,225
13. Billy Swords, \$1,225
14. Andrew Rust, \$1,225
15. Pascal Boutineau, \$919
16. Lee Church, \$919
17. Robert Schmitt, \$919
18. Jerome Schrapps, \$612
19. Joseph Vitalle, \$612
20. Brennan Benglis, \$612

\$1K Main Event

Entries: 195 • Prize pool: \$179,693

1. Matthew Beisner, \$27,852
2. Philip Hall, \$27,852
3. Joshua Fanguy, \$27,852
4. Terry Clark, \$15,273
5. Jacob Seale, \$13,476
6. Ly Do, \$9,883
7. Ryan Bullock, \$8,984
8. Andrew Moon, \$8,086
9. Chris Smith, \$6,289
10. Ronnie Lamb, \$5,390
11. Hamed Wardak, \$4,492
12. Ada Lang, \$3,593
13. Michael Zamorsky, \$3,593
14. Jodie Menard, \$3,593
15. Ealey Harris, \$2,695
16. M. Vardemani, \$2,695
17. Benjamin Davis, \$2,695
18. Joseph Gosch, \$1,796
19. Southisak Seunsom, \$1,796
20. Danny Doucet, \$1,796



Results from the World Series of Poker Circuit event at Bossier City can be found on the next page.

Interested in Louisiana tournaments and promotions? Turn to our Where to Play pages in the back of the magazine.



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WSOP Circuit, Horseshoe, Bossier City, La., Sept. 8-19



Ring Event 1 • \$345 NLHE

Entries: 418 • Prize Pool: \$120,288

1. Jeffery Overton, Marshall, TX, \$26,460
2. Nicholas Gorman, South Lake Tahoe, CA, \$16,353
3. Bryan Chaler, Shreveport, LA, \$11,949
4. Brian Scheid, Saginaw, TX, \$8,872
5. Christopher Din, Pleasanton, TX, \$6,690
6. Homero Salinas, La Joya, TX, \$5,121
7. Gennady Kalin, Houston, \$3,977
8. Robert Newman, Bossier City, LA, \$3,121
9. Hiep Pham, Bossier City, LA, \$2,502



Ring Event 2 • \$345 NLHE w/re-entry

Entries: 616 • Prize Pool: \$177,906

1. Stephen Hesse, Houston, \$37,351
2. Rebecca Makar, Las Vegas, \$23,108
3. Scott Standridge, Ft. Smith, AR, \$16,898
4. Russell Ivy, Carrizo Springs, TX, \$12,530
5. Oran Haynes, Grambling, LA, \$9,434
6. Todd Elwood, Southlake, TX, \$7,196
7. Cody Cunningham, Russellville, AR, \$5,565
8. Zachery Weddle, Sachse, TX, \$4,362
9. James Namken, Houston, \$3,466



Ring Event 3 • \$345 H.O.R.S.E.

Entries: 119 • Prize Pool: \$34,629

1. Felicia Johnico, Hutto, TX, \$9,985
2. John Evans, Hamilton, OH, \$6,171
3. Seth Foster, Shreveport, LA, \$4,393
4. David Key, Baton Rouge, LA, \$3,191
5. Sami Hamid, Corpus Christi, TX, \$2,364
6. Dan Sztenderowicz, Philadelphia, \$1,785
7. James Cooper, Irving, TX, \$1,373
8. John Clark, Dallas, \$1,075
9. Elhindi Albarazi, Houston, \$857



Ring Event 4 • \$555 NLHE

Entries: 205 • Prize Pool: \$99,425

1. Robert Newman, Bossier City, LA, \$25,498
2. Christopher Gamboa, Katy, TX, \$15,752
3. Charles Cochran, Texarkana, TX, \$11,374
4. Fatolla Shahan, Pearland, TX, \$8,353
5. David Tindall, Corpus Christi, TX, \$6,241
6. Ross Carter, Elgin, TX, \$4,742
7. Tommy Haley, Gladewater, TX, \$3,663
8. Kyle Tacker, Benbrook, TX, \$2,877
9. Frank Alpandinar, Baton Rouge, LA, \$2,295



Ring Event 5 • \$345 NLHE

Entries: 264 • Prize Pool: \$76,824

1. Nghia Le, Suwanee, GA, \$18,489
2. Jennifer Parrish, Alma, AR, \$11,425
3. Beverly Cheney, Grandbury, TX, \$8,255
4. Felicia Johnico, Durant, OK, \$6,075
5. Lane Leblanc, New Iberia, LA, \$4,551
6. Michael Hall, Ft. Worth, TX, \$3,468
7. Vince Burgio, West Hills, CA, \$2,687
8. Douglas Freiss, Katy, TX, \$2,116
9. Eugene Hueber, Van, TX, \$1,692



Ring Event 6 • \$345 NLHE

Entries: 343 • Prize Pool: \$99,813

1. Wes Gauthier, Shreveport, LA, \$22,643
2. Michael Holland, Houston, \$14,000
3. Johnny Sanders, Cordova, TN, \$10,214
4. Mark Compton, Longview, TX, \$7,576
5. David Nicholson, Perkinston, MS, \$5,707
6. Larry Hirons, Arlington, TX, \$4,365
7. Craig Flood, Spring, TX, \$3,387
8. William Jester, Yukon, OK, \$2,666
9. Theophilus Anderson, Sugar Land, TX, \$2,129



Ring Event 7 • \$345 Six-Max

Entries: 265 • Prize Pool: \$77,115

1. David Chishko, Oklahoma City, \$18,563
2. Eric Dethlefsen, Vallejo, CA, \$11,469
3. Scott Williams, Memphis, \$8,286
4. Dennis Crowley, Pearland, TX, \$6,098
5. Kevin Kaylor, Houston, \$4,569
6. Zachary Evans, Granbury, TX, \$3,481
7. Jie Zhang, Plano, TX, \$2,697
8. Brian Scheid, Saginaw, TX, \$2,124
9. Lance Craig, Irving, TX, \$1,699



Ring Event 8 • \$555 NLHE

Entries: 226 • Prize Pool: \$109,610

1. Mark Burford, Shreveport, LA, \$27,063
2. Daniel Doucet, Opelousas, LA, \$16,728
3. J. Anderson, Spring, TX, \$12,175
4. Courtney Wulfe, Houston, \$9,004
5. Hiep Pham, Bossier City, LA, \$6,763
6. James Coon, Shreveport, LA, \$5,159
7. John Jones, Spotsylvania, VA, \$3,995
8. Charles Lande, Rowlett, TX, \$3,140
9. Scott Carver, High Ridge, MO, \$2,504



Ring Event 9 • \$345 NLHE

Entries: 234 • Prize Pool: \$68,098

1. Gary Burks, Gladewater, TX, \$16,687
2. Oran Haynes, Grambling, LA, \$10,313
3. John Ross, The Woodlands, TX, \$7,506
4. Waheed Atiqi, Houston, \$5,551
5. Katherine Bowen, Judson, TX, \$4,169
6. Michael Wicker, Jefferson, TX, \$3,180
7. Drew Woodke, Omaha, \$2,463
8. Jose Rodriguez, Nseir, TX, \$1,936
9. Doug Freiss, Katy, TX, \$1,544



Ring Event 10 • \$1,080 NLHE

Entries: 167 • Prize Pool: \$161,990

1. Jordan Smith, College Station, TX, \$43,740
2. Ricky Crandell, Overland Park, KS, \$27,030
3. Ky MacPherson, Austin, TX, \$19,457
4. Lonny Hardcastle, Rockwall, TX, \$14,260
5. Dan Sztenderowicz, Philadelphia, \$10,636
6. Steve Gross, Las Vegas, \$8,072
7. Davis Adams, Tallahassee, FL, \$6,230
8. Richard Fitzgerald, Big Lake, MN, \$4,887
9. Glen Goldsmith, Palestine, TX, \$3,897



Ring Event 11 • \$1,600 Main Event

Entries: 475 • Prize Pool: \$691,125

1. David Nicholson, Biloxi, MS, \$148,590
2. David Olson, Dallas, \$91,871
3. Christopher Gamboa, Katy, TX, \$67,115
4. Matthew Newcombe, Ada, OK, \$49,754
5. Russell Ivy, Carrizo Springs, TX, \$37,418
6. Ai Duong, San Antonio, TX, \$28,543
7. Clay Henry, Many, LA, \$22,081
8. Robert Dreyfuss, Colleyville, TX, \$17,327
9. Jeffrey Frye, Palestine, TX, \$13,788



Ring Event 12 • \$345 NLHE

Entries: 213 • Prize Pool: \$61,983

1. Charlie Hooper, Dallas, \$15,494
2. Joseph Bui, Gainesville, TX, \$9,578
3. Adam Stone, Tyler, TX, \$6,971
4. Manish Parekh, Houston, \$5,155
5. Eric Ellison, Austin, TX, \$3,872
6. Russell Belt, Magnolia, AR, \$2,953
7. Tesh Sharma, Pearland, TX, \$2,287
8. Jerry Randack, Richardson, TX, \$1,798
9. Thea Temple, Mesquite, TX, \$1,434



For the 12 days of Xmas,
Derby Lane Poker Room gave to me,
a chance to play in the WPT.

12 Days of Poker

<i>Day 1</i>	Dec 9, 2011	Friday	12:00 PM 7:30 PM		Mega Satellite w/room promos Mega Satellite w/room promos	\$160+\$15 \$160+\$15	8K Stack 8K Stack
<i>Day 2</i>	Dec 10, 2011	Saturday	12:00 PM	Event 1	Warm-up to the Main Event* \$50K Guarantee , *same blind structure and chips	\$600+\$65	30K Stack
<i>Day 3</i>	Dec 11, 2011	Sunday	12:00 PM 12:00 PM	Event 2 Event 1	NLHE Warm-up to the Main Event Resumes	\$220+\$25	15K Stack
<i>Day 4</i>	Dec 12, 2011	Monday	7:30 PM	Event 3	NLHE 6 Handed	\$150+\$20	17K Stack
<i>Day 5</i>	Dec 13, 2011	Tuesday	12:00 PM 7:30 PM	Event 4 Event 5	NLHE/PLO PLO	\$330+\$35 \$330+\$35	20K Stack 20K Stack
<i>Day 6</i>	Dec 14, 2011	Wednesday	12:00 PM 7:30 PM	Event 6 Event 7	Seniors Event 50 years and above NLHE (shorter stack)	\$180+\$20 \$500+\$50	15K Stack 10K Stack
<i>Day 7</i>	Dec 15, 2011	Thursday	12:00 PM	Event 8	Limit Hold'em	\$150+\$20	8K Stack
<i>Day 8</i>	Dec 16, 2011	Friday	12:00 PM	Event 9 Day 1A	 12 Days of Poker/WPT Regional \$250K Guarantee	\$1200+\$100	30K Stack
<i>Day 9</i>	Dec 17, 2011	Saturday	12:00 PM 12:00 PM	Event 9 Day 1B	 12 Days of Poker/WPT Regional \$250K Guarantee	\$1200+\$100	30K Stack
<i>Day 10</i>	Dec 18, 2011	Sunday	12:00 PM 2:00 PM	Event 10 Event 9	NLHE Player Appreciation  Day 2 - 12 Days of Poker/WPT Regional Restart	\$500+\$20	20K Stack
<i>Day 11</i>	Dec 19, 2011	Monday	7:30 PM	Event 11	Ladies Event	\$220+\$25	15K Stack
<i>Day 12</i>	Dec 20, 2011	Tuesday	12:00 PM 7:30 PM	Event 12 Event 12	NLHE Daily Double Turbo NLHE Daily Double Turbo	\$180+\$20 \$180+\$20	10K Stack 10K Stack

Events 1 & 9 \$20 Dealer add-on for 5K
All other events \$10 Dealer add-on for 5K
No Dealer add-on for Event 12

Management reserves the right to cancel
or alter any events without prior notice.



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MISSISSIPPI WARMS MY POKER HEART

Since leaving the great state of Mississippi to travel around and deal Spoker, I have developed a strong appreciation for what I left behind. Poker in Mississippi is different. I'd always taken it for granted that poker players eat free and hotel rooms are discounted everywhere.

Not so, outside the South. Comps are a sort of commodity that elude even the most dedicated player out West.



JENNIFER GAY

The action is different, too. The pro-to-casual-player ratio is significantly favorable for making money in Mississippi. The further west you go, the ratio starts to tilt, until you find yourself at a poker table with eight players who identify themselves as professionals.

Most of all, I think the absence of southern friendliness and hospitality in general reminds me that Mississippi has the best cardrooms in the country.

That and the fact you can order sweet tea and not have to explain what it is. Bonus!

My sabbatical is short-lived, as I will be returning to the Mid-South this month for a lengthy visit. Too many excellent poker events are closing the gap from fall to winter, and I don't want to miss out.

A few months ago in this column we hinted that a deal was in the works between Boyd Gaming and the IP Biloxi property, but nothing official had been released. The deal is done and the IP has joined Sam's Town Tunica and all of the Coast Properties in Vegas as part of the "Be Connected" casinos.

Though no guarantees have been made for future events, for at least the upcoming World Series of Poker Circuit stop at the IP (Oct. 27-Nov. 7), all events are on schedule and greatly anticipated. Last year this event fielded huge numbers, some of the largest the region has hosted for a tournament. The live room was packed around the clock, and staff worked overtime to accommodate all of the visiting players.

The IP Biloxi, not to be confused with the IP Vegas, is nice. Really

Bad beat hit at Isle in Biloxi

Brenda McMichael of Sour Lake, Texas, recently hit the \$142,629 bad-beat jackpot at Isle Casino Hotel Biloxi, winning \$71,315.

Terrence G., of Sagamore Hill, Ohio, was awarded the "small end" of \$35,657. The other players at the table each won \$5,094.

nice, actually. Having had a major full-property renovation in recent years, this is one event where you actually want to stay on property. The hotel is beautiful, the restaurant options are varied and the gaming floor is expansive.

This upcoming WSOPC stop is a **Jimmy Sommerfeld** event, meaning you can look forward to the same structures and buy-ins as other regional WSOPC stops. If last year was any indication, you can look forward to a highly competitive race for points where the southern pros will be vying for entry into the national championship million-dollar freeroll.

At the northern end of the state you can look for me at the Magnolia Fall Classic (Nov. 4-13) and the Winter Classic (Dec. 1-11) at Horseshoe and Gold Strike Tunica, respectively. Both series field smaller numbers, primarily catering to locals in the immediate tri-state area. For out-of-towners, hotel rooms are deeply discounted this time of year and as I mentioned earlier, no one ever went without food in Tunica. If you enjoy lower buy-ins, friendly competition and fields significantly smaller than the ring events of the WSOPC, either of these tournaments would be a great investment.

I've enjoyed Las Vegas and Reno, touches of California and everything in between. Most of all, though, I look forward to coming home to Mississippi and donating my chips to all of you fine people. ... unless we're playing in a 7 p.m. event. Then you're in trouble.

— **Jennifer Gay** is a poker journalist, poker supervisor and player from the Mid-South region. She can be contacted at [facebook.com/aceofjewels](https://www.facebook.com/aceofjewels).

SHOW ME!

A look at the Missouri poker scene

Harrah's to introduce a new tournament series



DON MATUSOFSKY

Harrah's St. Louis, which hosts a World Series of Poker Circuit stop, is set to run a new tournament series Dec. 1-11 with three events each day. The tournament buy-ins will be \$125-\$565, though the main event will be \$1,100. Single-table satellites will be run for several buy-ins and as many as 30 tables can be added to expand capacity.

Poker room manager **Denise Taykowski** hopes this will become an annual series. Each day will host three tournaments (noon, 5 and 7 p.m.). The noon events will be the bigger buy-in tournaments. Notable events in this group will

be the six-max, seniors and ladies tournaments. The 5 p.m. events will be specialty games such as H.O.R.S.E., Omaha/8, PLO and PLO triple chance. Each 7 p.m. event will be a \$125 NLHE tournament.

An interesting addition will be the Jack-n-Jill team event, which will consist of a male-female team. The first player will start with half of the starting chips. Players will change each level and the other player will add the second half of the starting chips to the common stack. This will assure both players get a chance to play.

All tournament details are pending final approval of the Missouri Gaming Commission and the schedule is subject to change. For the latest information check harrahstlouis.com or call (314) 770-7600.

— **Don Matusofsky** is Ante Up's Missouri Ambassador. You can email him at anteupdonm@gmail.com.

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DECEMBER 8-18

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DATE	TOURNAMENT	BUY-IN	ENTRY FEE
12/8	JACK-N-JILL NO-LIMIT	\$100	\$20
12/9	\$200K GUARANTEED NO-LIMIT (A)	\$500	\$50
12/9	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$100	\$20
12/10	\$200K GUARANTEED NO-LIMIT (B)	\$500	\$50
12/10	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$200	\$30
12/11	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$300	\$40
12/11	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$100	\$20
12/12	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$200	\$30
12/12	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$100	\$20
12/13	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$200	\$30
12/13	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$100	\$20
12/14	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM BOUNTY	\$200	\$30
12/14	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$100	\$20
12/15	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$200	\$30
12/15	MEGA SATELLITE	\$100	\$20
12/16	\$300K GUAR. CHAMPIONSHIP (A)	\$1000	\$80
12/16	MEGA SATELLITE	\$200	\$30
12/17	\$300K GUAR. CHAMPIONSHIP (B)	\$1000	\$80
12/17	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$200	\$30
12/18	NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM	\$200	\$30
12/18	HIGH HEELS LADIES	\$100	\$20

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A look at the Las Vegas poker scene • For tournaments and promotions turn to our Where to Play pages in the back

ALTWIES MAKES ARIA'S POKER ROOM TICK

The Aria Poker Room is one of the most talked about and busiest rooms in Las Vegas. I recently had the pleasure of sitting with its director of poker operations, **Adam Altwies**, to talk about his room.

How did you come to running the Aria Poker Room? I've always had a passion for poker. I walked into a charity casino in Ohio when I was 18 and started playing. Fell in love with it. I didn't have any money back then, starting to go to college, and I needed a job, so I started off dealing. Went to school, continued dealing, and then hold'em came in, and I started playing. I bought (**David**) **Sklansky's** book and slaughtered everybody. Really put myself through college.



MICHAEL HAMAI

Then I got out of college and ended up taking a real job working in the banking industry. Hated every second of it.

Got married, had a child, and couldn't play anymore because I had responsibilities. Then one day I got fed up said "I can't do this, live a life and be terribly unhappy." I went to my boss and said, "I'm done and I'm moving to Las Vegas." He kind of laughed at me. I didn't care. Sold everything, moved out here, and started working at Bellagio. Started out as a dealer, then floor supervisor, then I started working the tournaments, then training manager. I did pretty much everything. Then they were opening up this monster here, and I was lucky enough to get the job.

One thing that has really set Aria apart is that you have really embraced the social media aspects of building your player base. Why social media and what else sets Aria apart? It's free advertising. We thought about what can set us apart from everybody and we said social media, because nobody was really doing it. What we found was that people don't like just information. They want interaction, and that's why we're so good at it, because we interact with everybody. When people do say negative things, it's never a negative. Because then I get on there and I say "Please come see me." And 100 percent of the time that I've done that, we've talked it out. It's all positive.

One of the most poignant things you see regarding Aria are the big-name pros wearing Aria merchandise and playing in your daily \$300-\$600 mixed game. How did you go about getting that player base to come to Aria? You have to know

how to run it properly in order to get it. You can get them in the door, but if you don't know how to run that niche in this market, they're going to leave because they're putting a lot at risk. And if you don't have somebody that can service them in the proper way, and have the proper rules for those games, they're just going to say, "I can't play here." We had that knocked. We knew how to do that. We just needed to get them in the door. **Jean-Robert Belland** was huge. He is our Poker Ambassador. We have deals with **Phil Hellmuth**, **Josh Arieh**, **Ben Lamb**, **Erick Lindgren** and **Antonio Esfandiari**.

It's something to say that we've got the No. 1 and No. 2 in the (World Series) Player of the Year race, Phil and Ben. It's pretty cool.

Please tell us about your tournaments and comps. Tournaments are twice a day at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. for \$125. When we put the tournament together, I said I want something people can play and enjoy. So when they come in it's not going to be a crapshoot, but it's not going to take 12 hours, either. You'll always know that you're going to have a good time when you come to play a tournament at Aria. For comps, we give \$2 an hour and \$3 an hour from 5 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Finally, what do think has changed since you've opened to bring Aria to where it is now as one of the most talked about poker rooms in Las Vegas? There was a lot of talk of "is the poker room really going to succeed?" What a lot of people didn't understand was that my staff was going to be the best in the world, and I knew it. If you open a room in a good economy, key employees are already taken. You have to spend a lot of man hours in training in getting these people to where you want to be for your vision. I didn't have to do that. I didn't know how long it would take, but I knew at one point that the people that we had assembled would make this place great.

Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. You can look up everybody's Facebook and Twitter page in Las Vegas. It's exactly like ours. All they did was copy us. Now we have to be innovators again, and we have stuff that's coming out that's going to be new to the industry. We'll always stay that one step ahead of everybody. Be innovative. Stay one step ahead. Get people in the room, and have them enjoy

playing and be comfortable.

— **Michael Hamai** (a.k.a LasVegasMichael) resides in Las Vegas and is content manager and editor of AllVegasPoker.com. You can follow him on Twitter @LasVegasMichael or email him at Michael@AllVegasPoker.com.



Adam Altwies

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Sixth Place.....	\$4,000	Thirty First – Fifty.....	\$500
Seventh Place.....	\$3,000	Fifty First – Four Hundred.....	\$200
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MCCARREL WINS 1ST WPT MAIN EVENT AT ATLANTIS

The Atlantis Casino and Resort brought the World Poker Tour to Reno in September for its Western Poker Challenge, which was highlighted by the \$2,500 main event. **Casey McCarrel** survived a talented field of 96 players to capture the title and nearly \$72K

"Considering the \$2,500 buy-in, which is a high-end buy-in for this market, we were pleased to see the nice turnout and we anticipate even larger fields for future events," Atlantis tournament coordinator **Daniel Chiu** said.

Some well-known pros were in the field, including **Jennifer Harman**, **Kathy Liebert** and **Dennis Phillips**. Harman made the final table, but took a bad beat on the bubble when her pocket kings were cracked. **Steve Brecher** took fourth and local player **John Miner** was second.

McCarrel, who bested Miner heads-up, is a high-stakes limit player from Lafayette, Calif., where he plays in the \$80-\$160 game at Bay 101.

The 10-day tournament was held in a unique setting upstairs where players enjoyed panoramic views of the Reno cityscape. The tournament schedule featured buy-ins mostly ranging from \$100-\$500 with re-entries available. The structures were good with long rounds and big starting stacks, giving players plenty of opportunity to maneuver through the fields. Tournament director **Elden Brown** and a professional team of dealers did a great job making sure everything ran smoothly.

Throughout the tournament mega satellites gave the players a chance to win their seat to the main event. Players also mixed it up in the lower buy-in Omaha/8, H.O.R.S.E. and pot-limit Omaha-PLO/8 events. One performance of note: **Gary Debernardi** made three final tables, finishing second twice.



CORY HOWARD

Casey McCarrel poses with his trophy and winning cards.



The series also featured a WPT Boot Camp with pro **T.J. Cloutier** on hand to help players improve their skills at the table.

This was the second major tournament at Atlantis under the guidance of poker room manager **Bee Estes**.

"These tournaments have given us a chance to put the poker room at the Atlantis on a national stage," Estes said. "It has also postured us as a competitive and active player in the Reno poker market."

— **Cory Howard** is Ante Up's Ambassador for Reno. Email him at antupcory@gmail.com.

WPT Western Poker Challenge, Atlantis Resort, Reno, Sept. 16-25

Event 1 • \$340 NLHE

Entries: 74 • Prize Pool: \$20,952

1. Matt Hughes, \$6,495
2. Lance Oliver, \$4,400
3. Earnest Hohusen, \$2,829
4. Donald Murray, \$2,025
5. John Rose, \$1,886
6. Richard Dusa, \$1,362
7. Scott Hoffer, \$1,048
8. Kevin Davis, \$837

Event 2 • \$120 NLHE

Entries: 120 • Prize Pool: \$11,640

1. James Martini, \$3,375
2. George Saca, \$2,212
3. John Hom, \$1,455
4. Josh Britton, \$1,048
5. Robi Shahin, \$815
6. Philip Green, \$582
7. Stanley Yamada, \$465
8. Lance Torgerson, \$349
9. Frank Addamo, \$291

Event 3 • \$340 NLHE

Entries: 78 • Prize Pool: \$22,698

1. Jay Zetz, \$7,498
2. Wilfred Gorter, \$5,000
3. Lance Oliver, \$3,180
4. Ed Xang, \$2,260
5. Steve Kujubuu, \$1,760
6. Barry Kay, \$1,300
7. Armand Alvarado, \$960
8. Ryan Bechtold, \$740

Event 5 • \$120 NLHE

Entries: 89 • Prize Pool: \$8,633

1. Joseph Koreski, \$2,773
2. Monty Schmidt, \$1,820
3. Zoctan Nemet, \$1,160
4. Domenik Zetz, \$660
5. Campbell Jamieson, \$500
6. Todd Yankov, \$360
7. Jorrell Pascual, \$280
8. Derek Moreci, \$220

Event 6 • \$230 NLHE

Entries: 85 • Prize Pool: \$16,490

1. Matt Weber, \$5,290
2. Daniel Orrock, \$3,460
3. Trevor Kalberg, \$2,220
4. Michael Zuro, \$1,640
5. Jeff Cox, \$1,280
6. David Crumbley, \$940
7. Kevin Davis, \$700
8. Shawn Vanasdale, \$540
9. Eric Nelson, \$420

Event 8 • \$120 NLHE

Entries: 62 • Prize Pool: \$6,014

1. Roy Armstrong, \$2,045
2. Christopher Hansen, \$1,383
3. Harry Stanley, \$872
4. Barbara Rementería, \$601
5. Robert Coyle, \$481
6. Jacob Arguello, \$361
7. Robert Jones, \$271

Event 9 • \$230 NLHE

Entries: 73 • Prize Pool: \$14,162

1. Eric Nelson, \$4,602
2. Gary Debernardi, \$3,080
3. Thomas Gage, \$1,980
4. Angela Jordison, \$1,420
5. Jacques Lavador, \$1,100
6. Elizabeth Elwell, \$820
7. John Chorme, \$600
8. Deva Crouch, \$460

Event 10 • \$120 H.O.R.S.E.

Entries: 33 • Prize Pool: \$3,200

1. Ron Ware, \$1,344
2. Michael Zuro, \$928
3. Brett Mccourt, \$576
4. Jon Blaine, \$352

Event 12 • \$230 NLHE

Entries: 51 • Prize Pool: \$9,894

1. Dustin Fox, \$3,660
2. Gary Debernardi, \$2,374
3. Ryan Reed, \$1,484
4. Edgar Gardner, \$980
5. Camille Cannon, \$792
6. Eric Stovall, \$593

Event 13 • \$120 Omaha

Entries: 48 • Prize Pool: \$4,656

1. Barbara Kay, \$1,815
2. Gregory Bash, \$1,164
3. William Bertram, \$745
4. Joyce Remsen, \$512
5. Bill Willisie, \$419

Event 14 • \$120 NLHE

Entries: 66 • Prize Pool: \$6,402

1. Anthony Simpson, \$2,176
2. Lorrie Williams, \$1,472
3. David Farahi, \$928
4. Michael Engel, \$640
5. Robert Moulton, \$512
6. Evan Thalgot, \$384
7. Hien Cao, \$288

Event 15 • \$230 NLHE

Entries: 70 • Prize Pool: \$13,580

1. Edgar Gardner, \$4,620
2. Michael Ward, \$3,120
3. Gale Anthony, \$1,960
4. Michael Martini, \$1,360
5. George Sact, \$1,080
6. David Yoob, \$820
7. Shawn Vanasdale, \$620

Event 17 • \$120 NLHE

Entries: 70 • Prize Pool: \$6,790

1. Kevin Kleinman, \$2,310
2. Craig Gray, \$1,560
3. Ed Sellers, \$985
4. Lisa Abrams, \$680
5. Lance Donnell, \$545
6. James Hanke, \$405
7. Thomas Lewis, \$305

Event 18 • \$230 Bounty

Entries: 99 • Prize Pool: \$16,808

1. Brady Glauthien, \$5,378
2. John Wolfe, \$3,529
3. David Devenport, \$3,025

4. Lisa Stanford, \$1,680

5. Andrea Flores, \$1,302
6. Loren Cloninger, \$966
7. Joel Hansen, \$714
8. Kenneth Croyle, \$546
9. Matthew Weber, \$420

Event 21 • \$550 NLHE

Entries: 134 • Prize Pool: \$64,990

1. Paul Cookson, \$18,847
2. Andrew Levine, \$12,348
3. Loren Cloninger, \$8,124
4. Jedidiah Hoffman, \$5,849
5. Eric Garbocci, \$4,549
6. Phillippe Olbrechts, \$3,250
7. Bruce Angesk, \$2,600
8. Gary Debernardi, \$1,950
9. Aaron Easley, \$1,625

Event 22 • \$120 PLO

Entries: 22 • Prize Pool: \$2,134

1. Kevin Davis, \$1,067
2. William Bertram, \$640
3. Richard Orchid, \$427

\$2,500 Main Event

Entries: 96 • Prize Pool: \$223,488

1. Casey McCarrel, \$71,517
2. John Miner, \$46,932
3. Anthony Winters, \$30,171
4. Steve Brecher, \$22,349
5. Mike Ruter, \$17,320
6. Amanda Musumeci, \$12,851
7. Aibing Rao, \$9,498
8. Becky Rocco, \$7,263
9. Marla Schwartz, \$5,587

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FT. MCDOWELL TO HOST CHARITY EVENTS

By Christopher Cosenza

Whenever a poker room makes a difference it's always worth noting. Twice this month Ft. McDowell Casino will host charity poker tournaments, one benefitting children and the other helping soldiers fighting overseas.

The fourth annual Fields for Kids event will have flights and feature a \$150 buy-in Nov. 4 (4 and 7 p.m.) and Nov. 5 (10 a.m. and 1 p.m.) with the finals Nov. 5 at 5 p.m. with proceeds going to the Arizona Baseball Charities. There will be \$75 rebuys and a \$75 add-on.

Scheduled to attend this event, as of press time, are poker pros **Kenna James, Layne Flack, Chad Brown** and **Kevin O'Donnell**, plus Baseball Hall of Fame players **Gaylord Perry** and **Fergie Jenkins**.

Also, this month is the Packages from Home event. Call for more details on both events.

HODGE WINS LADIES STATE TITLE: It was Sept. 10 when **Leah Hodge** learned she was the victim of downsizing at her company. It's hard to imagine anyone concentrating on poker with that hanging over their heads.

"On my way home, I decided to stop by Casino Arizona to blow off a little steam and make some cash at the tables," Hodge said. "While I was waiting for a table to open up, I noticed a waiting list for a (\$32.50) shootout

for the ladies state tournament, where first place wins a seat to the tournament. When we had 10 interested in playing, we sat down. That's when I discovered the tournament had actually started that day. Some of the ladies at my table had been knocked out that morning and were trying to win a seat back into the tournament."

Hodge won the \$225 seat to the sixth annual Arizona Ladies State Championship at Talking Stick, and instead of selling the seat she parlayed that small investment into a state title and \$12,729.

"I debated between making some cash at a live table or risking \$32.50 on a satellite seat. I thought, 'Why not?' and went for it. I placed in the top 20 of Sunday's field of players, then won it all on Monday."

The prize pool was \$56,205 and the field had numerous pros, including **Kristy Gazes**.

"It's a great story," Casino Arizona director of poker **Kent Odekirk** said.

• Talking Stick has two events of note this month, the \$330 Big Stack on Nov. 5 and a \$65 Jack and Jill couples tournament on Nov. 6, featuring a \$5K guaranteed prize pool. The Big Stack event begins at 10 a.m. while the couples tournament will start at 9 a.m. Signups for both events begin at noon the Monday before.



6th Arizona Ladies State Championship At Talking Stick

1. Leah Hodge, \$12,729
2. Bonnie Jaeger, \$7,447
3. Andi Jaeger, \$6,182
4. Linda Raffino, \$5,002
5. Kelly Minkin, \$3,906
6. Jill Fabian, \$3,035
7. Olivia Smith, \$2,389
8. Barbara Holland, \$1,827
9. Angel Singer, \$1,349
10. Marcela Hinojos, \$984
11. Barbara Siefer, \$725
12. Vanessa Sciarra, \$725
13. Yvonne Young, \$725
14. Brenda Tammillo, \$725
15. Vicki Oxman, \$725
16. Tammie Sumners, \$590
17. Sombat Miller, \$590
18. Nichole Fan, \$590
19. Donna Delahanty, \$590
20. Marie Ule, \$590
21. Barb Rugolo, \$506
22. Deborah Caples, \$506
23. Linda Raffino, \$506
24. Michele Reece, \$506
25. N/A, \$506
26. Kat Gatelis, \$450
27. Marry Hallquist, \$450
28. Raena James, \$450
29. Mary Gruzinski, \$450
30. Michelle Gibson, \$450

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Day	Event #	Event	Chip Stack	Blind Levels	Time
FRI. NOV 4	#1	\$110+\$20 -NL KNOCKOUT \$25 Bounty for knocking a player out!!!	\$10,000*	30 min	1:00pm
	#2	\$200+\$25 -NL HOLD'EM DEEPSTACK	\$12,000*	30 min	7:00pm
	Qualifier	\$55+\$10 - NL HOLD'EM Qualifier 10% Advance to \$550 Championship event - 1 Seat Guaranteed	\$3,000*	15 min	8:00pm
Chip stack includes \$10 optional dealer appreciation add-on -- 20% additional chips from starting chip count*					
SAT. NOV 5	Qualifier	\$55+\$10 - NL HOLD'EM Qualifier 10% Advance to \$550 Championship event - 1 Seat Guaranteed	\$3,000*	15 min	1:00pm
	#3	\$200 + \$25 - NL KNOCKOUT \$50 Bounty for knocking a player out!!!	\$12,000*	30 min	7:00pm
Chip stack includes \$10 optional dealer appreciation add-on -- 20% additional chips from starting chip count*					
SUN. NOV 6	#4	\$250+\$25 -NL HOLD'EM DEEPSTACK	\$15,000*	30 min	1:00pm
	Qualifier	\$55+\$10 - NL HOLD'EM Qualifier 10% Advance to \$550 Championship event - 1 Seat Guaranteed	\$3,000*	15 min	7:00pm
Chip stack includes \$10 optional dealer appreciation add-on -- 20% additional chips from starting chip count*					
MON. NOV 7	Qualifier	\$55+\$10 - NL HOLD'EM Qualifier 10% Advance to \$550 Championship event - 1 Seat Guaranteed	\$3,000*	15 min	1:00pm
	#5	\$110+\$20 - NL HOLD'EM DEEPSTACK	\$10,000*	30 min	7:00pm
Chip stack includes \$10 optional dealer appreciation add-on -- 20% additional chips from starting chip count*					
TUES. NOV 8	#6	\$110+\$20 -NL KNOCKOUT \$25 Bounty for knocking a player out!!!	\$10,000*	30 min	1:00pm
	Qualifier	\$110+\$15 -NL HOLD'EM Qualifier 20% Advance to \$550 Championship event - 2 Seats Guaranteed	\$6,000*	20 min	7:00pm
Chip stack includes \$10 optional dealer appreciation add-on -- 20% additional chips from starting chip count*					
WED. NOV 9	Qualifier	\$110+\$15 -NL HOLD'EM Qualifier 20% Advance to \$550 Championship event - 2 Seats Guaranteed	\$6,000*	20 min	1:00pm
	#7	\$110+\$20 - RAZZ	\$10,000*	30 min	7:00pm
Chip stack includes \$10 optional dealer appreciation add-on -- 20% additional chips from starting chip count*					
THURS. NOV 10	Qualifier	\$110+\$15 -NL HOLD'EM Qualifier 20% Advance to \$550 Championship event - 2 Seats Guaranteed	\$6,000*	20 min	1:00pm
	#8	\$110+\$20 - PLQ/8	\$10,000*	30 min	7:00pm
Chip stack includes \$10 optional dealer appreciation add-on -- 20% additional chips from starting chip count*					
FRI. NOV 11	Qualifier	\$110+\$15 -NL HOLD'EM Qualifier 20% Advance to \$550 Championship event - 2 Seats Guaranteed	\$6,000*	20 min	1:00pm
	#9	\$500+\$50 CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT NL HOLD'EM DAY 1A - \$30,000 GUARANTEED	\$25,000*	40 min	5:00pm
Chip stack includes \$10 optional dealer appreciation add-on -- 20% additional chips from starting chip count*					
SAT. NOV 12	#10	\$100+\$25 -LIPS LADIES NL HOLD'EM	\$10,000*	30 min	1:00pm
	#9	\$500+\$50 CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT NL HOLD'EM DAY 1B - \$30,000 GUARANTEED	\$25,000*	40 min	3:00pm
		Players eliminated from 1A may buy into 1B			
	#11	\$300+\$30 -NL HOLD'EM SUPER DEEPSTACK	\$18,000*	30 min	7:00pm
Chip stack includes \$10 optional dealer appreciation add-on -- 20% additional chips from starting chip count*					
SUN. NOV 13	Day 2 #9	DAY 2 CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS (FROM DAY 1A AND 1B EVENTS)	Day 1 Stacks	40 min	NOON
	#12	\$225+\$25 - LAST CHANCE DEEPSTACK	\$12,000*	30 min	3:00pm
		Late Registration throughout the 1st 2 Levels of all events.			
		1st place of Events # 1-#8 will receive a \$550 seat to the Main Event #9 to be deducted from the prize pool			

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A look at the Colorado poker scene • For tournament info see our Where to Play pages in the back

CASINO WINS HPT AT GOLDEN GATES

We'll get to the nuts and bolts of **Craig Casino's** remarkable true-life "chip and a chair" story in a moment. First, let's jump to the immediate aftermath of Casino's win Oct. 2 in the Heartland Poker

Tour event at the Golden Gates Casino and Poker Par-lour in Black Hawk.



RICK GERSHMAN

Casino (yes, that's his real name) had just cashed \$293,270, quite a healthy share of the WPT's first million-dollar prize pool. The Winfield, Ill., amateur was talking with HPT's **Jennifer Mastrud**, who noted that whenever possible, Heartland donates 1 percent of an event's prize pool to the non-profit Disabled American Veterans association.

The exception is when HPT cannot do that because of local gaming laws, which was the case in Colorado.

"So they were selling hats for \$20 each, and I was thinking, there's no way they're going to make \$10,000 that way," Casino said. "They're not even going to make \$500."

Casino, 58, agreed on the spot to donate 1 percent of his winnings, about \$3,000, to the DAV. Then he went home to Winfield, about 25 miles west of Chicago. He was watching the TV show *Dancing with the Stars* with his wife, **Sue**, and they were inspired by **J.R. Martinez**, an actor and motivational speaker who has extensive scars from burns while serving as an Army infantryman in Iraq.

"My wife and I are very patriotic, and watching J.R. was inspiring," said Casino, an arborist. "So I emailed Jen the next day and told her I'd donate the whole \$10,000."

Casino has donated to a couple of other charities, while \$120,000 will go to helping fund his mother's in-home care. After taxes and other considerations, that doesn't leave Casino a lot to work with, but he's more than content.

He also came terribly close to walking away with nothing. The Golden Gates event broke the million-dollar mark (by just \$3,000) because it also allowed rebuys for the first time. Casino bought back in twice, and he was on the ropes late in the tourney.

Casino took a big hit after the floor needed to be called over twice to sort out a hand he played against Golden, Co.'s **Mary Flurkey**, the eventual runner-up. On the next hand, he lost to a straight on the river. Because he thought he was covered, he called his wife and told her he'd be headed for the airport soon.

That's when he realized he still had two 10,000 chips, not even enough for a small blind. But he tripled up when his J-7 hit, shoved with an A-9 that held up, and shoved again with 4-5 suited, flopping 2-3 and turning the wheel on the river. Staying aggressive, he quickly came back to take the chip lead.

As for what happened from there, you can see for yourself in December, when the event's conclusion is televised nationally.

— **Rick Gershman is Ante Up's Colorado Ambassador. You can email him at rickgershman@gmail.com.**



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- 7:00pm:** \$90 NLH with a \$100 tourney High Hand

MONDAYS

- 10:00am:** \$45 NLH Free Buffet tourney
- 3:00pm:** \$55 NLH with a \$2,000 tourney Bad Beat
- 7:00pm:** \$90 NLH with \$100 tourney High Hand \$600 Monday Night Football Blitz

TUESDAYS

- 10:00am:** \$45 NLH Free Buffet tourney
- 3:00pm:** \$55 NLH with a \$2,000 tourney Bad Beat
- 7:00pm:** \$90 NLH with \$100 tourney High Hand

WEDNESDAYS

- 10:00am:** \$45 NLH Free Buffet tourney
- 3:00pm:** \$55 NLH with a \$2,000 tourney Bad Beat
- 7:00pm:** \$90 NLH with \$100 tourney High Hand

THURSDAYS

- 10:00am:** \$45 Limit Omaha Hi/Lo
- 3:00pm:** \$55 NLH with a \$2,000 tourney Bad Beat
- 7:00pm:** \$90 Pot Limit Omaha Hi-Only

FRIDAYS

- 10:00am:** \$45 NLH Free Buffet tourney
- 3:00pm:** \$55 NLH with a \$2,000 tourney Bad Beat
- 7:00pm:** \$90 NLH with \$100 tourney High Hand

SATURDAYS

- Noon:** \$150 NLH tourney with \$2,000 tourney Bad Beat
- 7:00pm:** \$90 NLH with \$100 tourney High Hand



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MAJOR MANAGEMENT CHANGES ABOUND

A major Oklahoma poker shift is occurring as management positions are being dropped, filled and replaced in many of the favorite cardrooms across the state. Outlook for Oklahoma poker heading into 2012 is full of speculation and fueled by excitement as some of our favorite casinos acclimate to their new situations.



CRYSTALLYNN HARRIS

In Quapaw, Downstream Casino's poker room manager **Elliott Schecter** left to take on the cardroom at Casino Snoqualmie in Washington State. There is speculation who will be filling his Downstream role, but the casino most likely will hire internally if it doesn't eliminate the position.

Schecter's departure came just before the Downstream HPT event, which ran Oct. 13-23.

Also, Riverspirit Casino's cardroom manager recently departed. Buzz among Oklahoma players is that a former Downstream Casino employee is vying for the position in Tulsa and that Riverspirit is in negotiations with HPT for an event, though nothing official has been released.

Hard Rock Casino Resort Tulsa promoted **Dennis Myers** from floor supervisor to manager. This position has been unfulfilled for many months while **Chris Gompher Hyams** acted as interim manager. Now that the position has been filled, players are hoping to see positive changes and increased tournament player pools.

Known in earlier years for its ability to produce fantastic tournament series, Hard Rock has seen a decline in poker tournament attendance in recent years.

"I'd really like to see Hard Rock poker reach its potential. We've seen it before and I am hoping they will pull off a good new year now that they have a poker manager," said **Nick Gilbert**, poker player from Wichita, Kan.

Ken Lambert was brought to Choctaw Casino as manager in recent months, and he's working to increase player patronage and provide an exciting atmosphere.

"We have seen small increases in our players and games in the past few months," Lambert said.

Choctaw's **T.J. Cloutier** Poker Classic is still running as this goes to print, but the tournaments have seen an increase in players and prize pools when compared with last year's numbers.

The shift in cardroom managers will play a powerful role in 2012 and begs many questions that only time will answer. Questions and speculations circulating about the change in tide continue to emerge. Here are some popular thoughts being murmured across the Oklahoma felt.

"If Riverspirit really hosts an HPT event then much of the Tulsa traffic that Downstream sees will be staying in their hometown to play. Downstream will have to come up with something new," said **Fred Donaldson** of Wichita, Kan.



Elliott Schecter left Downstream for a Washington poker room.

"WinStar World is the mecca of poker in the south. Ken Lambert is a seasoned pro. I can't wait to see what happens in 2012. I'm bettin' it's going to be all bright and blingin' and people are gonna start saying, 'Hey, we need to get out to Southern OK because that's where all the players go to play.'" said **N.J.** of Dallas.

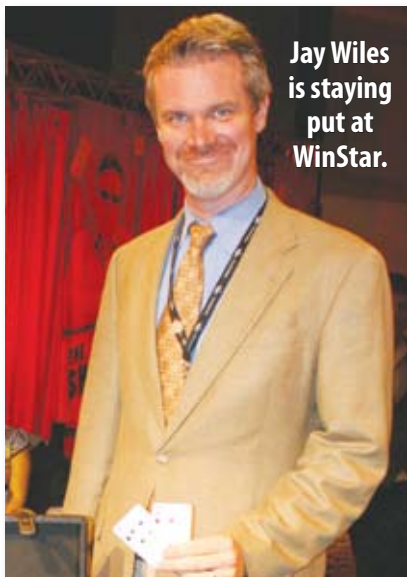
"Tulsa's poker has really fallen off in the last few years. If what people are saying is true about Riverspirit getting HPT then I won't have to leave Tulsa to play. I like that. It will really put Tulsa back on the map for poker," said **Jason Hicks** of Tulsa.

Staple managers in Oklahoma, such as **Jay Wiles** at WinStar World Casino, believe "what is good for poker is good for everybody." He is looking forward to a new and action-packed year.

There may be players who wonder why the change in cardroom managers will make a difference, and there are several answers to that. Positions that remain unfilled have manager tasks being delegated among other staff members. Sometimes the manager position is eliminated and the director of table games assumes the role. Rooms may not run as smoothly depending on the role the former manager played.

Players may see physical changes to their favorite cardroom. New managers may rearrange table layouts to optimize space or they'll hire new dealers, chip runners, floor supervisors, etc. New managers may create new promotions and eliminate old ones. Players may see a decline in tournaments offered or they may see an increase in tournament activity.

With all things considered, the face of Oklahoma poker is in a curious transitional phase and will undoubtedly be turning players' heads. We may see competition between casinos heat up, which means more promotions and better deals for players. We may see large tournaments a bit closer to home to save players those precious travel dollars. Whatever the case may be, keep your eyes on Oklahoma for your 2012 poker schedule.



Jay Wiles is staying put at WinStar.

— Crystallynn Harris is the Ante Up Ambassador for the Oklahoma-Kansas area. You can email her at crystallynn@anteupmagazine.com.

Interested in Oklahoma-Kansas tournaments and promotions? Turn to our Where to Play pages in the back of the magazine.



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A look at the poker scene in and around Chicago

FOUR WINDS GETS TABLE UPGRADES

Four Winds Casino recently upgraded its PokerPro electronic tables. Tournament players now can check the leaderboard on their screen to see where they are, plus they can rebuy or add on with just a click of the button.



JOE GIERTUGA

"PokerPro's newest multitable tournament enhancements offer features that are simply not possible on a manual table," PokerTek CEO **Mark Roberson** said. "Rebuys and add-ons are now fast and easy, while the tournament leaderboard provides real-time information that gives players unparalleled visibility to tournament standings and chip stacks."

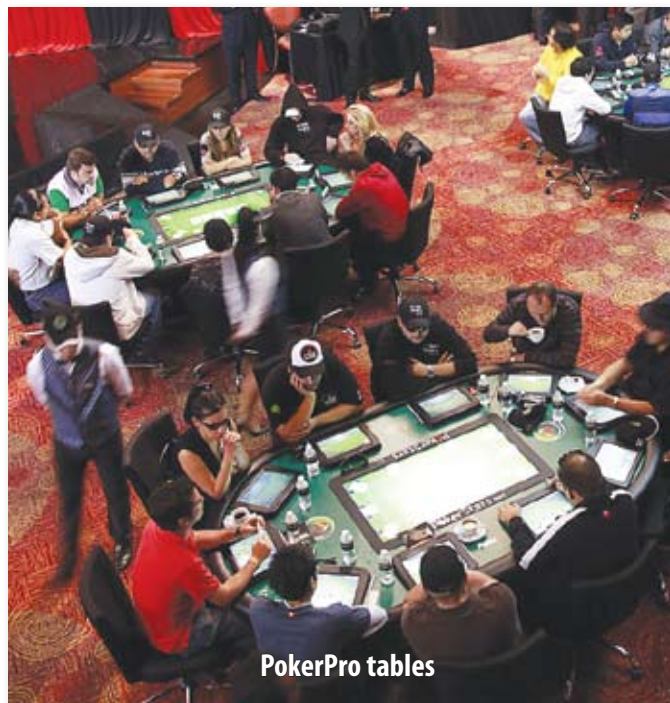
Upgrades have been well-received among the regulars. During a recent Saturday \$50 tournament, Old Man Bob scanned the leaderboard and announced, "LRaiser is now leading with over 100,000." Chatter started at the tables about **Jose Torres**, a.k.a. LRaiser, the recent champ at the Horseshoe. Torres, who started playing poker on the PokerPro tables, has become a local hero.

- Majestic Star's poker room has reduced the max rake on all games to \$3 between 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday. Majestic Star will be keeping a close eye on state lawmakers as they consider approving land-based casinos. With increased competition from Illinois on the horizon, moving to a land-based casino off the Borman Expressway has the support from Gary leaders.

- Harrah's Joliet is running a deepstack \$1-\$3 no-limit hold'em table on Mondays and Wednesdays. This game has \$100-\$300 min-max buy-in and players are allowed to buy-in or reload to the largest stack at the table. The room has had great turnouts with lots of action.

- Potawatomi Casino's \$100,000 Autumn Feast NLHE tournament is Nov. 13 at 10 a.m. Buy-in is \$550 with an optional \$30 add-on. Registration ends Nov. 12. For more information, go to paysbig.com or call 414-847-7605.

- Sept. 16-17 turned out to be one of the busiest weekends of the year for charity poker. Aces Up held its event at the River East Art



PokerPro tables

Center on Sept. 16 to support Urban Prep Academies. Former Illinois treasurer **Alexi Giannoulis**, Urban Prep Founder and CEO **Tim King**, TV personality **Richard Roeper** and ex-Bear **Chris Zorich** hosted this event.

On Sept. 17, Majestic Star Casino held a charity event benefiting Tradewinds Services. Windy City Poker Championship's **Kirk Fallah** and **Jason Finn** were back this year to emcee this event. Since 1967, Tradewinds has been helping thousands of children and adults with special needs, equipping them with the tools and training.

— "**Chicago**" **Joe Gieturga** is the Ante Up Ambassador for the Chicagoland area. You can email him at chicago.joe@comcast.net.

IOWA

A look at the Iowa poker scene

Heartland Poker Tour hits Meskwaki Casino this month

The Heartland Poker Tour stops at Meskwaki Casino in Tama this month, with satellites running right up until the start of the two-day main event on Nov. 5.



KEN WARREN

Qualifier entries vary from \$45 to \$330, and direct buy-in to the main is \$1,650. A quick check showed first place paid \$70,000-\$80,000 the past few years at this event.

The top 30 spots or top 10 percent of the field (whichever is greater) get paid this year. More information can be found at hptpoker.com.

- Elsewhere in Iowa, the Mystique Casino in Dubuque decided to close its poker room on Tuesdays, which means it's closed Mondays and

Tuesdays, making an early week game in the area difficult to find. The \$220 buy-in that runs every six weeks at Mystique was Oct. 1.

There were 38 players and because *Ante Up* put "Can you beat Ken?" in the headline of my last column I had to be in attendance.

When it was all over I found my luck sack empty and **Greg Weber** tore down my dominating chip lead and claimed the top spot winning \$3,040. This left me in second with \$1,824.

Other top finishers were: **Ting Klusmeyer** (third, \$1,216), **Donna Larsen** (fourth, \$912) and **Kendall Harker** (fifth, \$608).

Join us for the next \$220 on Nov. 19. Hopefully, I will make this as well and you can beat Ken, too.

— **Ken Warren** is the Ante Up Ambassador for Iowa. You can email him at anteupken@gmail.com.

Interested in Chicagoland or Iowa tournaments and promotions? Turn to our Where to Play pages in the back of the magazine.



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HUBBARD CAPTURES FALL POKER CLASSIC, \$70K

As the leaves start to change color, Minnesota poker players always come out in droves for Canterbury Park's Fall Poker Classic, Minnesota's largest and arguably most prestigious poker series, which is in its 11th year. This year's FPC, which ran Oct. 1-16,

had more than 4,800 entries over the course of 25 events with a cumulative prize pool of more than \$1.1 million. Players flocked to Shakopee for a variety of events, including hold'em, Omaha and stud, with winners representing seven states.

The championship no-limit hold'em two-day event, which began Oct. 15, drew 293 entries (48 more than last year) for a \$284,210 prize pool. The event concluded with **Jared Hubbard** of Farmington, Minn., beating **Brandon Beery** heads-up for the \$70,769 first-place prize.

"Nine o'clock last night is when I really started to go on a run," Hubbard said shortly after his win. "And then I just built it from there. I came into today as the chip-leader."

Hubbard maintained a decent chip stack for most of Day 2. Once he regained the lead five-handed he didn't relinquish it. Despite his relaxed demeanor at the table he's still fairly new to live poker.

"I usually don't play much live, but I figured I'd at least play all of the Fall Classic events for a nice little change of pace," Hubbard said. "It's actually only my 13th live tournament."

What Hubbard lacks in live experience he makes up for in online credentials, being an accomplished pro player for the past five years.

"When I played (six-handed single-table tournaments) I led the world in total profit three out of the four years I played them," he said.

Since then he has shifted his focus to heads-up SNGs. His online results have earned him a position as a Lock Poker sponsored pro. For more information about Hubbard visit jaredhubbard.com.

MIDWEST CLASSIC: Running Aces Harness Park in Columbus, Minn., hosted the third annual Midwest Poker Classic from Sept. 26-Oct. 2. The series boasted more than 1,300 combined entries split among its 14 events.

The Ironman Freeroll event started things off with **Derek Knisley** beating a field of 373 entries. **Kelly Sobczak**, **Justin Huebener** and **Shawn Nelson** each won a \$125 NLHE event. **Josh Grover** won the \$125 spread-limit Omaha/8 tournament and 2010 Fall Poker Classic champion **Kou Vang** won the \$230 NLHE bounty event.

The series culminated with the \$1,100 main event, which attracted 149 entries for a prize pool of \$142,183. **Shawn Douglas** of Fridley, Minn., took the first-place prize of \$41,150, besting **David Bashel** of Brooklyn Park, Minn., heads-up.

MID-STATES POKER TOUR: Treasure Island Resort and Casino in Welch, Minn., hosted a Mid-States Poker Tour event Sept. 9-18. The main event exceeded its \$100,000 guarantee and drew 138 players. **Ben Marsh**, a successful on-

line player, walked away with a first place and \$40,071.

The Mid-States Poker Tour began in 2010 as the Minnesota State Poker Tour, but it recently expanded beyond the confines of the Minnesota borders with events scheduled for Minnesota, South Dakota, Iowa and Wisconsin during Season 3. The next event will be at Grand Casino Mille Lacs in Onamia, Minn., on Nov. 12-20. Visit msptpoker.com for details.

— **John Somsky** is the Ante Up Ambassador for Minnesota. You can email him at john.somsky@gmail.com.



JOHN SOMSKY



Jared Hubbard



Scan for full results



Fall Poker Classic, Canterbury Park, Shakopee, Minn., Oct. 1-15



Event 1 \$300 NLHE

244 Entries • \$71,004 Prize Pool

1. Henry Holderness \$17,680
2. Ryan Ellison \$9,941
3. Nes Coburn \$7,100
4. Burton Joseph \$5,325
5. Richard Jones \$4,615
6. George Shabatura \$3,905
7. Tyler Lankford \$3,195
8. Erik Glenister \$2,485
9. Sami El-Dein \$1,811



Event 2 • \$150 N:HE

235 Entries • \$34,193 Prize Pool

1. Aaron Johnson, \$8,513
2. Ryan Parranto, \$4,787
3. Chris Anderson, \$3,419
4. Jerry Probst, \$2,564
5. Bryan Mileski, \$2,223
6. Carlos Gamell, \$1,881
7. Ben Schmidbauer, \$1,539
8. Erik Fritz, \$1,197
9. Jason Corrigan, \$872



Event 3 • \$200 NLHE

219 Entries • \$42,486 Prize Pool

1. Adam Dahlin, \$11,047
2. Blake Bohn, \$5,948
3. Adam Stemple, \$4,546
4. Thomas Gibney, \$3,399
5. Johnny Wright, \$2,974
6. Bryan Mileski, \$2,549
7. Kiernan Webb, \$2,124
8. Michael Fick, \$1,699
9. Andrew Carello, \$1,275



Event 4 \$200 Omaha/8

131 Entries • \$25,414 Prize Pool

1. Casey Schams, \$6,608
2. Daniel Buckley, \$3,558
3. Rebecca Messenger, \$2,719
4. John Reiss, \$2,033
5. David Stewart, \$1,779
6. Dale Laehn, \$1,525
7. Robert Stebbins, \$1,271
8. Douglass Winn, \$1,017
9. Adam Laskey, \$762



Event 5 • \$200 O/8-HE

81 Entries • \$15,714 Prize Pool

1. Doug Fink, \$4,400
2. Frankie Powell, \$3,143
3. Renee Kessel, \$2,200
4. Matthew Suelflow, \$1,571
5. Daniel Wandling, \$1,100
6. Terrence McGuire, \$943
7. Bill Knight, \$786
8. Michael Binstock, \$629
9. Jean Merkel, \$471



Event 6 • \$200 NLHE

244 Entries • \$47,336 Prize Pool

1. Nate Fair, \$11,787
2. Jesse Knobloch, \$6,627
3. Tom Ellingson, \$4,734
4. Judd Greenagel, \$3,550
5. Joe Meehan, \$3,077
6. Ben Baccam, \$2,603
7. Todd Winkler, \$2,130
8. Sara Allgood, \$1,657
9. Richard Scoville, \$1,207

Continued on next page

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MINNESOTA

Continued from previous page



Event 7 • \$300 NLHE
234 Entries • \$68,094 Prize Pool
 1. Blake Bohn, \$16,955
 2. Jim Meehan, \$9,533
 3. Daryl Oppelt, \$6,809
 4. Brad Hayden, \$5,107
 5. John Olson, \$4,426
 6. Ryan Immel, \$3,745
 7. Louis Hillman, \$3,064
 8. Dan Favreau, \$2,383
 9. Jim Erickson, \$1,736



Event 8 • \$500 NLHE
192 Entries • \$93,120 Prize Pool
 1. John Olson, \$24,211
 2. Jack Kashishian, \$13,037
 3. Jerold Berg, \$9,964
 4. Quon Tran, \$7,450
 5. Kyle Knudson, \$6,518
 6. Derek Crooks, \$5,587
 7. Erick Wright, \$4,656
 8. Scott McLaren, \$3,725



Event 9 • \$150 NLHE
267 Entries • \$38,849 Prize Pool
 1. Mike Lingenfelter, \$9,670
 2. Conrad Fink, \$5,439
 3. Eswar Kaliappan, \$3,885
 4. Chad Tagtmeir, \$2,914
 5. John Alexander, \$2,525
 6. Steve Hammerschmidt, \$2,137
 7. Mike Wallin, \$1,748
 8. Glenn Maxwell, \$1,360
 9. John Sandberg, \$991



Event 10 • \$200 NLHE
220 Entries • \$42,680 Prize Pool
 1. Steve Krogness, \$10,627
 2. Erin Bentley, \$5,975
 3. Shawn Aaberg, \$4,268
 4. Troy Rundquist, \$3,201
 5. John Wakeen, \$2,774
 6. Sean Giere, \$2,347
 7. Judd Greenagel, \$1,921
 8. Nick Marsh, \$1,494
 9. Doug Prindle, \$1,088



Event 11 • \$200 NLHE
194 Entries • \$37,636 Prize Pool
 1. John Alexander, \$9,785
 2. Robby Rasmussen, \$5,269
 3. Jesse Donner, \$4,027
 4. Steve Erickson, \$3,011
 5. Nick Nierenhausen, \$2,635
 6. Ryan Hohenstein, \$2,258
 7. Adam Cooley, \$1,882
 8. Nick Anderson, \$1,505
 9. Weslee Brown, \$1,129



Event 12 • \$200 Stud
55 Entries • \$10,670 Prize Pool
 1. Russ Scott, \$3,200
 2. Todd Fisher, \$2,134
 3. Bill Knight, \$1,707
 4. Jon Breneman, \$1,174
 5. Don Wilburn \$854
 6. Sherry Hammers, \$640
 7. Bill Criegoe, \$534
 8. Nesbitt Coburn, \$427



Event 13 • \$500 NLHE
124 Entries • \$60,140 Prize Pool
 1. Wade Woelfel, \$15,637
 2. Adam Laskey, \$8,420
 3. Rob Wazwaz, \$6,435
 4. Steve Hammerschmidt, \$4,811
 5. Joshua Barnes, \$4,210
 6. Adam Dahlin, \$3,608
 7. John Sekevitch, \$3,007
 8. Jason Corrigan, \$2,406
 9. Mike Lingenfelter, \$1,804



Event 14 • \$500 NLHE
183 Entries • \$88,755 Prize Pool
 1. Adam Laskey, \$23,076
 2. Soap Song, \$12,426
 3. Eric Abate, \$9,497
 4. Ken Miell, \$7,100
 5. Nesbitt Coburn, \$6,213
 6. Ken Coy, \$5,325
 7. Adam Webb, \$4,438
 8. Yer Vang, \$3,550
 9. Mike Ruter, \$2,663



\$1K Main Event
293 Entries • \$284K Prize Pool
 1. Jared Hubbard, \$70,769
 2. Brandon Beery, \$39,789
 3. Paul Schroeder, \$28,421
 4. Peter Miller, \$21,316
 5. Adam Schop, \$18,474
 6. David Marlow, \$15,632
 7. Brian Halik, \$12,789
 8. Tom Marsland, \$9,947
 9. Robert Van Syckle, \$7,247

KENTUCKIANA

A look at the Kentucky-Southern Indiana poker scene

‘PEGASUS’ SMITH WINS ONE FOR THE THUMB

Mark Smith sets WSOPC record with five rings.

Poker is unlike any competition in the world. It might take 10-20 years to reach the top of other sports or games, but poker players can go from home-game amateur to tournament superstar overnight.

For Georgetown, Ky., native **Mark “Pegasus” Smith**, it only took six years, going from playing in local home games to the all-time leader in World Series of Poker Circuit rings won.

Smith tied **Men “The Master” Nguyen** in December 2009 in Atlantic City by winning his fourth ring, and after that, the race was on.

“I was actually second in January to **Bob Castoire**,” Smith said of his finish. “I really wanted it then.”

But it would take nine more months for Smith to reach No. 5, defeating **Christian Schumacher** in Event 1 (\$345 no-limit hold’em) of the WSOPC at Horseshoe Southern Indiana in Elizabeth in the wee hours on Oct. 1.

Before embarking on the circuit, Smith raised horses for 30 years. Today, when he’s not battling it out on the felt, he’s president of the largest privately owned utility in Kentucky. Smith credits a great support staff that allows him to travel through the year to compete.

He began playing poker six years ago in home games, beating his brains out to master the game playing five nights a week. His first WSOPC was in Tunica, Miss., which is picked up his Pegasus moniker

“I was waiting for a sit-in-go at Tunica and I was wearing a (Kentucky Derby winner) Fusaichi Pegasus hat,” he said. “They didn’t know my name so they called out ‘Hey Pegasus!’ They hollered it like 10 times over the course of the event.”

A writer referenced Smith as Mark “Pegasus” Smith for the first time and the name stuck.

“I guess it’s a good thing my hat didn’t say ‘shit head.’ ”

On top of his five rings, Smith has cashed 25 times and was voted the 2009-10 WSOPC Player of the Year.

“That was as important as anything,” he said.

Smith also had moderate success at the WSOP in Las Vegas, cashing five times, though he admits they were min-cashes. “I’ve got a bracelet coming,” he said.

He’ll also admit he only plays hold’em tournaments. “I try to do one thing and do it well. I don’t play cash and I don’t play online. They each have their own dynamic. ... I like to watch the other players. I try to get a good read on their betting patterns.”

Being well-rested also plays a part, especially when you’re playing for long hours.

“Once you’re into the game, time goes quick if you start out fresh. You make the most mistakes if you’re fatigued.”

In case you’re wondering how he fared in the remaining events, he fell just short of Ring No. 6 in Event 3, ending up third. He didn’t win the main event, though he gave it his best effort, finishing fifth. That honor went to Smith’s nemesis, Castoire (results on next page). But we’ll be sure to follow Pegasus for the rest of the WSOPC season to see if he will add to his record total.

— **Don Lawson is the Ante Up Ambassador for Kentuckiana. He’s a part-time journalist and avid poker player. He can be reached at anteupdon@gmail.com.**



WSOP Circuit, Horseshoe Southern Indiana, Sept. 29-Oct. 10



Ring Event 1 • \$345 NLHE

Entries: 283 • Prize Pool: \$81,003

1. Mark Smith, Georgetown, KY, \$19,441
2. Christian Schumacher, St. Paul Park, MN, \$12,014
3. Matthew Campbell, Chesterton, IN, \$8,718
4. Matthew Ashlock, Louisville, KY, \$6,432
5. Stephen Kats, Omaha, \$4,824
6. Robert Castoire, Cecelia, KY, \$3,676
7. David Mendez, Chicago, \$2,845
8. James Gordon, Lexington, KY, \$2,236
9. Danny Sweeney, Ashland City, TN, \$1,784



Ring Event 2 • \$345 NLHE w/re-entry

Entries: 650 • Prize Pool: \$187,800

1. Garry Simms, Shelbyville, KY, \$38,499
2. Sean Pramuk, West Chester, OH, \$23,822
3. John Sullivan, Brunswick, OH, \$17,473
4. James Camp, Louisville, KY, \$12,994
5. Ki Kim, Nashville, \$9,794
6. Charles Beggs, Fishers, IN, \$7,480
7. Robert Deppe, Lima, OH, \$5,788
8. Jose Serratos, Detroit, \$4,537
9. Erick Wingfield, Louisville, KY, \$3,602



Ring Event 3 • \$555 NLHE

Entries: 175 • Prize Pool: \$83,525

1. Gregory Joslyn, Milford, PA, \$21,987
2. Gregory Collier, Luttrell, TN, \$13,937
3. Mark Smith, Georgetown, KY, \$10,032
4. Adam Foster, Portland, IN, \$7,353
5. Robert Scott, New York, \$5,484
6. Brian Roberts, Ridgeville, IN, \$4,162
7. John Gallaher, Lebanon, TN, \$3,212
8. Peter Mavro, Douglaston, NY, \$2,520
9. Raymond Lantz, Gibson City, IL, \$2,010



Ring Event 4 • \$345 6-Max NLHE

Entries: 229 • Prize Pool: \$65,289

1. Benjamin Gerrard, Indianapolis, \$17,628
2. Matthew Hankins, Newnan, GA, \$10,892
3. Brandon Brown, English, IN, \$7,630
4. Edward Corrado, Naples, FL, \$5,382
5. Dennis Booze, Las Vegas, \$3,826
6. Derek Feierabend, Strongsville, OH, \$2,741
7. Kurt Jewell, Frankfort, KY, \$1,981
8. Joseph Couden, Reynoldsburg, OH, \$1,981
9. Steven Pionk, Hernando, MS, \$1,443



Ring Event 5 • \$345 NLHE

Entries: 247 • Prize Pool: \$70,527

1. Scott Schwalich, West Carrollton, OH, \$17,279
2. George Ward, Mt. Juliet, TN, \$10,676
3. Jesse Kidd, Richmond, VA, \$7,714
4. Thomas Surbaugh, Murfreesboro, TN, \$5,677
5. Jimmy Tidwell, Westpoint, TN, \$4,253
6. Charlie Dawson, Owensboro, KY, \$3,241
7. Melissa Cosby, Craig, CO, \$2,511
8. Robert Hodson, Tallahassee, FL, \$1,977
9. Stephen Binkley, Orlinda, TN, \$1,581



Ring Event 6 • \$345 H.O.R.S.E.

Entries: 96 • Prize Pool: \$26,586

1. Rodney Domer, Bloomington, IN, \$7,976
2. Kevin Chance, Sabina, OH, \$4,930
3. Robert Gammon, Bloomington, IN, \$3,510
4. Allan Sturms, Lewis Center, OH, \$2,550
5. Leland Isaacs, Louisville, KY, \$1,889
6. John Evans, Granbury, TX, \$1,426
7. Gregory Hurst, Tazewell, TN, \$1,097
8. Beverly Cheney, Grandbury, TX, \$859
9. Kevin Parsley, Connersville, IN, \$685



Ring Event 7 • \$345 NLHE

Entries: 252 • Prize Pool: \$71,982

1. Benjamin Kramer, Terre Haute, IN, \$17,636
2. Thomas Cronin, Saint Peters, MO, \$10,897
3. Jason Walden, Madison, TN, \$7,873
4. Jeffrey Moore, Sullivan, IN, \$5,794
5. Anthony Cissell, Cocks Creek, KY, \$4,341
6. John Nguyen, Fairview Heights, IL, \$3,308
7. John Fagg, Terre Haute, IN, \$2,563
8. Michael Dalton, Ashland, MO, \$2,018
9. Kevin Manley, Arlington Heights, IL, \$1,614



Ring Event 8 • \$555 NLHE

Entries: 211 • Prize Pool: \$100,985

1. Casey Hirschman, Jefferson City, MO, \$25,246
2. Richard Bolden, Christiana, TN, \$15,604
3. Dean Schultz, Stow, OH, \$11,357
4. Jason Schwartz, Bozeman, MT, \$8,399
5. Tori Todd, Granville, OH, \$6,309
6. Bill Kanipe, Fishers, IN, \$4,812
7. Randy Pfeifer, East Amherst, NY, \$3,726
8. Jerry Payne, Centerville, OH, \$2,929
9. Clinton Sparks, Fairborn, OH, \$2,336



Ring Event 9 • \$345 NLHE

Entries: 184 • Prize Pool: \$53,544

1. Kevin Davis, Shepherdsville, KY, \$13,921
2. Michael Foster, Chicago, \$8,600
3. Christopher Mcmillian, Huntington, WV, \$6,210
4. Richard Tucker, Charlotte, NC, \$4,560
5. James Garst, Seymour, TN, \$3,407
6. Ryan Massa, Nashville, \$2,589
7. Michael Auterson, Indianapolis, \$2,000
8. Derek Geise, Ft. Jennings, OH, \$1,570
9. John Courtney, Virginia Beach, \$1,253



Ring Event 10 • \$1,600 Main Event

Entries: 313 • Prize Pool: \$455,415

1. Robert Castoire, Cecelia, KY, \$107,023
2. Jacob Bazeley, Ludlow, KY, \$66,172
3. Aaron Massey, Chicago, \$48,060
4. Donovan Darland, Stafford, VA, \$35,500
5. Mark Smith, Georgetown, KY, \$26,651
6. Thang Nguyen, Mclean, VA, \$20,325
7. David J. Hengen, Omaha, \$15,744
8. Bernard Lee, Wayland, MA, \$12,378
9. Sameer Al-Dbhany, Frankfort, KY, \$9,878



Ring Event 11 • \$345 NLHE

Entries: 117 • Prize Pool: \$34,047

1. Bryan Dillon, Prospect, KY, \$10,214
2. James Lindsay, Hayesville, NC, \$6,313
3. Anthony Cissell, Cocks Creek, KY, \$4,495
4. Nick Blackburn, Long Bottom, OH, \$3,265
5. Matthew Ashlock, Louisville, \$2,419
6. Leonard Eidson, Bulls Gap, TN, \$1,826
7. Thomas Zint, Lawrenceburg, IN, \$1,404
8. Hugh Thomas Cross, Westfield, IN, \$1,100
9. Wendy Howell, Indianapolis, \$877



Ring Event 12 • \$345 NLHE

Entries: 86 • Prize Pool: \$24,900

1. Matthew Chang, Rockville, MD, \$7,729
2. Ryan Johnson, Whiteland, IN, \$4,777
3. Peter Mavro, Las Vegas, \$3,344
4. Jonathan Cary, Frankfort, KY, \$2,436
5. Jeremy Drewery, Arlington, TN, \$1,792
6. Matthew Kupiec, Collegeville, PA, \$1,339
7. Stephen Kats, Omaha, \$1,074
8. Jason Mumbach, Trumbull, CT, \$895
9. Joseph Marshall, Louisville, \$769

FLORIDA

KENTUCKY

NUTZ POKER LEAGUE



• **Bill Fredo**, left, won the monthly championship at Sunset Grill, collecting a \$500 gift card after beating more than 100 players. **Mike Everall** was second.



• **Vinny Presti**, left, won the 64-player heads-up championship by defeating **Andy Lazaro** in the final match, taking home a trophy and custom-made poker table.



• **Debbie Matula**, left, won the August Pointz Race to earn seat in a Silks Poker Room satellite at Tampa Bay Downs.

TREASURE CHEST POKER



• **Todd Olson**, left, won a \$700 gift card by beating 100 players at the Thirsty Marlin in Largo.



• **Val Wilson** is the newest Queen of Ocala, taking home a \$50 gift card.



• **Bob Galbo**, middle, won a \$500 gift card and a \$250 gift card for winning two events at Snappers in Palm Harbor.

• **Mike Trader** won the Battle of the Bars title for Eddie's, taking home the trophy, a \$50 gift card and two tickets to the Bucs-Falcons game.

• **Paul Puma**, bottom, captured the Stokers monthly for a \$250 gift card.

• The following players all won gift cards in the Win, Lose or Draw Shoot-out: **Ralph Ardis, Roger Boese, Pete Berdos, Scott Hopkins, David Johnson, Roy Smith** and **Don Pelfrey**.

KENTUCKY BLUE POKER CREW

Alicia Fortner took down the elite field of 22 winners in the Grand Tournament of Champions at the Kentucky Ale Tap Room in the Whitaker Bank Ball Park, pocketing \$5,000.

Fortner's win allowed her to join 2010 KBPC Player of the Year **Marty Rankin** in the Kentucky State Poker Championship sponsored by PokerKy.Com.

• The Northern Kentucky chapter recently crowned the first set of spousal championships as **Joe Kordenbrock** took down a monthly qualifier and earned a KBPC Beer Mug trophy and an entry into this year's Grand TOC.

Millie Kordenbrock also took down an elite field of nightly winners in an event to earn a \$100 chip to Belterra Casino.

PLEASURE ISLAND POKER



Jack Chaemcheun, left, captured the monthly tournament at International Lounge in Ft. Walton Beach on Sept. 19, defeating more than 80 players for a prize package that included a \$20K tournament entry at Pensacola Greyhound Track's poker room.

Following the champ was **Joseph Wills, Cheryl Geohagen, Loria Walters, Sherry Taylor, Garrett Corpus, Brian Daugherty, Caitlin Harwood, Mark Dickey** and **Ray Casias**.

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**mirek78**

Cashes: 72

Earnings: \$2398

Winner: 2012 WSOP Entry

**Bravelassie**

Cashes: 51

Earnings: \$2455

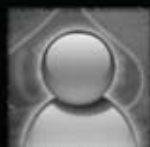
Winner: 2011 Jennifer Harman Throwdown

**acm4life**

Cashes: 24

Earnings: \$2033

Winner: 2011 WSOP Entry

**tellyman**

Cashes: 29

Earnings: \$2680

Winner: 2011 WSOPC Hammond Entry

This Week on Grrrinders

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TUESDAYS

\$200 Main Event w/ special cash bounties

WEDNESDAYS

\$500 Main Event

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SATURDAYS

\$1000 Cash

SUNDAYS

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- Play all tournaments from the comfort of your home or office
- No software to download
- Premium memberships start as low as \$24.95 per month





You'll find a packed house and home-game feel at the River Room in Milford.

Game on in the Granite State

A guide to New Hampshire poker rooms ♠ Story and photos by Kay Fitzgerald

Poker junkies visiting northern New England can still get their card fix away from home. New Hampshire has several poker rooms where you can play tournaments and cash games.

All poker rooms in New Hampshire are charitable gaming rooms and regulated by the state's Racing and Charitable Gaming Commission, which also oversees bingo and off-track betting. By law, a certain portion of the money collected in each poker game, be it tournament or cash game, is raked off the prize pool or pot. The rake is typically 20-25 percent off tournament prize pools and 10 percent off cash game pots, usually with a \$5 cap, so the rake is comparable to a casino's take. Of that rake, 35 percent goes to the sponsoring charity of the day, and about 13 percent goes to the state. The state's largest poker room, Rockingham Park, reportedly paid \$1.7 million to non-profit organizations last year. Cash bets are limited by law to \$4 per bet and capped at four per round. No-limit cash games are not permitted in New Hampshire gaming rooms.

ROCKINGHAM PARK

Salem, N.H. | 603.898.2311

Games: Hold'em tournaments, \$2-\$4 and \$4-\$4 hold'em and Omaha, blackjack, Let it Ride, Boston 5.

Open: Seven days, Mon.-Wed., 3 p.m.-midnight, Thurs. 2 p.m.-midnight, Fri. 2 p.m.-1 a.m., Sat. noon-1 a.m., Sun. noon-midnight.

The horses have long since departed from Rockingham and the only live races are the heads-up coin-flip kind. The largest poker room in the state, the Rock offers a wide range of tournaments, from \$40 SNGs to \$250 deepstack events, which draw several hundred players to compete for the substantial pool. A \$50 freezeout 4:30 on weekdays typically fills around 10 tables. There are always Omaha and hold'em limit games going plus blackjack and other table games. The Rock shares a bad-beat jackpot with the Seabrook poker room, and it can exceed \$20K.



This mural adorns a wall at Rockingham Park.

This is an off-track betting facility with simulcasting from tracks around the country. Upstairs a bingo hall is open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday nights. Food service in an adjoining snack bar and upstairs at the main OTB concourse. Dozens of flatscreen TVs are tuned to simulcasting and local sports teams when in season. Conveniently located at the first exit off I-93 about 45 minutes north of Boston. Canobie Lake Amusement Park is nearby and there's a large shopping mall across the road from the park.

RIVER ROOM

Milford, N.H. | 603.249.5548

Games: Hold'em tournaments, dealer's choice cash, blackjack, roulette, three-card poker, Let It Ride and NH Hold'em.

Open: Mon.-Thur. 5 p.m., Fri. 3 p.m., Sat. and Sun at noon.



A banner on display at the River Room reads, *Live Free, Play Cards*, offering a fun alternative to the state's *Live Free or Die* motto. This room draws a regular crowd of 50-plus players to its weeknight freeroll and \$5 tournaments. The players and dealers seem to know each other by first name, making for lively home-game style banter. Most of the tournaments are rebuys, so the play is pretty loose for the first hour until the rebuy period is over.

Cash games happen on the fly between tournaments, though one usually breaks out on weekend nights. When it does, it's dealer's choice with stud and Omaha in the mix, and the play is pretty loose. The River Bluff Café serves sandwiches, beer and wine. There's a bowling alley and an old-fashioned drive-in movie nearby.

THE LODGE AT BELMONT

Belmont, N.H. | 603.267.7778

Games: Hold'em tournaments, blackjack, Let It Ride, roulette, three-card poker and NH Hold'em.

Open: Mon.-Tue. 4 p.m.-1 a.m., Wed.-Sun. noon-1 a.m.

There are freerolls, \$5 and \$10 rebuy tourneys Mon.-Thurs. at 4:30, with Super Stacks and Bounty contests at 7 p.m. Each Saturday features a special event at 4 p.m., and the room has a bad-beat jackpot. An adjoining sports bar offers entertainment on weekends, including live bands, DJs, comedy nights and karaoke. Bingo plays on Saturdays at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 2, with a special Sunday brunch served from 11 a.m. The Lodge is six miles from Laconia, and is five miles north of the New Hampshire Motor Speedway, which has racing events scheduled through mid December.



THE POKER ROOM AT SEABROOK

Seabrook, N.H. | 603.474.3065

Games: Hold'em tournaments, \$2-\$4 hold'em, stud, stud/8, Omaha/8, blackjack, three-card and roulette.

Open: Mon.-Thurs. 3 p.m.-midnight, Fri. 1 p.m.-1 a.m., Sat. 11 a.m.-1 a.m., Sun. noon-midnight.

Under the same management as Rockingham, this is New Hampshire's second largest poker room. Tournaments start at 3:30 Mon.-Thurs., with a \$100 deepstack at 1:30 p.m. on Fridays. They offer a variety of SNGs (\$40-\$150) and special events include \$200 deepstacks. The room draws anywhere from 50 tournament players on weekdays to 150 on weekends, and there's generally 40-80 in the cash/pit game area. Like Rockingham, this is an OTB, though the only dogs found here are at the poker tables. Center Plate serves up chow and has a full-service bar. The room is conveniently right off I-95 (Exit 1) and close to Hampton Beach.

THE POKER ROOM

Hampton Falls, N.H. | 603.601.2486

Games: Hold'em tournaments, Omaha, stud, \$2-\$4 hold'em, blackjack, roulette, three-card poker, Let It Ride and craps.

Open: weekdays at 3 p.m., 1 p.m. on Wednesdays, 11 a.m. Saturdays

and noon on Sundays.

This room draws a regular crowd for its popular \$90 Friday Frenzy at 1 p.m. with 24K stack and 20-minute blinds. The \$50 Mini Mega at 1 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday sometimes has 150-plus players. Besides hold'em tournaments and cash games, they spread Omaha and Omaha/8, and stud and stud/8 according to demand. There's a bad-beat jackpot for tournaments (quad deuces) and a restaurant and full-service bar on site. It's just off Exit 1 on I-95 and close to Hampton Beach.

MANCHVEGAS POKER

Manchester, N.H. | 603.668.6591

Games: Hold'em tournaments, hold'em and Omaha cash, blackjack, roulette and NH Hold'em.

Open: 4 p.m. weekdays, noon on Saturday and Sunday.

This room is remodeled with all new tables and furnishings. It offers a variety of hold'em tournaments, including rebuys that typically draw 40-90 players. Cash games usually break out at night, the most popular being Omaha but sometimes hold'em or dealer's choice. There's an adjoining bistro and bar with billiards, a nightclub with live entertainment, video arcade and a bingo hall open seven nights a week.

KEENE POKER ROOM

Keene, NH | 603.357.3038 ext. 195

Games: Hold'em tournaments, roulette, three-card poker, blackjack, hold'em, Omaha, Omaha/8 and stud cash games.

Open: Wed.-Thurs. 5 p.m., Fri. 3 p.m., Sat. 3 p.m., Sun. 1 p.m.

This room is inside the Best Western near downtown Keene. There are rebuy and freeroll tournaments on weeknights. Three tournaments play on Sunday at 1:15, 3:30 and 6:30. On the last Sunday of each month at 1 p.m., the room holds a \$150 event with 25K chips and 25-minute blinds that typically draws 80 players. Cash games break out in between tournaments. The Irish pub next door provides waitress service. The location is near the Mt. Monadnock area and about 20 miles from Brattleboro, VT.

DOVER POKER ROOM

Dover, N.H. | (603) 742-9632

Games: Hold'em tournaments, roulette, three-card, blackjack, hold'em, Omaha, five-card draw, stud and other cash games.

Open: Mon, Thurs. and Fri., 5:30 p.m.; Sat. and Sun. at noon.

This venue offers something for the whole family. It's in a bowling alley that has a large video arcade and dance club. The poker room draws a regular crowd of 30-50 players. The tournament schedule varies, with there being one rebuy each day. On the last Saturday of each month there's a \$120 deepstack with 25K stack and 30-minute blinds. Cash games break out by chance and it's dealer's choice. A miniature golf course and Water Country amusement park are nearby.

OCEANFRONT GAMING

Hampton Beach, NH . | (603) 601-6690

Games: Hold'em tournaments and cash games, Omaha, Stud, blackjack, craps, roulette, Let It Ride

Open: Thurs.-Fri. 4pm, Sat.-Sun. noon (expanded hours in summer)

This poker room is on the beach with food and drinks served on a deck overlooking the ocean. The lounge is open daily. Hampton Beach is a fun summer destination with full bath-house facilities. Live bands perform free concerts on weekends and fireworks are scheduled regularly. There are special events such as the annual Seafood Festival the second weekend in September. And when you've had enough sun and surf, you can duck into this gaming room to play with poker sharks. ♠

New York's poker troika

Empire State has three legal poker rooms, and those rooms are quite nice, and diverse.

By Christopher Cosenza

It's easy for the avid poker player to think of the underground rooms in Rounders when "New York" and "poker" is mentioned in the same breath. Even the famed Mayfair Club that produced some of poker's finest players

(**Dan Harrington, Eric Seidel**) would fit the bill. But, truth be told, there's no legal poker in the city. In fact, in the entire state there are only three legal poker rooms, two within the Seneca Casinos chain, and one at Turning Stone Resort in Verona, which is nestled in the Mohawk Valley.

Seneca has a handful of properties in New York, but just Salamanca and Niagara Falls host poker rooms.

It's autumn there and the colorful leaves are hanging in there like a calling station, so we thought what better time than now to visit these properties.



Turning Stone is running its Super Stack this month.

TURNING STONE

Of the three New York poker rooms, Turning Stone may be the most widely known since it has had some TV exposure with its Empire State Hold'em Championships held annually in August. Also, the Heartland Poker Tour recently attached its name to this event, which **Randy Pfeifer** won in August, pocketing \$158K.

"The Empire State Hold'em Championships is a great event," said director of poker operations **Jason DiBenedetto**, who's been with Turning Stone since 1994 (poker opened in 1999).

The 32-table, 24-hour room spreads mostly no-limit hold'em, with \$1-\$2 (\$50-\$300 min-max) being most popular, but a daily \$2-\$5 game also gets going. "A smattering of \$2-\$4 limit runs, too," DiBenedetto said. "We get some decent limit, \$20-\$40 or \$30-\$60 on Fridays and Saturdays."

The room gives away \$100 at 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. every day to a random cash-game seat. As for tournaments turn to our Where to Play pages in the back of the magazine for New York schedule, but don't forget the Super Stack Hold'em Series that runs Nov. 25-Dec. 4. Buy-ins range from \$230 to \$560.

So what makes Turning Stone different?

"I think it's the resort," DiBenedetto said. "I know poker players want to play poker, however our room is also nicely equipped with 12 flatscreen TVs, and four of those are 65 inches. We have NFL Ticket every Sunday, plus drink specials and free food on Sundays. Our golf course is beautiful and the restaurants are phenomenal plus three entertainment venues. ... We have a friendly courteous staff (of about 100). I always get complimented on the caliber of our dealers and I often get pulled aside and told that they really appreciate our dealers."



The Seneca poker room at Salamanca has 12 tables.

SENECA CASINOS

Melinda Clark, named manager in 2007, runs the Salamanca room, which has 12 tables (though it can add more for tournaments). The usual fare is spread here: hold'em, Omaha/8 and stud, and, of course, NLHE is most popular.

As for tournaments, the Hillside Challenge and Deep Stacks are considered Salamanca's signature events. The First Tuesday of the Month tournament series pits each monthly winner in a championship event at the end of the year.

In September and October the room hosted nine Deep Stack tournaments with the winners moving on to the Seneca November Nine, which will be Nov. 7, in honor of the WSOP's November Nine.

The poker room, which has table-side dining, free soup, and free lunch on Monday and Tuesday, is open till 3 a.m. Sunday-Thursday and 24 hours Friday-Saturday.

"Our poker room staff is the heart of our room," Clark said. "We are driven to provide quality service and the best poker experience on this side of the coast."

The Niagara poker room, open 24 hours, is larger with 23 tables, and \$2-\$5 NLHE is boss. Poker has been here for a decade with **John Wood** at the helm for a little more than eight years.

It hosts four seasonal tournament series, including the Niagara Open in late April.

"Our customer service is world-class," Wood said. "A professional, courteous staff with first-class events throughout the year."

For more on the Seneca poker scene, go to senecapoker.com. ♠



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HOW MUCH CAN A PRO WIN?

Every time I do a webinar, where members of my training site, JonathanLittleSecrets.com, can log in and ask me questions, I find myself answering one specific question every time. It is “When should I become a professional poker player?” To hopefully avoid re-answering the same again in the future, here are my thoughts on the subject.



JONATHAN LITTLE

Let's assume you play \$2-\$5 no-limit hold'em at a local cardroom, which is around the stakes most people play that ask the question. The reason this is the general stake is because it's the highest level played at most local cardrooms and most players that can beat this game feel like they are awesome at poker. Let's assume you make \$50 per hour. When I played \$5-\$10 at Bellagio a few years back, over the course of a summer, playing around 60 hours per week, I made around \$100 per hour. Seeing as \$2-\$5 is half as big as \$5-\$10, we can assume \$50 per hour is a decent, while sustainable win rate. So, if you play 40 hours per week, you will make around \$8,000 per month, which sounds great.

There are a few problems with this nice \$96,000-per-year salary. First, no one wants to play 40 hours per week. I found myself constantly wanting to take days off or cut sessions short because I simply didn't enjoy sitting at the table for numerous hours. Also, most players feel a desire to take time off when they're winning or losing. Because of this, you will probably only be able to get in 30 hours per week. We're now looking at \$72,000 salary.

Next, you have to pay taxes. Assuming you pay your full 20 percent or so, you'll actually bring in \$57,600 or so, which still isn't too shabby. You'll probably need to buy medical insurance, which will cost around \$200 per month, bringing your profit to \$55,200 a year. While this doesn't sound bad, you also need to set aside money for retirement, which will set you back around \$10K per year, though you'll eventually get that back at some point. You'll be left with around \$45K per year to live off and spend while trying to grow your bankroll.

It should be noted that it is suicide to try to become a professional without at least a year's worth of living expenses set aside and a nice bankroll, at least 50 buy-ins for cash games. So, if you spend \$3K per month, you need at least \$61,000 before even considering becoming a pro.

There are numerous factors that should greatly weigh on your decision to become a pro player. If you have a family, your expenses will be much more and probably will increase as time goes forward, especially if you have young children. You'll also find it hard to justify putting in numerous hours at the table while you miss your child growing up. This will often result in playing during non-peak hours, which will dramatically cut your win rate. If you have a job that pays well, you'll also find a tough time justifying the move. If you make \$40 per hour at your job, which is a nice, secure paycheck, there is really no reason to rely on poker, even if your actual hourly rate will be slightly better.

One thing most players don't consider when going pro is you may not be as good as you think you are. If you don't have a long track record of winning, you shouldn't even consider it. I would estimate that you need at least a 500-hour sample in the given game you plan on playing before going for it. These 500 hours will also have let you grind up an adequate bankroll for the game. Ideally this will let you know what your win rate it is.

You may find you enjoy poker as a hobby and not a job. I suggest taking some vacation time and play poker as you would if you were a professional before quitting your job. This will hopefully let you know what it feels like to play poker every day.

In the end, if someone hates their 9-to-5 job and wants to play poker, they are probably going to do it. Make sure the decision is the correct one, because if you're wrong you may be left with a wasted year and no bankroll. If you have any questions or comments please email me at support@jonathanlittlesecrets.com.

— Jonathan Little is the Season 6 WPT Player of the Year and is a representative for Blue Shark Optics. If you want to learn to play a loose-aggressive style, which will constantly propel you to the top of the leaderboards, check out his poker training website at FloatTheTurn.com.

It should be noted that it is suicide to try to become a professional without at least a year's worth of living expenses set aside and a nice bankroll, at least 50 buy-ins for cash games. So, if you spend \$3K per month, you need at least \$61,000 before even considering becoming a pro.

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WHAT EVERY "BODY" IS SAYING

JOE NAVARRO • Ex-FBI guy shares his nonverbal secrets.

LITTLE-KNOWN TELLS OF THE MOUTH

The lips reveal a lot of information about what's going on in the mind. Compression of the lips, disappearing lips, biting of the lips and rubbing of the lips with the tongue are all behaviors that signal a person is under stress or is relieving stress. These are fairly obvious to most people and if you travel at all these are behaviors you see people perform when they're at the airport as they look at the flight board. You also see them with poker players who are worried or weak as they make betting decisions.



What may not be familiar are the tells of the mouth that are not so overt, not so visible, not so well-known. These are behaviors that take place inside the mouth and many people seem to just ignore them. I can already hear the question: "Well, if they are inside the mouth then how can I see them, Mr. Ex-FBI?" Once more let me explain.

The human body has many ways of demonstrating when we are stressed and when there's a need to relieve stress. I have documented more than 200 of these behaviors in my books and I'm sure there are more, it's just I like watching Animal Planet and National Geographic so I tend to get distracted.

What's not often observed or detected are the behaviors that go on inside the mouth that also reveal stress or the need to pacify that stress because a player is marginal or weak. So here are some to look for:

TONGUE AGAINST THE CHECK: A lot of people relieve stress by repeatedly stroking their tongue against their cheek. This is often seen when a player is deliberating or pondering his next move and is marginal or weak or being forced to act against his or her will because they are short-stacked. What's interesting about this behavior is how often it's ignored by players and how the person who does this is almost never aware of having performed the behavior.

TONGUE BRUSH: With this tell, think of a windshield wiper, but in this case the tongue brushes the front teeth back and forth usually with the mouth closed. I first saw this behavior in the office of a store manager when I was a police officer. The arrestee did this behavior when I asked him if he had ever been arrested before for shoplifting, which he had multiple times. This is a behavior that relieves stress and helps to keep the mouth moist.

CHEEK INFLATION: This one is easy to see from the outside, but its effects are very much on the inside. Check inflation often takes place when we are bored. But also when we're stressed or have just

experienced a stressful situation such as almost hitting the car in front of us or we almost go caught bluffing. When you see this behavior think something is not right.

Just for fun close your mouth and inflate your cheek for a few seconds and see how you feel. Most people I have tested say this changes how they feel and the reason is that pressure is put on the nerves of the mouth and that stimulates the brain, which is why we sometimes do this when we are bored (men do it more than women). It's one of those behaviors that serves us well but we rarely pay attention to it until our spouses ask, "Why are you doing that?" I was at the Seminole Hard Rock Casino in Tampa watching players not long ago and there was a player there who did this cheek inflation almost every hand; he just was not having much luck with cards, which he usually mucked on the flop.

CHEEK SUCKING OR BITING: Yes it's weird, kind of like Michael Jordan going up for a layup with his tongue hanging out of his mouth (also a pacifier), but it works for some. Players who do this, again usually when they are under stress, are marginal or weak, have probably been doing this since they were children and certainly were doing it when taking tests at school.

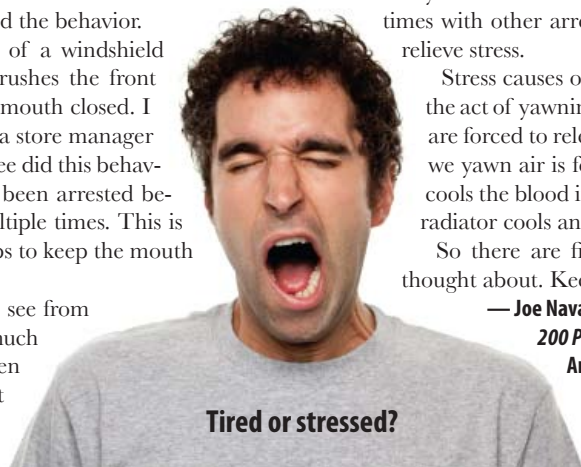
Look for them to suck in their cheeks, which makes their lips pucker and we know that puckered lips are associated with dislike or disagreement. Or they will suck in their cheeks and bite down on them repeatedly. As I said it is odd, not everyone does it, but for those who do this, obviously this is a behavior that works to help them deal with stress and their need to pacify or relieve that stress.

YAWNING: Most people don't understand yawning or they only associate yawning with boredom or sleepiness. I thought that, too, also until I saw my first arrestee yawn and I thought, "Who could be sleepy when you are under arrest?" And then when you see it multiple times with other arrestees you realize, wait, they are doing it to relieve stress.

Stress causes our mouths to become dry so when we yawn the act of yawning puts pressure on the salivary glands, which are forced to release saliva. Recent research also shows when we yawn air is forced rapidly into the mouth quickly, which cools the blood in this vascular region of the body much as a radiator cools an engine.

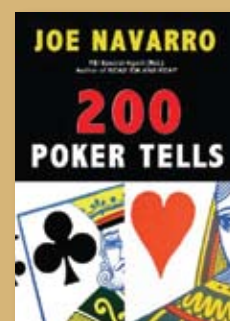
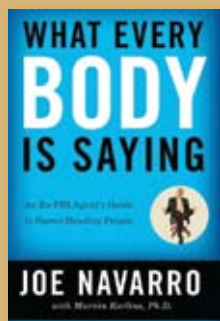
So there are five tells of the mouth you probably never thought about. Keep those eyes peeled.

— Joe Navarro is a former FBI special agent and the author of *200 Poker Tells* and *Read 'em and Reap*, both available on Amazon. For additional information go to his web site www.joenavarro.net or follow him on twitter: @navarrotells.



Tired or stressed?

— POKER TELLS EXPERT JOE NAVARRO —

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NOTHING WRONG WITH APPLYING SOME PRESSURE

There are times in poker when the correct play to make, expected-value-wise, is often the most aggressive line of action. By playing aggressively you'll get paid off more when you have strong hands and often pick up pots with weak hands when you have say a flush draw. This is pretty basic information and should be easily understood and digested by those who play poker with any volume.



MIKE WOLF

My last few sessions of poker have been played at various poker rooms around Northern Florida. I've noticed the older generation of players tend to take aggressive plays as a form of disrespect. It's almost as if they feel offended when a young player makes a raise. In the past few days I've heard comments such as, "Jeez, they should turn online poker back on," "You young guys have no clue; I've been playing poker for 30 years!" "Not all of us wear jackets and watches" and my favorite, "You idiot!"

I actually asked one guy how many chips he had and he said, "What do you care; it's none of your business."

I'm going to quickly break down how you should deal with these types of players and how to adjust your game strategy while playing against them.

First, keep your mouth shut. No reason to tap the glass. Just tilt your head like a puppy dog and say, "What do you mean?"

Second, keep applying pressure. The reason they say things such

as, "Stop raising, I'm going to get you one of these times," is because they're uncomfortable playing in raised pots. Attack their blinds, widen your opening range preflop. The key is to only get to showdown with the nuts. Give up when they flat call your 2.5X raise preflop or your half-pot continuation bet, but when you fire all three streets make sure you have the nuts.

Balance doesn't matter; it's live poker and people don't pay attention so just bet every street huge with the nuts. Their biggest fear is being bluffed so they will look for any reason to call. It's funny when you bet 2X pot with quads and they call with ace-high. It becomes fun when you run someone over until they play back at you when you have aces or kings preflop. Keep in mind younger players tend to make some sort of bluff (that makes no sense) when they feel threatened while others adjust by calling down with marginal hands. Bluff more against the former while merging your value range against the latter.

Ever notice high-stakes cash-game players on TV can be having a friendly conversation one second then be betting hundreds of thousands of dollars the next? It's because they understand playing poker aggressively is not a sign of personal disrespect. It's simply the correct way to play the game. Just remember aggression at the poker table is not and should not be interpreted as offensive. The players who get ticked off have big egos, which means their entire bankroll is on that \$1-\$2 table. It's our jobs to take it.

— Mike Wolf is a professional poker player who spends his time on the road.

Follow him on Twitter (@mikewolf7) or on surebetpoker.net.

COACH'S CORNER

AL SPATH • Extracting information

WHEN IN DOUBT, BE SURE TO SEND A SCOUT

In poker, we're faced with situations we're unsure of, so we "send out a scout." Though much like that of pinochle, this is not a defensive or passive action. The "probing bet" can be an info-gathering action or done precisely at the right time, in the right situation, and with the correct bet size, a profitable offensive weapon.

In *Harrington on Hold'em, Volume II*, Dan Harrington describes it this way: "A probe bet is a cross between a bluff and an informational bet. It's a lead-out bet of somewhere between one-quarter and one-third the pot." He goes on to say, "mostly the probe bet has an informational function." It's a way of finding out two things:

- Please tell me a little something about your hand.
- Wouldn't it be nice if the two of us could just see the next card cheaply? (Can't we all just get along?)

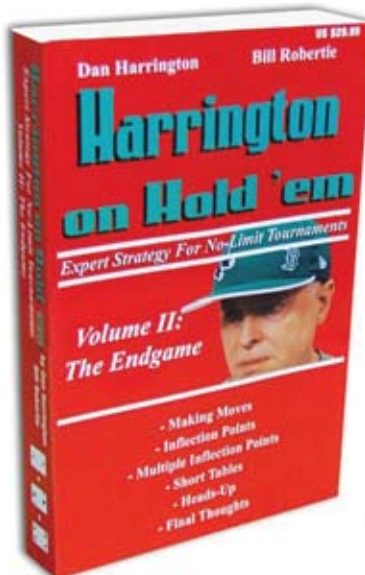
Harrington consistently suggests a half-pot bet when making a probe bet. His position is the response to your probe bet will net you the desired winning result or give you valuable information

about the potential strength of your opponents' hand. Many players do not follow his recommendation and they commit more chips with "pot bets," while other players take a passive stance and check or bet the minimum.

The consequences of both plays may create a problem for you and allow your opponents to put undo pressure upon you, instead of you forcing them to make a critical decision, or to elicit vital information about their hand strength.

The next time you need to "send out a scout," make a probe bet that can manipulate your opponents into making a miscue or provide you the information needed to continue on to a winning hand. One thing to keep in mind as you make this play: Opponents may send back a resounding message that trumps your scout move. Be able to detect when it's time to cut your losses, and then do it.

— Al Spath is the former Dean of PokerSchoolOnline, author of *Poker Journal*, and a private online and live poker coach (at Delaware Park Casino, Atlantic City and Las Vegas). He can be reached for private poker mentoring at pokerinstructors.com or alspath@alspath.com.



STRATEGY

ANTONIO PINZARI • Playing the table

MEASURING YOUR ABILITY

A wise man once said, “You’ll be judged by what you accomplish, not in what you attempt.” Most players I know think of themselves as good players, some with large egos consider themselves great players primarily because they’ve played for such a long time. Longevity in poker doesn’t equate with greatness. I’ve known many lifelong players who were always broke.



ANTONIO PINZARI

The perception of being a good or great player is truly a self test. This test is seldom if ever taken by self-proclaimed good or great players. Truly great players are consistently testing themselves by measuring their accomplishments, not their attempts.

How do we as players measure greatness in a player? On the national level in tournament play we count bracelets, player-of-the-year honors, main-event winners and major tournament wins.

Doyle, Johnny and T.J., we need only mention their first name and measure their accomplishments to determine their greatness. Others such as Daniel, Scotty, Gus, Eric (and too many more to mention) surely expect more of themselves to be considered in this elite field. They’re surely among the most talented players who all aspire to achieve greatness.

Greatness in a player is the capacity to see many things in a hand where the ordinary player sees only one, and where the player of talent sees two or three, plus has the ability to register that perception in the material of his game.

You however don’t live on the national level. What then do we do to measure ourselves as good or may I be so bold as to say a great player?

We measure our accomplishment on a daily basis. It’s really a simple process. To begin with you must be honest with yourself (a somewhat difficult task for the ego-stricken player).

Ask yourself where you feel most comfortable playing, cash games or tournament play. Once you determine honestly where your strength is you’re headed in the right direction. Try to avoid the trap of saying, “I really like both.” Concentrate on your strength. Seldom will you

find a player who’s good or great in both.

Next read every book or article on the game. Devoting many hours to your strength will only make you stronger. **Tom McEvoy**, the 1983 WSOP main event champion, reads every book he can get his hands on and has written more than a dozen books to help aspiring players.

Knowledge is currency in today’s poker world. McEvoy won the **2009 Binion Cup** by defeating 19 world champions to capture the winner-take-all prize of a vintage 1970 Corvette. My point? If he continues to read and study to get better, then shouldn’t you?

Record-keeping is an important component to achieving good or great play. Average players work out of their pocket, which is to say they don’t keep track of their money. Whatever is in their pocket is their record. Keeping a journal of your play separates you from the average player.

Most players play in the same casino or cardroom, seldom changing venues, thus they establish a reputation that becomes the perception of the opposing players. This reputation goes far beyond a table image.

Every opponent sees you in a certain light. Changing a poor reputation is a difficult task that often requires you to change venues and play as an unknown factor in a new arena. Everyone knows who the losers are; they also know who the winners are. Again, honesty comes into play.

Good and great players command respect; they have an aura about them that can be seen and felt from across the room. They strike fear in opponents when they push a large bet into the pot. Where does this aura come from? It comes from the perception of being a winner.

In more than 35 years as a player I’ve never met a great or even a good player who hasn’t devoted themselves to reading, studying and playing. I’ve not known a good player who hasn’t kept accurate records to measure their advancement in the game.

Don’t fool yourself into thinking you’re a good player because you beat the local yokels. Remember, “You are always measured by your accomplishments, not your number of attempts.”

— **Antonio Pinzari** is the former host of *Poker Wars* and has been playing poker professionally since the ’70s.



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MARC DUNBAR • What's going on with our government

LOST MONEY ONLINE? IT'S NO SURPRISE

On Sept. 20, the United States amended its complaint against PokerStars, Ultimate Bet, Absolute Poker and Full Tilt Poker to include counts relating specifically to the business operations of Full Tilt Poker, with the U.S. Attorney alleging that the company and its directors operated a “Ponzi scheme.”



MARC DUNBAR

The allegations raise serious legal issues against **Raymond Bitar, Chris Ferguson, Howard Lederer, Rafael Furst** and an unidentified defendant referred to as “Player Owner 1.” Rumors and gossip have swirled on poker blogs and other websites, but one legal question remains unanswered: Was FTP really a Ponzi scheme?

The Security and Exchange Commission defines a “Ponzi scheme” as an investment fraud that involves the payment of purported returns to existing investors from funds contributed by new investors. Though there is not one specific set of plans followed by every operator of such a fraud, Ponzi scheme organizers often solicit new investors by promising to invest funds in opportunities claimed to generate high returns with little or no risk.

These types of fraudulent investments are similar to pyramid schemes, which are outlawed by state law. For example, Florida law provides that any operation whereby a person pays or makes an investment of any kind in excess of \$100 and acquires the opportunity to receive a benefit or thing of value which is not primarily contingent on the volume or quantity of goods, services or other property sold in bona fide sales to consumers, and which is related to the inducement of additional persons to participate in the same operation, is a lottery ... and a first-degree misdemeanor.

A fact that will be highlighted in detail later, the SEC’s definition further provides that “the fraudsters focus on attracting new money to make promised payments to earlier-stage investors and to use for personal expenses, instead of engaging in any legitimate investment activity.” Ponzi schemes can continue to operate for long periods of time, so long as new investors continue to bring fresh infusions of cash. **Bernie Madoff**, perhaps the most infamous Ponzi schemer of all time, operated for 10 years before the financial crisis revealed his fraud. As the SEC puts it, “Ponzi schemes tend to collapse when it becomes difficult to recruit new investors or when a large number of investors ask to cash out.”

According to the allegations made in the amended complaint, FTP defrauded its players by paying hundreds of millions of player funds

to FTP owners while misrepresenting to players that funds credited to their online player accounts were secure and segregated from operating funds. The allegations further provide that FTP used player funds to maintain a steady flow of payments to its owners, totaling more than \$443 million from 2007-11. A balance sheet provided by FTP in March 2011 showed worldwide player accounts payable totaling \$390,695,788. In the report, FTP showed only \$59,579,413 in its bank accounts, a shortage of more than \$330 million.

If you’re wondering where all the money went, the U.S. government alleges that you look no further than reruns of WSOPs past. It is alleged that in the past four years, Lederer received \$42 million, Ferguson received \$25 million (and was owed an additional \$60 million), Bitar, FTP’s CEO, received \$41 million, Furst received \$11 million and Player Owner 1 received \$40 million.

So here are the basics of the alleged fact pattern: FTP operated its business under the assumption that it would be able to expand and attract new players in perpetuity. This assumption led to enormous payments to its owners, \$443 million over a four-year period. During the same time, federal crackdowns on Internet gambling transactions made it difficult for FTP to apply player deposits to its bank accounts, leading to huge shortages, even as new players logged on to the site and were credited with funds. The entire house of cards collapsed on Black Friday, when FTP was no longer able to add new accounts and the “scheme” was unveiled when it was unable to pay its players.

If these facts are ultimately proved true, some of the biggest names in poker could find themselves sharing time in close proximity to Madoff and other prominent fraudsters. Since Black Friday, not a week goes by where I’m not contacted by online poker players looking to see what rights they have to the money that they had on “deposit” with online poker operators. My advice to these players has been to treat it like a pair of black aces in the hole staring at four suited red cards after the turn and a big bet from across the table. You could stay in, but you’re likely throwing good money after bad. Since the “Ponzi scheme” indictments and realization that there’s less than 20 cents on the dollar available, those funds are now paid tuition for a difficult lesson learned. In the future, if you play online, keep your accounts lean; and if you are killing at those virtual tables, remember the adage, “if the returns are too good to be true, they probably are.”

— **Marc W. Dunbar** represents several gaming clients before the Florida Legislature and teaches gambling and parimutuel law at the Florida State’s College of Law. Follow him on Twitter (@FLGamingWatch) or his website (floridagaming-watch.com).

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DR. STEPHEN BLOOMFIELD • Poker psychology

IT ALL COMES DOWN TO DECISIONS

Making decisions under uncertain conditions is the essence of poker play. Mental preparation, learning the math, game theory, reading opponents; bluffing, creating a table image, tells and position are all elements of informing one's decision-making.

As rational humans we try to make sense of this by creating strategies, relying on game theory, learning the probabilities and psychology of the game. But at the end of the day we make continual decisions with incomplete information and with a great deal of uncertainty. Those who succeed "get it" and accept, adjust and accommodate. They understand a good decision can result in a bad outcome. There are no truly correct decisions, since you can't control the opponent. There is only the best decision you can make at the moment.



One of the most frequent causes of tilt is that the person believes because they made the right decision and they should have won, only to lose the hand. The person gets upset that the "correct" decision did not result in the best outcome. This cognitive distortion is based upon the irrational belief that poker is a rational game and if the correct decision is made the outcome is assured. Wrong! This is a game of incomplete information and uncertainty.

However, making the best decision, based on the information you have, is what needs to be done for the long run success of your game.

A logical and rational perspective is to develop a strategy to make the best decision, work to fight the internal and external forces against you, live with the decision and if it was the correct decision it will win in the long run. Don't focused on immediate results.

There are numerous variables that must be taken into account when each of the many decisions is to be made: your table image, your read of opponents, stack size, betting, cash vs. tournament, likelihood of opponent bluffing, your range, their range, what you will do next, game theory, probabilities and much more. Just as important is that these analyses are made quickly.

Game theory is how strategic decisions are made and should be studied. Strategic decision-making means how the actions of others affect your decision-making.

If everyone acted rationally and had the same information, it's likely the only winner would be the house. It's likely if such were true, we would not play for long. This is true even in the best pit game at the casino. You can minimize the house advantage in blackjack and craps, but over the long run the house can't be beat.

There's also an inherent truth: Not everyone plays with the same information and not everyone behaves rationally. So the solution seems obvious: Have more information about the game and the table

and understand your emotions. Poker is different; it's a *parimutuel* event (everyone's bets are pooled). Develop an edge, exploit it and come out ahead.

My work has shown me that most decisions are made through a combination of rational logic and emotional logic; making decisions is an outcome of personality, sometimes rational and sometimes emotional. In the simplest form this is the feel/math-gut/head debate.

At the extremes of decision-making styles there are people who are intuitive: they don't normally spend a long time searching for data; they tend to think that new information will confirm their gut beliefs, so why bother? They believe information-seeking is too slow and without enough reward and that the new information will only confuse their decision-making process.

On the other extreme are people who like to think of themselves as rational and logical, only to be stymied by the paralysis of analysis.

Don't be an extremist.

Can you assume all of your opponents are rational? If not you have to figure out a way to play against them. Intuition comes into play. You have to trust your right brain as much as your left.

In addition to all the preparation one needs to be successful, having a set of decision-making guidelines proves useful.

So, consider developing some risk-strategy decision-making techniques, which can serve as guidelines:

- Dismiss remote or unrealistic possibilities. When you decide to drive to the poker room, you may get into a traffic accident; when you buy food at the poker room, you may get food poisoning; and when you think everyone hit the flop or that all six limpers are bluffing, you're wrong most of the time. These are extreme, but you get the point.

- Avoid catastrophes as much as possible. Decide the reasonable cost of your decision and reasonable catastrophic outcome. You are medium-stacked on the bubble, do you play to win and risk busting or play to make the money? What is the possible outcome of making the money? Will there be a chop? Does it get me to the next level? The difficulty of applying this principle comes from the uncertainty of what is a real risk and what is a reasonable cost. Those are your decisions.

- Know the tradeoffs. Each decision we make at the table involves incomplete information, uncertainty and risk. How much is enough? And remember a fold is as much a decision as a raise, reraise or call.

- Maximize return and minimize loss.

- Understand you can learn from losing when you make a good decision as well as winning when you make a bad decision.

And remember, at all times, keep your head in the game.

— Dr. Stephen Bloomfield is a licensed psychologist and avid poker player. His column will give insight on how to achieve peak performance using poker psychology. Email questions for him at editor@anteupmagazine.com.

CRACKING UNDER PRESSURE?

Stephen Bloomfield, a.k.a. the Doc, is one of Florida's leading psychologists. He wrote **Head Games** in the late '80s to help competitors of every type use the skills he had learned about the effects of the mind on performance.

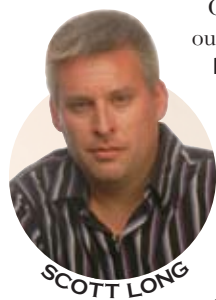


After five years of playing poker in Florida, Mississippi, Las Vegas, Connecticut and occasionally online, Doc is sharing his skills with Ante Up readers through periodic columns, titled Head Games. Doc offers support to some of the region's best professionals and amateur players with one-on-one advising sessions and group workshops.

EMAIL YOUR QUESTIONS TO EDITOR@ANTEUPMAGAZINE.COM

LESSONS WE'VE LEARNED FROM FULL TILT

The Business of Poker column debuts in perhaps the best month in recent history to discuss just that — the business of poker. Since Sept. 20, the poker world has been consumed with discussing the demise of Full Tilt Poker, once a leader in the online poker community and now its leading pariah.



SCOTT LONG

On our weekly *Ante Up PokerCast* and in numerous radio interviews since the day U.S. Attorney **Preet Bharara** alleged that Full Tilt executives were engaged in a “Ponzi scheme,” I’ve pleaded to listeners (and now to readers of this column) to strip away the opportunistic grandstanding Bharara has been doing and focus on what we know. I believe what we know is quite damning enough to justify the anger thousands of players have for Full Tilt, and offers us some lessons on the overall business of poker.

I don’t believe Full Tilt ran a “Ponzi scheme.” What Bharara has alleged is fraud. That should be sensational in its own right. Bharara knows you don’t make big enough headlines by alleging mere “fraud,” but in the shadows of **Bernie Madoff**, if you call something a “Ponzi scheme,” it perks up the antennas of the mainstream media and Tom and Judy on Main Street America. And if you can get thousands of poker players to blindly buy it, too, well, gosh, you’re halfway to making sure online poker is never regulated in the United States (more on that later).

But back to what we know, which is that when the Department of Justice allowed Full Tilt to pay back its players, the online site could not. To me, that’s all I need to know. Whether it was because of fraud or a looting of the company by key execs is for the courts to decide. All I need to know is at the very least Full Tilt got burned taking a large risk, and thousands of its customers have been left holding the bag for it. That one fact offers us several lessons on the future of poker.

1. Firm, but fair, regulation is a good thing

Almost immediately after the Sept. 20 announcement, the Alderney Gambling Control Commission, the Channel Islands agency that licensed Full Tilt, revoked FTP’s online poker license. Immediately, I wondered how much oversight the commission actually held over Full Tilt or other sites under its purview. I wasn’t alone.

Antanas “Tony G” Guoga, a poker pro and primary shareholder of PokerNews, said he’d pursue legal action against the commission for not properly regulating Full Tilt. That issue aside, the AGCC specifically allows its licensees to combine player funds with operating funds, though it does insist the licensee retain enough money to cover all liabilities. Other online regulatory agencies insist funds be segregated, which provides far more protection for player money.

I’ll be the first to claim many of the regulatory bodies overseeing U.S. brick-and-mortar poker rooms overstep their authority. These bodies are charged with enforcing state and tribal regulations and protecting players, but yet often step in to thwart player-friendly efforts, such as sanctioning badugi to be dealt, or allowing satellites for Ante Up Poker Cruise packages or permitting temporary tournament tables.

But protecting players, and their money, is the ultimate goal, and if they can’t do that, then they shouldn’t do anything. The Full Tilt debacle hopefully will reinforce player safeguards online and live but,

unfortunately, will likely embolden agencies to regulate more where they shouldn’t. That’s not only costly for operators, but for players as well.

2. We need regulated online poker

Most poker players have been lobbying for this for some time. Those who preferred the status quo likely have changed their tune since the status quo was obliterated on Black Friday.

The Full Tilt meltdown shows how important it is for players to have a proper path to recourse, however Bharara’s crusade may be successful in using Full Tilt’s failings to prevent Americans from playing online poker ever again. But here’s why we need regulated online poker in the United States:

- Players in many jurisdictions don’t have brick-and-mortar poker, and everyone should have the opportunity to play the game the way it’s meant to be played.
- Without it, interesting and challenging games such as stud, Omaha/8 and draw poker will continue to die, leaving us with only the one-dimensional no-limit hold’em.
- Brick-and-mortar rooms need it to keep interest in poker alive and to develop new players.

That last one is interesting, and probably a little surprising to some readers. After Black Friday, the consensus was that brick-and-mortar rooms would benefit handsomely. Many of the managers I spoke with were more reserved in their projections, and the numbers prove that.

Of eight states that prominently post poker revenues on their website, four (Colorado, Illinois, Pennsylvania and South Dakota) saw increases from March, the last month before Black Friday, and August, the most recent month for which figures are available, while four (Florida, Indiana, Iowa and New Jersey) saw decreases.

Overall, the poker revenue in those eight states dropped from \$27.7 million in March to just less than \$17 million in August. Admittedly, this is a crude comparison, as seasonal and tournament factors can skew the numbers, but I believe we can safely say Black Friday was not a boon to live poker.

The longer we lack the low-cost, less-intimidating feeder system of online poker, the more live poker will suffer.

3. Take a stand to ensure poker is fair

There’s little debate Black Friday was a wake-up call to lots of players. Some who have never been to a ballot box started writing congressional representatives, and plenty of others took to forums to decry the surprising loss of their freedom.

I suspect momentum will not wane until we have regulated online poker in the United States. But interesting to me was the seemingly lack of motivation before Black Friday. While it’s hard to criticize players for not digging deep into the details of online gaming regulation to see that Full Tilt was not required to segregate player funds from operating funds, thousand of players were aware they were playing with money on the site that was never withdrawn from their bank accounts.

Certainly some were curious about it, but I think we can agree not enough were, or the underlying problems at Full Tilt would have been uncovered well before Black Friday. Let’s not forget, online players ferreted out the details of the Ultimate Bet scandal, so collectively we can be our own best police force. Hopefully, we will again going forward.

— Email Scott Long at scott@anteupmagazine.com

CALL THE FLOOR

Expert advice from poker room manager Jody Russell

You are responsible for your hand

At a monthly no-limit tournament a few guys limped, the small blind (with K-K) raised five times the big blind. Everyone folded but the guy on the button. The flop came 10-6-3. The small blind bet and the button went all-in. After "tanking" for a few minutes, the small blind called. The button said, "You got me," and didn't show his cards, though they were still in front of him. The small blind threw his cards into the muck face down. The button said, "You mucked, I win." The small blind said, "You conceded; I win," and turned over the K-K from the muck. Who's right? — Donald Campbell, via email

JODY'S RESPONSE: Every player is responsible to protect his or her own cards. You shouldn't ever muck your hand until you have turned your cards face up on the table and made the hand live unless you have no intention of trying to win the pot. The player with two live cards wins every time in this situation.

— Jody Russell is a veteran poker room manager who runs the Ante Up Cruise Poker Room. Email questions to editor@anteupmagazine.com.

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HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR BLADDER? DEPENDS

Recently I was watching a rerun of a 2005 WSOP event and I noticed **Josh Arieh** seemed very nervous. As he glanced at his cards, a tiny bead of sweat formed on his forehead. He sighed and then rubbed the back of his neck. He glanced briefly over his shoulder toward his wife behind the rail and gave her a slight nod. He was giving off a series of significant tells but I wasn't sure what they meant.



Clearly Josh was under considerable stress. Did he have a big pair? Was he contemplating a bluff with rags? Maybe he was going to shove. If fellow *Ante Up* columnist **Joe Navarro** were watching this, he'd know what was going on.

When the action came around to Josh, the cause of his distress became clear. He tossed his cards into the muck and leaped up from his chair knocking it over. He sprinted off toward the rail reaching it just as his wife unhooked the velvet rope. He then dashed toward the bathroom, a victim of too many bottled waters, coffees, Red Bulls and/or beers.

Bladder control: the nemesis of tournament poker. **Jack McClelland**, director of poker operations at the Bellagio once said, "To be a poker champion, you must have a strong bladder." The breaks are too few and too short; the distance to the facilities is too far and the lines are too long. Are there any solutions to this dilemma?

First, let's establish some baseline information. The kidneys dump about 50 cc (a little less than two ounces) into the bladder every hour. This number can change a lot depending upon how much you've had to drink and whether you've taken in anything with a diuretic effect (more on this later). The average bladder feels the urge to go at about 350 cc (about 12 ounces or 1.5 cups). This urge can be voluntarily suppressed up to about 600 cc before it becomes unbearable. There are some muscular exercises to suppress that urge, but ignore it too long and the muscular wall can become overstretched and may not be able to empty completely. Incomplete emptying is a common cause of infection.

There are some sex differences. Any guy who has taken a lady on a road trip knows that generally men have larger bladders than women. ("Would you pull over at the next McDonald's, Sweetheart?")

Also, external male anatomy provides an extra measure of muscular control. If you don't understand this difference, you are playing

far too much poker.

Normally, in a cash game, there's not too much of an issue. Skip a hand or two. Hit the head. Get back in action.

Tournaments, live and online, are what cause the problem. Once the blinds and antes start eating up a significant portion of your stack, missing even a few key hands can really affect your chances to cash. So, what can you do?

First, cut back on the fluids. Despite what you've heard, there's absolutely positively no medical literature to support the common belief that you should drink some magic number of glasses of water every day. If you can find a real medical research paper that says otherwise, show me. Otherwise, as you near the final table, you can cut back on your fluids. It's OK.

Second, avoid things that make you want to go (called diuretics) like caffeine, colas, coffee, tea, chocolate, artificial sweeteners and beer. Of course, if your doctor has you on a prescription diuretic for health reasons, for gosh sakes, take it. Also, you should avoid spicy and acidic foods like citrus juices and fruits and especially tomatoes that can irritate the bladder wall and give you that urge to go.

Now, for a radical idea, what about a catheter? At first look, it seems a bit extreme to have a tube inserted into your bladder and attached to a bag just to play poker, but there are some people with control problems who truly need this level of help. There have been armless players and blind players in the WSOP. I'm guessing there are probably dozens of players discretely using catheters and leg bags.

"Not for me!" you say? Well, what about something not quite so extreme? There is a medical device that resembles a condom with a very long reservoir tip that ends in a leg bag. The name of this device is oddly appropriate: the Texas Catheter. Nothing is inserted anywhere and it's relatively comfortable (I'm told).

So, maybe this has gotten a little out of hand. The point is you don't want to overstress your bladder by holding it too long, yet you don't want to miss too many crucial hands because you need a potty break. Cut back on fluids, avoid diuretics and understand that if your control isn't as pristine as you'd like, there are some devices that can help. Then buy a round of drinks for the table and smile as they squirm.

— An avid poker player, **Frank Toscano, M.D.** is a board-certified emergency physician with more than 28 years of front-line experience. He's medical director for Red Bamboo Medi Spa in Clearwater. Email your poker-health questions to ftoscano@redbamboomedispa.com

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WHO'S



YOUR DOLLAR?

One of the greatest honors a country can bestow upon someone is to place that person's portrait on their nation's currency. Here is a list of players the Ante Up Nation would like to have on its U.S. currency, if we lived in such a world. Fingers crossed!

BY CHRISTOPHER COSENZA

This wasn't as easy as you might think. There are only so many bills of currency we can use to honor these poker players. Yes, we could have used coins, but after you put **Jennifer Harman** where **Sacagawea** is on the dollar coin, then what? It's all downhill from there. So we paid homage to history for the most part and inserted humor where we could.

Here's our list:

\$1: Doyle Brunson. Nuff said. We thought about **Johnny Moss** or even **Wild Bill Hickok**, but it just has to be DB.

\$2: People think the \$2 bill is odd and out of circulation (the bill is still printed by the way), which is how one might characterize **Mike Caro**. He's odd and lives in the Ozarks. You might think he should be on the \$5 bill because he's the greatest five-card draw player ever, but we went in another direction there.

\$5: Edward G. Robinson, not as himself, but rather as The Man in the *Cincinnati Kid*. He's the king of five-card stud, and he has to have that hat and stogie in his portrait or no dice. He can even be holding up the J♦ if it will add more flair.

\$10: We thought about **Johnny Chan** because he was the first to

10 bracelets, but American-born players probably should be on American money. So, we'll put **David Sklansky** on the bill to keep the math guys happy. And 10 is how many fingers we have and use when counting outs, which explains why we suck at calculating pot odds.

\$20: Chris Moneymaker gets the nod here, but this bill is special because the front and back are identical, giving the illusion that you have two \$20 bills, the same amount he paid to enter the satellite that ultimately led to his WSOP seat and world title.

\$50: People say this bill is unlucky, that poker players don't like the bill because it brings them misfortune. Well, **Chip Reese** won the first-ever \$50K H.O.R.S.E. event at the WSOP, and died shortly thereafter at the young age of 56. That's as unlucky as it gets.

\$100: A true gambler, **Stu Ungar** lived life on the edge, and the \$100 bill is synonymous with gambling. We almost put him on the \$50 bill, but when you think of how much money he won, lost and blew on drugs you have to think of excess, and there's no larger denomination than the \$100 bill. ♠

Free, subscription poker fill void after Black Friday

By Scott Long

While poker players eagerly await the prospect of regulated online poker in the United States, a number of companies have launched new online products or ramped up the promotion of their existing ones to fill a void.

South Point Casino in Las Vegas perhaps made the biggest splash, announcing its SouthPointPoker.Com online site during October's Global Gaming Expo, the largest gaming convention in the world.

"SouthPointPoker.com proves Nevada is at the forefront of the regulated gaming market. It's a great accomplishment and honor to offer the first online poker room branded by a Nevada-licensed, land-based casino property," casino owner **Michael Gaughan** said. "Much like the overall quality we deliver at South Point, SouthPointPoker.com will offer our online players a top-notch experience, big action and the best in customer service."

A \$10,000 World Series of Poker Main Event seat is up for grabs each week, and the site promises \$100,000 in cash and prizes each month and daily tie-in promotions.

A week earlier, the California Online Poker Association, a group consisting of California Indian tribes active in gaming, launched the free play CalShark.Com, and in September, the Barona tribe started beta testing of a free play site expected to open to all players in a few months. The free sites are legal since they don't cost players anything to play. All three are banking on developing a loyal player base that it can convert to real-money players when regulation is approved in the United States.

Subscription sites aren't new; they were carving out a niche among

low-risk, big-reward players long before Black Friday, but the market has increased substantially since most of the big players in real-money online poker were forced out of the market or left on their own.

Many subscription sites offer a free-play site, but the most serious poker and better prizes can be found in the monthly subscription side. Players pay a monthly fee and can play as much as they want and win cash or prizes in each tournament, or by redeeming points they earn in tournaments and live games.

"We proudly boast a much higher standard of play that is played online. Rarely do more than three people every see a flop. Final tables often take hours to complete," said **David Webb**, owner of Grrrinders.Com, who was clear to say he doesn't like to call his site a "subscription" site since it doesn't automatically charge players' cards when their membership is up for renewal. "We use a rating system, which grades their play up to 20 levels. Unlike fictitious point systems used to inflate egos, players often see drops in their level achieved as the scoring system uses negative results, not just positive."

It's legal for players in most, though not all, U.S. states to play on subscription sites, which conform to laws governing sweepstakes, much like the ones McDonald's uses to give away prizes on the sides of beverages. It's the same model used by sites such as Fantaz.Com, a new entrant in the world of online fantasy sports and strategy games. While you won't find poker at Fantaz.Com (at least for now), players can participate in other strategy games, such as solitaire, and the site hopes to gain cross-over appeal with poker players when it launches its fantasy sports products, which will work much like an online poker sit-and-go, but instead of competing for chips, players will win or lose based on how athletes they draft do in live games. ♠



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ANTEUPMAGAZINE.COM FOCUSING ON STATES

Ante Up has finished major enhancements to anteupmagazine.com that mirror the focus of the magazine: to bring readers poker news from around the country in a regionally specific way.

Users will find a dropdown menu on the right-hand side of each page that allows them to choose a specific state, and the site has been upgraded with direct links to every poker room in the United States with state-by-state maps.

"Much like the United States is a nation of individual states, we perceive *Ante Up* as a national magazine with detailed news from all states," said **Scott Long**, co-publisher of *Ante Up* with **Christopher Cosenza**. "Every state has its unique poker qualities, and these enhancements spotlight those and let our users explore all of the great poker our country has to offer in a regional or national way."

Each state web page (one for each of the states with legal, organized poker) features a news feed, links to columns from that state's Ante Up Ambassador, tournament listings and Twitter feeds from all poker rooms in the state. Users can choose to make their individual state's landing page their home page for Ante Up, while still easily moving throughout the rest of the site's content.

In addition, pages have been created to highlight news from Ante Up headquarters, such as Ante Up Poker Cruise giveaways and events, and the District of Columbia, so users can follow legislation and events on the federal level that affect all of us. As other states embrace legal poker, pages will be activated for them.

"We strive to keep our readers and fans updated with what's going on in their little corner of the poker world," Cosenza said. "Plus when they travel they can have the whole country's poker database at a click of a button."

Under the Where To Play tab on all anteupmagazine.com pages, users will find an enhanced listing of all poker rooms in the United States. Broken down by state and further by type of room, the listings provide direct links to the poker rooms' websites as well as a listing of that state's Ante Up Ambassador and direct link to the state's news page. A Google Map pinpoints all properties on a map that can be expanded and explored, and rooms in the planning or construction phase are listed as well. The top of the page features an explanation of the types of poker rooms and hyperlinks to the individual state information so users don't have to scroll to get what they want.

"Web surfers can find lots of websites with lists of poker rooms, but we wanted to make this as functional as any we've seen," Long said. "The maps and links make exploring the various rooms a cinch, and we invite users to let us know

of changes so we can keep the site as up-to-date as possible."

Great features can be found elsewhere on anteupmagazine.com, including complete archives of every issue, a Flash issue viewer, links to the *Ante Up PokerCast*, online poker room reviews, a poker odds calculator and a forum where users can sound off on all issues concerning poker. ♠



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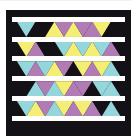


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Kathy Liebert (Sleek and aggressive unisex styling, wraparound frame to hide eyes, lightweight and durable construction; **\$129**, Size: 53-21-125).

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POKER UP SHOP

CUSTOM POKER CHIPS: We will send the chips and the inlays, and all you have to do is apply them to the chips. Choose from four different chip styles (Suited, Diamond, Lucky Bee and Wheat). Minimum order is 300. **\$0.29-\$0.37**

CUSTOM PRINTED INLAYS: We can print just your custom Ante Up Inlays and you can use the chips you already have. Decide on your own custom text. We can even match the background color of the inlay to the colors of your chips. 15/16" and 1" Inlays available. Minimum order is 300 chips. (You get 600 inlays for both sides). **\$0.17**

POKER COMBO 150: This all-in-one Texas Hold'em poker combo contains one set of 100 percent plastic Copag playing cards, four Copag cut cards, a two-deck shuffler, one acrylic dealer button, one Texas Hold'em 72x36 Table Top Felt and a 300-count set of Tournament Pro 11.5 gram poker chips. Each set includes a heavy-duty aluminum case that includes a dealer button, five dice and two decks of cards. **\$99.95 (bigger sets available for \$149.95 and \$199.95)**

ELITE BRACELET: Features stainless steel plating with 50 microns of silver; 156 embedded crystals and adjustable stainless steel watch band. Comes in Light Face or Dark Face. **\$59.95**

WIRE MESH POKER BRACELET: Weighs in at 45 grams and is studded with 95 genuine crystals. The mesh band is comfortable and classy. Plated: 50 microns of 14k gold crystals: 95 embedded crystals. Comes in gold or silver. **\$34.95**

MIHEATERZON: "My Heaters On" comes with an eight-page booklet, sarcastically covers the ridiculous and hilarious symptoms, diagnosis, cure and warnings. Outrageous, funny and unique! **\$9.95**



POKER-PIG

POKER CARDS BEADS BRACELET: Double-drilled antiqued bone poker card beads bracelet. Pre-strung on stretch cord. Each bead/tile measures is approximately 1-inch long. **\$14.99**

POKER BEADS NECKLACE: Lampwork hand-crafted poker beads necklace on delicate 18-inch sterling silver chain (above). **\$49.99**

PRO POKER GEAR

POKER BRACELET DISPLAY CASE:

Use the engraving plaque to commemorate your event (pictured at right). Comes in walnut, carbon fiber or brushed nickel. **\$39.95**

GRINDER BRACELET: Band is adjustable to fit any wrist and has a double-deployment buckle for extra security. Center plaque 1x2.75, 102.2 grams. Solid steel with raised 3D lettering and enameled suits. Comes in gold or silver. **\$49.99**

POKER BRACELET: One size fits all; 10 inches and adjustable. Width: 1 inch at the center and tapers down to a half inch. Heavy duty lobster claw clasp. Comes in gold or silver. **\$19.99**



EAT PROFESSIONAL POKER PLAYERS ALIVE!

Frank Wiese provides the ultimate poker book that gives you an unparalleled edge at the poker table. Most poker books out there are out of date. *Eat Professional Poker Players Alive!* fills in the gaps where most authors left out. **\$24.95**

GREAT POKER HANDS

Use these cards to improve your game by educating yourself which starting hands are the better hands, and which hands are the poorer hands. These unique color-coded strategy cards will tell you the strength of your starting cards, and they change with the number of players at the table. **\$19.95**



BAD HAT POKER

This "Badhat" was designed to help you make your opponents seek out a target elsewhere by avoiding their prying eyes as they search for the slightest change or movement on your face. One size fits all with self adjusting cloth head band. **\$37**



HIGH HEELS POKER TOUR

- HHPT button down with logo (above): **\$40**
- HHPT logo charm sterling silver and red enamel: **\$60**
- HHPT logo T-shirts: **\$18**
- Regular cotton twill hats with HHPT logo: **\$18**

BEST POKER STUFF

WORLD SERIES OF POKER CHIP LIGHTER: Officially licensed World Series of Poker adjustable refillable butane lighter (at right). Comes in four colors. **\$10.99**

BEST STARTING HANDS MOUSE PAD: Simple-to-use starting hand chart in the form of a mouse pad. **\$15.95**

SOLID BRASS CARD COVER: Artwork on our "AA" cover is a beautifully detailed re-creation of "Pocket Aces." There is a small raised dot on the bottom of this cover, which allows you to spin these like a top. **\$12.99**

COLLEGE CARD GUARDS: 45mm diameter, die-struck, nickel-plated, single-sided college coin with a hand-painted enamel finish. Coin comes in an air-tight plastic protective case. **\$12.95**

WINNER CARD GUARD/SPINNER: It features solid brass construction and colorful artwork that will never fade or wear. There is a small raised dot on the bottom of this covers which allows you to spin these like a top. **\$14.99**



BBO POKER TABLES

PREMIER 94" LUXURY: The Premier features an ultra wide armrest with mounted gold 4-inch cup holders. The dealer position is accented with the bill slot and drop box. Stands on two oak pedestal legs covered in five coats of chocolate gloss paint to match the racetrack that surrounds the playing surface. A removable playing surface can be upgraded to Suited Speed Cloth or a Custom Dye Sub Graphic. **\$1,525**

ROCKWELL ELEGANT: Pictured at right, this table seats 10 with structured seating designated by the jumbo stainless steel 4-inch cup holders in the racetrack. Comes with a removable playing surface. Solid oak pedestal legs feature a stylish middle stretcher foot rest. The ball and claw feet are hand carved. Comes with an extra removable playing surface in your color choice in addition to the standard black. Suited Speed Cloth and Custom Dye Sub Graphic upgrades are available. **\$1,499**

ALBATROSS LEAF: Comfortable seating for up to six for dinner, lift off the dining top to reveal a professional grade poker table with seating for eight with the drop in leaf in place. The 1-inch thick dining top sits firmly atop the poker table when the leaf is out. It's painted with the same Chocolate Gloss finish used on the jumbo claw pedestal leg. **\$1,699**

ROYALE: This 55-inch-round table, at right, features a 7-inch-wide vivid burgundy armrest, stuffed with high density sponge for maximum comfort. Jumbo 4-inch brass cup holders are mounted in the armrest. Stow away the game's buy-ins during play and cards and chips on off days. The column is painted with a piano-black gloss to create a stylish contrast to the armrest. **\$949**

ELITE: Features 7-inch-wide vivid burgundy armrest and



mounted jumbo brass cup holders. A small accent racetrack covered in scratch proof black gloss paint surrounds the removable playing surface. Optional oval dining or conference top are also finished in the piano black gloss paint. Suited Speed Cloth and Custom Dye Sub Graphic upgrades are available. **\$1,579**

NIGHTHAWK: The 55-inch-round table features pedestal legs dipped in piano black gloss paint. Throw a round or square dining top (sold separately or buy as a combo at a discounted price) to turn the Nighthawk into a dinner table at home or conference table at the office. Features a chip rack, racetrack design, which the jumbo 4" cup holders are mounted in. Premium leather vinyl wraps around high density sponge and is finished off with decorative pins that outline the bottom of the armrest. Detailed woodwork can be seen from the top of the pedestal column to the bottom of the pedestal feet, all constructed of solid oak. **\$849**

ULTIMATE POKER TABLE JR.: Measuring in at 82 inches long and seats eight players, this table features a removable playing surface, which is complemented by a cherry wood veneer racetrack, eight 3-inch stainless steel cup holders and premium leather vinyl armrest rail. **\$499**

V5 SERIES: The playing surface extends all the way to the armrests with a betting line circling the middle of the table. The dealer also gets a 350-piece chip tray and mini armrest. This table features a steel support frame that can hold 200 pounds. **\$549**

ULTIMATE POKER TABLE: Designates seating for 10, each with 3-inch stainless steel cup holders. The steel support frame prevents warping and can support 200 pounds. The removable playing surface features an extra thick layer of foam. Personalize with Suited Speed Cloth or a Custom Dye Sub Graphics. **\$599**



UNIVERSAL POKER ASSOCIATION
The Professional Orientation and Discipline system, aka P.O.D. system, is the poker player's learning, development and empowerment program. **\$49.95**

THOMAS GALLAGHER

IMPROVE YOUR POKER GAME POKER SEMINARS: Southern California's No. 1 poker seminar is loaded with 40-plus subjects for the intermediate level and includes workbooks. One Saturday a month (1-6 p.m.) at Ocean's 11 Casino in Oceanside, Calif., and limited to 10 students. **\$129**

IMPROVE YOUR GAME SELF STUDY: Two poker seminar workbooks and a Card Odds vs. Pot Odds vs. Pot Size slide presentation. Learn about starting hands using the new "E-Position" at table, and three tests to test current knowledge. It's the same material used in the live in-person seminar, but sent via fast download. **\$7.95**





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ARIZONA

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS/SPECIAL EVENTS	JACKPOTS/PROMOTIONS
BUCKY'S CASINO (928) 771-6779 • buckycasino.com	Saturday-Monday with Ladies Night on Tuesdays.	Progressive Aces Cracked (Sat., 11a-11p).
CASINO ARIZONA AT TALKING STICK (480) 850-7777 • casinoaz.com	Mon.-Fri. (\$60, 11:15a); Tue.-Wed. (\$130, 7:15p).	Jackpot Extravaganza Progressive Jackpot pays up to \$25K (24/7); Aces Cracked (daily, 2a-10a).
CASINO DEL SOL (800) 344-9435 • casinodelsol.com	Daily, including Mon. (\$35, 7p); Tue. (\$15, 7p); Wed. KO (\$35 w/rebuys, 7p); Thurs. (\$85, 7p); Sat. (\$35, noon); Sun. (\$20 w/rebuys, 11a & \$15, 7p).	Splash pots and high-hand giveaways (Monday-Friday).
CLIFF CASTLE CASINO (928) 567-7952 • cliffcastlecasinohotel.com	Mon.-Fri. & Sun. (\$25, 10a); Wed. (\$60 w/\$20 rebuy, 7p); Sat. (\$120, noon).	Aces Cracked pays \$100 (Sun.-Fri.); 4-Wheelin' and Dealin' promotion (call for details).
DESERT DIAMOND (520) 342-1810 • ddcaz.com	Mon. & Thurs. (\$35, 9:30a); Tue. (\$60 w/\$75 rebuy, 7p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (aces full of jacks beaten by quads) and Omaha; player comps for live play.
FT. McDOWELL CASINO (480) 837-1424 • fortmcowellcasino.com	Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. (7p); Sat. (noon, 4p and 9p); Fri. (\$120, 7p); Sun. (\$120, noon); Fields for Kids and Packages from Home charity tournaments (call for details).	Progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is quads over aces full of deuces and Omaha is quad fours; mini jackpot is hold'em is aces full; high hand (daily); Aces Cracked.
HARRAH'S PHOENIX AK-CHIN (480) 802-5000 • harrahsakchin.com	Tue. Omaha/8 (\$25, 7:30p); Wed. (\$60, 7p); Thurs. (\$10 w/rebuys, 7:30p); Fri. (\$40, 7:30p); Sat. (\$40, 12:30p & 5:30p); Sun. (\$25, 12:30p).	Progressive high hand (daily, 5p-5a); splash pots (Sat.-Sun.); Aces Cracked (daily).
VEE QUIVA CASINO (520) 796-7777 • wingilariver.com/vee-quiva	Sun.-Thurs. (\$30 w/\$20 rebuy, 11a); Wed. (\$10 w/rebuys, 7:30p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; royals pay \$500; Aces Cracked.
WILD HORSE PASS CASINO (800) 946-4452 • wingilariver.com/wild-horse-pass	Mon. & Thurs. (\$30, noon); Tue. (\$50, 7:30p); Wed. (\$100, 7:30p).	Aces Cracked pays \$100; high hands; splash pots (daily); royals pay \$200 (daily).

ARKANSAS

OAKLAWN RACING & GAMING (501) 623-4411 • oaklawn.com	Daily (\$5-\$20); Tue. \$500 guarantee (\$5, 10a); Thurs. ladies only (freeroll, 7p); Sun. (\$20, 10a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; Weekend Warrior (earn up to \$85 in free play); daily special jackpots (call for details).
SOUTHLAND PARK GAMING & RACING (870) 735-3670 • southlandgreyhound.com	Mon.-Tue. (\$20, 2p); Wed. (\$35, 2p); Thurs. KO (\$30, 7p); Sat. KO (\$35, 5p). 2K freeroll (call for details and dates).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (aces full of jacks beaten by quads); player-reward cards offer comps based on play.

CALIFORNIA

101 CASINO (707) 795-6121 • the101casino.com/casino	Mon. (\$20 w/rebuys, 7p); Tue. & Thurs. (\$50, 7p); monthly events Nov. 12 & 26 (\$115, 1p).	Double Super Bad Beat Jackpot in hold'em (Sun., 9a-midnight); Poker Bargains (daily, call for details); Aces Cracked (daily).
AGUA CALIENTE CASINO (888) 999-1995 • hotwatercasino.com	Sun. \$4K guarantee (\$60, 10a); \$7.5K guarantee monthly freeroll, Nov. 12 (10:30a).	High hands; Rack Attack (call for details).
ARTICHOKE JOE'S (650) 589-3145 • artichokejoes.com	Mon. (\$28 w/\$20 rebuy & add-on, 11a); Tue. (\$25, 11a); Wed. & Sun. (\$49 w/\$20 rebuys & \$40 add-on, 6:45p); Thurs. (\$48, 11a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em pays \$100K; bad-beat in Omaha; royals pay \$500; Triple 11 Giveaway runs through Nov. 8 pays \$66K in prizes (call for details).
AVIATOR CASINO (661) 721-7770 • theaviatorcasino.com	Wed. \$500 added (\$25 w/\$20 rebuys, 6:30p; Fri. freeroll (2p); Sat. \$500 added (\$25 w/\$20 rebuys, 2p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
BARONA RESORT (619) 443-2300 • barona.com	Tue.-Thurs. \$1.5K guarantee (\$40, 6:30); Sat. & Sun. \$2K guarantee (\$40, 10:30a).	Aces Cracked (Mon.-Fri.); Morning Rack Attacks (Mon.-Fri.).
BAY 101 (408) 451-8888 • bay101.com	Mon.-Fri. (\$120, 10a); Sat. (\$200, 9a); monthly event, Nov. 12 (\$530, 10a); Sun. varies (call for details).	No promotions.
BICYCLE CASINO (562) 806-4646 • thebike.com	Daily (\$40-\$60); Ho Ho Ho Hold'em series, Nov. 22-Dec. 12 (call for schedule).	Jackpots in hold'em, Omaha, stud and Mexican poker.
CACHE CREEK CASINO (530) 796-3118 • cachecreek.com	Wed. (\$55 w/\$50 rebuy, 6p); Sat.-Sun. (\$55 w/\$50 rebuy, noon).	Aces Cracked pays \$100 (Mon.-Fri., 10a-10p); quads pay \$500 (Mon.-Fri., 6a-6p); high hands; cash drawings (call for details).
CALIFORNIA GRAND CASINO (925) 685-8397 • calgrandcasino.com	Sunday (\$50, 10:30a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em and Omaha; high hands; receive bonus chips in cash games (call for details).
CAPITOL CASINO (916) 446-0700 • capitol-casino.com	Mon.-Thurs. (\$30, 10a); Fri. (\$30 w/\$30 add-on, 10a); Sat.-Sun. (\$60, 11a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em pays \$50K minimum; high hands pay \$200 (daily); royal-flush bonus (all suits); Aces Cracked spins wheel.
CHUMASH CASINO (805) 686-0855 • chumashcasino.com	Tue. (\$60, 7p); Wed. (\$35, 7p); Thurs. (\$40, 7p); \$50K guarantee DeepStack event, Nov. 19 (\$160, 9a).	High-hand promotion pays \$100 hourly (Mon., 5p-10p).
CLUB ONE CASINO (559) 497-3000 • clubonecasino.com	Mon.-Fri. (\$14 w/rebuys, 10a); Mon., Wed.-Fri. (\$50, 7p); Sat. Omaha/8 (\$14, 10a); Sun. player appreciation freeroll with \$1K added (2:15p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; bad-beat jackpot in Omaha and Omaha/8 is quad 10's and pays \$5K.
COMMERCE CASINO (323) 721-2100 • commercecasino.com	Daily (\$55-\$220) at noon and 6p (Mon.-Fri.) and 1p (Sat.-Sun.); L.A. Poker Open, Nov. 2-21 (\$125-\$2,085) w/championship event, Nov. 18 (\$2,085, 2p).	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em and Omaha.
DIAMOND JIM'S CASINO (661) 256-1400 • diamondjimscasino.net	Daily at 10:15a; Mon. (\$35, 6p); Tue.-Wed. (\$65, 6p); Sat. (\$30, 1:30p); Sun. (\$65, 1:30p).	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em and Omaha.
GARDEN CITY CASINO (408) 244-3333 • gardencitycasino.com	Daily (\$80-\$330).	Call for promotions.
GOLD COUNTRY CASINO (530) 534-9892 • goldcountrycasino.com	Tue. (\$30, noon & \$45, 7p); Wed. (\$25, noon & \$40, 7p); Thurs. & Sat. (\$40, noon & \$45, 7p); Fri. Omaha/8 (\$35, noon) & (\$60, 7p).	Call for promotions.
GOLDEN WEST CASINO (661) 324-6936 • goldenwestcasino.net	Mon.-Thurs. (6:15p); Mon. (\$40); Tue. (\$35); Wed. (\$60); Thurs. (\$60); Fri. (\$30, 9a & \$40, 5p); Sat. (\$30, 2:15p); Sun. (\$40, 2:15p).	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em and Omaha; high hands; cash giveaways; Aces Cracked.
HARRAH'S RINCON (760) 751-3100 • harrahsrincon.com	Daily (\$30-\$125) at noon & 7p; weekend tournaments have a \$1K guaranteed prize pool.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; Aces Cracked (daily); high hands (Mon.-Thurs.); Splash the Pot.
HAWAIIAN GARDENS CASINO (562) 860-5887 • thegardenscasino.com	Daily (\$30-\$150); Mon.-Fri. (1p & 6:45p); Sat. (10a & 1p); Sun. (2:15a & 1p).	\$150K bonus jackpots (Tue., Thurs., Sat., Sun.); Spin the Wheel wins cash prizes (call for details).
HOLLYWOOD PARK (310) 330-2800 • playhpc.com	Daily (\$40-\$75); Mon.-Fri. (11:30a & 6:30p); Sat. & Sun. (11:30a & 4:30p).	Progressive tournament jackpot; earn points for tournaments.
HUSTLER CASINO (310) 719-9800 • hustlercasinola.com	Mon. (\$140, 7p); Tue. (\$60 w/rebuys, 7p); Wed. (\$125 w/rebuy, 7p); Thurs. KO (\$120 w/rebuys, 7p); Sun. (\$125 w/rebuy, 3p); Liz Flynt's Holiday Classic, Nov. 25.	Progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
JACKSON RANCHERIA CASINO (209) 223-1677 • jacksoncasino.com	Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. (\$25, 10a & 7:30p); Fri. (\$25, 10a & freeroll, 2p); Sat. (\$25, 10a); Sun. \$5K guarantee (\$60, 2p); monthly event, Nov. 27 (\$250, 10a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; get paid (\$100) w/aces full; high hands (Mon.-Thurs.); royal-flush progressive jackpot caps at \$500.
LAKE ELSINORE CASINO (951) 674-3101 • lercasino.com	Daily (\$20, 10a); Mon., Tue., Thurs. \$2.5K guarantee (\$60, 7p); Wed. KO (\$60 w/\$10 bounty, 7p); Sun. \$5K guarantee (\$60, 2p).	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em, Omaha and stud.
LUCKY BUCK/CASINO 580 (925) 455-6144 • theluckymbuck.com	Daily (\$40 w/\$20 rebuys, 7p); Sat & Sun. (\$25, 9:30a). More promotions can be found in our NorCal column on Page 14.	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em (aces full of jacks) and Omaha (quad nines); mega in hold'em is quad eights; royals pay \$200; high hands pay \$100; raffles (daily).
LUCKY CHANCES CASINO (650) 758-2237 • luckychances.com	Mon. (\$120, 9:30a); Tue. (\$175, 9:30a); Wed. (\$65, 9:30a); Thurs. (\$120, 9:30a); Gold Rush series, Nov. 13-20 (\$120-\$1,080) w/main event, Nov. 20 (\$1,080, noon).	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em, Omaha and stud (payouts doubled Sun., Mon., Wed. (6-8p); Aces Cracked pays up to \$300; Rack Attack pays up to \$500.
LUCKY DERBY CASINO (916) 726-8946 • luckyderbycasino.com	Tue. KO (\$75, 6:30p); Sat. & Sun. (\$40, 10a).	Player points accumulated through live play (call for promotions).
MORONGO CASINO (888) 667-6646 • morongocasinosort.com	Daily (\$30-\$97); Mon.-Fri. (10a & 7p); Sat (11a); Sun. (11a & 6p) including Fri. KO (\$97, 7p).	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em and Omaha; Aces Cracked; get paid for royals; high hands.

* SNG = single-table tournaments; all tournaments are no-limit hold'em unless noted. Poker room managers email roth@anteupmagazine.com

CALIFORNIA (Continued)

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS/SPECIAL EVENTS	JACKPOTS/PROMOTIONS
NORMANDIE CASINO (310) 352-3400 • normandiecasi.com	Wed. \$2K guar. (\$50, 7p); Thurs. \$2.5K guar. (\$40 w/\$20 rebuys, 7p); Fri. \$5K guar. (\$90, 7p); Sat. \$3K guar. (\$70, 6p); Sun. \$2K guar. (freeroll w/\$10 rebuys, 1p).	Double bad-beat jackpot (daily); Aces Cracked (daily); cash-back rewards (call for details).
OAKS CARD CLUB (510) 653-4456 • oakscardclub.com	Mon. KO (\$140, 6:15p); Tue. (\$65 w/two \$50 rebuys, 6:15p); Wed. (\$100 w/\$80 rebuy, 6:15p); Sat. (\$120, 11a); Sun. (\$225, 1p); Turkey Shoot, Nov. 12 (\$400, 11a).	Call for promotions.
OCEAN'S 11 CASINO (760) 439-6988 • oceans11.com	Mon. & Wed. (\$60, 10a); Mon.-Thurs. (\$65, 7p); Tue., Thurs. Fri. (\$40, 10a); Sat. & Sun. \$10K guar. (\$135, 10a).	Progressive jackpots in hold'em (\$20K minimum) and Omaha (\$5K minimum); hold'em jackpots increase to \$40K minimum (7:30a-9:30a); cash drawings.
PALA CASINO (760) 510-5100 • palacasi.com	Tue. & Wed. (\$30 w/rebuys & add-on, 7p); Thurs. \$2.5K guarantee (\$70, 7p); Fri. \$2K guarantee (\$40, 7p). Five guarantees in November (call for dates, times, buy-ins).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; Flush Marathon (Mon. & Fri., 9a-11p) splash pots; \$50 high hands; cash giveaways, including \$15K Chase for the Dough.
PECHANGA RESORT (951) 693-1819 • pechanga.com	Mon. & Tue. (\$25, 10a & 7p); Wed. KO (\$25, 10) & (\$30, 7p); Thurs. (\$35, 10a); Fri. (\$25, noon) & (\$50, 10p); Sat. (\$230, 2p); Sun. (\$35, 10a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; Graveyard Easy Money (call for details); splash pots; high hands.
QUECHAN CASINO (877) 783-2426 • playqcr.net	Sat. & Sun. (\$35, 1p); \$1K weekly freeroll on Thursdays (6p).	Aces Cracked (Wed.); Splash the Pot (Mon., Tue., Thurs.); Faces Cracked (Mon.).
SAN MANUEL CASINO (800) 359-2464 • sanmanuel.com	\$33K and \$100K Cash is King freeroll tournaments held regularly – qualify by collecting high-hand stamps in live action (see website for details).	\$100K super bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; double jackpots (Mon. & Wed.); hourly high hand (Tue. & Thurs.); Money Wheel (Fri.).
SOBOBA CASINO (951) 665-1000 • soboba.net	Daily (\$0-\$50), including Thurs. \$2.5K guarantee (\$50, 7p); Sat. \$1.5K guarantee (\$15, 10a & 4p).	Cash giveaways (Sat., 1p-3p & 7p-2a); get paid to play (player comps).
SYCUAN CASINO (619) 445-6002 • sycuan.com	Mon.-Thurs. (\$21 w/rebuys, 10a & \$36, 6:30p); Fri. (\$21 w/rebuys, 10a & \$54, 6:30p); Sat. (\$44, 10a & \$54, 6p); Sun. (\$21 w/rebuys, 10a & \$54, 6p).	Consolation jackpot in Omaha pays \$1K (quad deuces-sevens beaten); Cash Splash (Fri.-Sun.); high hands (Tue. & Wed.); WSOP main event qualifiers (Tue. & Wed.).
TABLE MOUNTAIN CASINO (559) 822-7777 • tmcasi.com	Tue. \$1K guarantee (\$35 w/\$40 rebuy, 7p); Thurs. \$2K guarantee (\$55 w/\$60 rebuy, 7p); tournaments have optional dealer add-on.	Progressive royals; high hands; Monday Night Football Frenzy pays \$250 per quarter and \$250 at the end of each game (qualify with a full house or better).
TACHI PALACE CASINO (559) 924-7751 • tachipalace.com	Mon. & Tue. \$1K guarantee (\$40, 7:15p); Wed. \$1K guarantee (\$50, 7:15p); Fri. & Sat. (\$35 w/\$10 add-ons, 2p).	Aces Cracked (Thurs. & Sun.); Kings Can't Lose (Mon.); \$75 hourly high hands (daily).
THUNDER VALLEY CASINO (916) 408-7777 • thundervalleyresort.com	Mon.-Thurs. (\$40, 1p); Fri.-Sun. (\$60, 11a); Sun. KO (\$100, 7p); \$20K guar., Nov. 5 (\$250, 11a); deepstack, Nov. 13 (\$250, 9a). See ad Page 15 for new series.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; high hands (call for details). Harvest Hold'em Series is Nov. 20-27. See ad on Page 15 for schedule and details.
VIEJAS CASINO (619) 445-5400 • viejas.com	Mon.-Sat. (\$15 w/rebuys, 10a); Mon.-Wed. (\$27, 6:30p); Thurs. (\$40 w/rebuys, 6:15p); Fri. & Sat. (\$47, 6:15); Sun. varies (call for details).	Poker squares; \$7 military nights (Sat.); 2X drawing tickets (call for details).

COLORADO

AMERISTAR BLACK HAWK (720) 946-4020 • ameristar.com/Black_Hawk.aspx	No tournaments.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quads).
GOLDEN GATES CASINO (303) 582-5600 • goldencasinogroup.com	Daily (\$40-\$300) at 10a, noon, 3p and 7p with an event on Sunday (\$100 w/\$100 rebuys, noon); \$10K guarantee monthly freeroll (call for details).	Early bird specials; qualify for poker comps (call for details).
ISLE CASINO BLACK HAWK (303) 998-7777 • black-hawk.isleofcapricasinos.com	Tue. & Thurs. (\$45, 10a); Wed. (\$65, 10a); Fri. (\$75, 2p); Sat. (\$90, noon). See ad on Page 39.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; Super High Hand (Mon.); hourly high hand (Tue.-Thurs.).
LADY LUCK CASINO (303) 998-7777 • isleofcapricasinos.com	Mon.-Fri. (\$40, 7p); Sat. (\$40, 1p & \$60, 5p); Sun. (\$40, 2p & 6p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is a decreasing qualifier; Summers of Cash (Mon.-Thurs., 3p-1a).
LODGE CASINO AT BLACK HAWK (303) 582-1771 • thelodgecasino.com	Daily (\$60) at noon, 3p and 7p; qualify every month for the Tournament of Champions.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (aces full of kings); qualify for Poker Bingo (call for details).
MIDNIGHT ROSE CASINO (719) 286-6060 • triplecrowncasinos.com	Mon. (\$40, 7:30p); Tue. (\$20 w/rebuys, 7:30p); Wed. (\$60, 7:30p); Thurs. (\$60 w/rebuys, 7:30p); Fri. (\$120, 7:30p); Sat. & Sun. (\$60, noon & \$120, 3p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; high-hand jackpot (get entered into grand-prize drawing for winning \$500 or more, call for details).

CONNECTICUT

FOXWOODS CASINO (800) 369-9663 • foxwoods.com	Daily (9a-8p). DeepStack events are Mon.-Sat. (\$120-\$240, 6p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quad eights) and stud (quad deuces).
MOHEGAN SUN CASINO (860) 862-8000 • mohegansun.com	Daily (\$60-\$200) including Wed. (\$120, 7:30p) & Fri. (\$200, 2p); Fall Showdown, Nov. 10-13 (\$120-\$1,100); monthly \$30K guarantee, Nov. 20 (\$330, 10a);	High hands paid every four hours daily, seven days a week; "Add-On" tournaments, Mon. (7:30p) and Tue.-Thurs. (noon).

DELAWARE

DELAWARE PARK (302) 355-1050 • delawarepark.com	Daily (\$20-\$550) at noon, 4p, 7p and 10p including Sat. (9a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em with descending qualifier; mini bad beat; high hand pays up to \$250.
DOVER DOWNS HOTEL & CASINO (302) 674-4600 • doverdowns.com	Mon. & Wed. (noon); Fri.-Sun. (noon & 7p); monthly \$3K freeroll, Nov. 20. See ad on Page 24.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is aces full of jacks; Crushed Quads pays \$500; royals win poker room jacket and the rest of the table gets \$50 (see website for details).
HARRINGTON RACEWAY (888) 887-5687 • harringtonraceway.com	Tue. & Thurs. (\$60, 11a); Sat. (\$60 w/rebuy & add-on, 11a); \$5K guarantee, Nov. 18 (\$115, noon).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is aces full of kings; Splash Pots during football season.

FLORIDA

CALDER CASINO (305) 625-1311 • calderracourse.com/poker	Daily guarantees 11a & 7p (\$40-\$100) w/a \$10K guarantee on Saturdays (\$100, 11a). See ad on Page 5 for Dec. 2-4 \$50K guarantee event.	Flopped progressive straight flushes have five payouts per suit; high hands pay \$100 every 30 minutes (Sun.-Thurs.) & \$500 every 30 minutes (Fri.-Sat.).
DANIA JAI-ALAI (954) 927-2841 • dania-jai-alai.com	Daily (\$40-\$105), including Friday (\$105, 6:30p). See ad on Page 36.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em, Omaha and stud; Win It or Spin It promotion (win up to \$500, call for details).
DAYTONA BEACH KENNEL CLUB (386) 252-6484 • daytonagreyhound.com/pokerroom	Daily (\$25-\$275); Friday Night Lights (\$120, 7p); Sat. DeepStack \$2.5K guar. (\$140, 7p); Sun. Super DeepStack \$7K guar. (\$275, noon). See ad Page 37 for International.	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em, Omaha & stud; power hour high hands; early bird (Mon.-Fri., 10a-1p); Prime Time (Sun.-Fri., 6p-9p); Night Owl (Thurs.-Fri., mid.-3a).
DERBY LANE (727) 812-3339 x7 • derbylanepoker.com	Daily (\$50-\$330) on Sun.-Thurs. (1p, 4p, & 7p) & Fri.-Sat. (1p, 6p, & 8p). See ad on Page 29 for WPT Regional schedule (Dec. 9-20).	Daily cash and prize promotions; high hands; tournament high hands; see website for more promotions. See ad on Page 29.
EBRO GREYHOUND PARK (850) 234-3943 • ebrogreyhoundpark.com	Daily (\$20-\$220) on Sun.-Fri. (8p). Sat. (2p, 8p, midnight); Mega Stack monthly event, Nov. 27 (\$330, 2p). See ad Page 23.	Big Easy Bad Beat is quad fives; Big Easy Backup Jackpot; mini bad beat is aces full of jacks; royal flushes pay \$250.
FT. PIERCE JAI-ALAI & POKER (772) 464-7500 • jaialai.net/poker.php	Mon. (\$75, 7p); Wed. (\$55, 7p); Sat. (\$100, 1:30p); Sun. (\$55, 4p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em, Omaha and stud (see website for rules and payouts); quads pays \$100-\$220 (daily).
GULFSTREAM PARK (954) 457-6336 • gulfstreampark.com	Daily (6:30p); Mon., Fri., Sun. (\$60); Tue. & Thurs. (\$80); Wed. (\$100). Mon.-Wed. tournaments have bounties and Sat. is a rebuy.	Bad-beat jackpot is quad 10s; high hands pay \$500/hour for first three hours (daily); royals pay \$500 (see website for times and payouts). See ad Page 13 for Jeep special.
HAMILTON JAI-ALAI & POKER (800) 941-4841 • hamiltontownsjaialai.com	Almost Freeroll \$600 guarantee Sundays (\$5 w/\$30 add-ons, 3p).	Progressive royal w/hearts paying \$2K; tournament high hand pays \$75; Fri. & Sat. high hand (\$300 for first, \$100 for second).
ISLE CASINO AT POMPAHO PARK (954) 972-2000 x5123 • theislepompanopark.com	Daily (\$100-\$350); Mon.-Wed. & Fri.-Sat. (noon, 7:30p); Thurs. (7:30p); Sun. (noon) including a \$30K guarantee Sun. (\$350, noon). See ad Page 19.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em and Omaha; high-hand jackpots in hold'em and Omaha. Ask about the \$100K Buckets of Cash High Hands Giveaway.
JEFFERSON COUNTY KENNEL CLUB (850) 997-2561 • jckcpokerroom.com	Fridays (\$50, 7:30p, 2K chips, 15-minute levels).	Royal flushes win jackpot.
MAGIC CITY CASINO (305) 649-3000 • flaglerdogs.com	SNGs running daily (\$65-\$800), call for details.	Big Slick Royal Progressive (using ace/king as hole cards); high hands pay \$150; progressive hot table daily pays a minimum of \$500.
MARDI GRAS CASINO (877) 557-5687 x3167 • playmardigras.com	Tue. Omaha/8 (\$100, 7p); Thurs. \$1.5K guarantee freeroll (7p). See ad on Page 43 for details about the Nov. 21 \$1K guarantee freeroll.	Buy a rack, get a \$20 stack (daily, 11a); high-hand jackpots; 26 progressive jackpots; \$250K given away in monthly promos (call for details). See ad on Page 43 for more.

* SNG = single-table tournaments; all tournaments are no-limit hold'em unless noted. Poker room managers email roth@anteupmagazine.com

FLORIDA (Continued)

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS/SPECIAL EVENTS	JACKPOTS/PROMOTIONS
MELBOURNE GREYHOUND PARK (321) 259-9800 • mgpark.com	Mon. (\$65, 1p & 7p); Tue. (\$35, 2p & 7p); Thurs. KO (\$90, 7p); Fri. \$5K guarantee (\$45, 7p); Sat. (\$120, 4p, 10K chips); Sun. (\$65, 1p). See ad below.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; straight flush pays \$100; royals pay \$500; Aces Cracked (Wed.); Spin to Win (Sat., 1p & 3p).
MIAMI JAI-ALAI (305) 633-6400 • fla-gaming.com	Closed for renovations until December.	Closed for renovations until December.
MICCOSUKEE RESORT (877) 242-6464 • miccosukee.com	Friday and Saturday (\$110, 8p). Free buffet for all tournament players.	Spade royal flush pays jackpot; high hands pay \$200 (Sun.-Thurs.) and \$300 (Fri.-Sat.).
NAPLES-FT. MYERS GREYHOUND TRACK (239) 992-2411 • naplesfortmyersdogs.com	Mon. (\$40, noon & NLO \$50, 7p); Tue. (\$50, 7p); Wed. (\$65, 7p); Thurs. (\$65, noon & \$50, 7p); Fri. (\$115, 6p); Sat. (\$115, 2p); Sun. KO (\$125, 2p).	Diamond Big Slick Royal Progressive pays minimum of \$25K; all other royals pay \$1K; high hand (daily); \$1K hourly high hands (Nov. 9, 20 and 30).
OCALA POKER AND JAI-ALAI (352) 591-2222 • ocalapoker.com	Mon. (\$25, 7p); Tue. & Thurs. (\$30, 7p); Wed. & Fri. (\$50, 7p); 1st and 3rd Sat. KO (\$100, time varies); 2nd and last Sat. (\$220, 1p); Sun. (\$30, 4p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em and Omaha; Aces Cracked; high hand; royals pay \$500 (daily).
ORANGE PARK KENNEL CLUB (904) 646-0002 • jaxpokerroom.com	Daily (\$30-\$550) at 1p & 7p w/Sat. KO (\$100, 1p) & Sun. PLO8 (\$80, 1p); WPT, Nov. 16-22 (\$230-\$3,500) w/main event, Nov. 18 (\$3,500, noon, see ad Page 21).	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em, Omaha and stud; royals and steel wheels pay \$250 (spades pay \$500).
PALM BEACH KENNEL CLUB (561) 683-2222 • pbkennelclub.com	Daily (\$30-\$550) at noon & 6:30p; Palm Beach Christmas Classic (Dec. 8-18) w/\$300K guarantee main event and WSOP Circuit in February. See ad Page 31.	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em, Omaha, and stud; \$400 high hands every half hour and mega seats to the December Classic (call for details).
PENSACOLA GREYHOUND TRACK (850) 455-8595 • pensacolagreyhoundtrack.com	Daily (\$50-\$100); Mon., Fri. and Sun. (\$50, 7p); Tue. & Fri. (\$50, 2p); Wed. DeepStack (\$100, 7p); Sat. DeepStack (\$100, 7p). See ad below.	Bad beat in hold'em (quads), Omaha (quad jacks) and stud (quads); full house or better (daily, various times, call for details); mini bad beat (daily, midnight-4a).
SARASOTA KENNEL CLUB (941) 355-7744 x1054 • skcpoker.com	Daily (\$40-\$440), including Fri. (\$110, 1p, 25K chips); Sat. (\$160, 1p, 15K chips, 30-minute levels); DeepStack on first Sat. of month (\$440, 1p). See ad Page 25.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quad deuces); progressive jackpots in all games; \$599/\$299 high hands (Fri.-Sat.). See ad on Page 25.
SEMINOLE CASINO BRIGHTON (866) 222-7466 x121 • seminolecasinobrighton.com	Mon. (\$50, 7p); Wed. (\$50 w/add-on, 6:30p); Sat. (\$50, 7p).	Progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; progressive spade royal flush; club, heart and diamond royals pay \$500; Aces Cracked pays \$100 (Thurs.); get paid for quads.
SEMINOLE CASINO COCONUT CREEK (866) 222-7466 • seminolecoconutcreekcasino.com	Call for information on scheduled single-table tournaments.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
SEMINOLE HARD ROCK HOLLYWOOD (866) 502-7529 • seminolehardrockhollywood.com	Daily (\$35-\$300); WPT Regional Rock and Roll Poker Open runs until Nov. 14 (\$125-\$2,500) w/main event Nov. 11 (\$2,500, noon) See ad Page 7.	Hourly high hands in limit and no-limit (daily); game of the month earns extra rewards (call for details); gift-card promotion for hours played (call for details).
SEMINOLE HARD ROCK TAMPA (866) 502-7529 • seminolehardrocktampa.com	Daily (\$40-\$550), including a deepstack event on Wed. (\$240, 7:30p). See ad on back page for details to WPT Winter Poker Open, Dec. 2-11.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em, Omaha and stud. See ad on back page.
SEMINOLE HOLLYWOOD CLASSIC (866) 222-7466 • seminolehollywoodcasino.com	Call for information on scheduled single-table tournaments.	High hands pay \$300/hour (Mon.-Thurs., 10a-10p); bonus hands (quads or better) win cash prizes (Fri. & Sat., 10a-10p).
SEMINOLE CASINO IMMOKALEE (866) 222-7466 • theseminolecasino.com	Wed. (\$35, 7:30p); Thurs. Omaha/8 (\$50, 7:30p); Fri. HA (\$60, 7:30p); Sat. KO event (\$50, 1p) & DeepStack (\$115, 6:30p); Sun. crazy pineapple (\$30, 4p).	Progressive hand of the day; Fall Splash Pot Frenzy pays \$199 (Tue., 3p-9p). See ad Page 22.
ST. JOHNS GREYHOUND PARK (904) 646-0002 • jaxpokerroom.com	Daily (\$30-\$550, 1p & 7p); Fri. Bounty (\$100, 7p); Sat. Mega Stack (\$225, 7p). See ad on Page 21 for WPT event information.	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em, Omaha and stud; royals and steel wheels pay \$250 (spades pay \$500).
TAMPA BAY DOWNS (813) 298-1798 • tampabaydowns.com	Daily (\$20-\$200); Mon.-Sat. (1p & 7p); Sun. (1p & 4p). See ad on Page 17.	Progressive payouts (quads or better); Mon. pot multiplier (10X, 20X, 40X); \$599/\$299 high hands (Fri.); see ad Page 17 or website for more daily promotions.
TAMPA GREYHOUND TRACK (813) 932-4313 • luckyscards.com	Daily (\$30-\$80); Sun.-Thurs. (2p & 6:30p); Fri.-Sat. (2p, 7:30p). Sunday Challenge, last Sun. of every month (\$115, 1p, 15K chips).	Quads (\$50-\$75), straight flushes (\$150) and royals (\$300) Mon.-Thurs. (4p-11p); \$150/\$50 half-hour high hands, Sat.-Sun. (4p-11p); tourn. high hands.

* SNG = single-table tournaments; all tournaments are no-limit hold'em unless noted. Poker room managers email roth@anteupmagazine.com




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ILLINOIS

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS/SPECIAL EVENTS	JACKPOTS/PROMOTIONS
HARRAH'S JOLIET (815) 740-7480 • harrahsojliet.com	Thursday (\$125, 7p, 4K chips, 20-minute levels); Sunday (\$135, 1p, 5K chips, 20-minute levels).	Mega bad-beat jackpot (quad eights); mini bad-beat jackpot (aces full of kings); get paid for straight and royal flushes.
HOLLYWOOD CASINO AURORA (630) 801-7471 • hollywoodcasinoaurora.com	Wednesday (\$160, 1p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is quad fives.
HOLLYWOOD CASINO JOLIET (815) 927-2175 • hollywoodcasinojoliet.com	No tournaments.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
PAR-A-DICE CASINO (309) 698-6693 • paradicecasino.com	Mon. (\$115, 7p); Sun. (\$115, 11a & \$50, 7p).	No jackpots or promotions.

INDIANA

BLUE CHIP (219) 861-4820 • bluechipcasino.com	Tue. (\$80, 6p); Wed. (\$60, 6p); Fri. (\$80, noon); Sun. (\$80, noon).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; high hand of the hour (Mon.-Thurs, 10a-2p) pays \$50 per hour.
CASINO AZTAR (812) 433-4000 • casinoaztar.com	Monthly event Nov. 13 (\$100, 1p).	Aces Cracked (Sat. & Sun.); Hot Seat (Wed.).
HOLLYWOOD CASINO LAWRENCEBURG (812) 539-8000 • www.hollywoodindiana.com	Daily (\$80-\$150) at 11:15a & 7:15p; Hollywood Fall Classic, Nov. 10-20 (\$150-\$1,600) w/main event Nov. 19 (\$1,600, noon).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; WPT satellite freeroll for top tournament point-earners (call for details).
HORSESHOE HAMMOND (219) 473-6065 • horseshoehammond.com	Tue. & Thurs. (\$100, noon); Fri. & Sun. (\$200, noon).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quads, decreased if not hit) and pays a minimum of \$100K.
HORSESHOE SOUTHERN INDIANA (812) 969-6000 • horseshoe-indiana.com	Daily (\$50-\$81); Mon. (noon); Tue. (noon, 7p); Wed. (7p); Thurs. (noon); Fri. (midnight); Sat. (noon); Sun. (3p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
MAJESTIC STAR II (219) 977-7444 • majesticstarcasino.com	Mon. \$5K/\$10K guar. (call for details); Wed. (\$55, 7p); Thurs. (\$60, 7p); Fri. (\$55, 11a & \$130, 7p); Sat. (\$60, 1p & \$105, 7p); Sun. (\$55, 11a & 3p & \$60, 7p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is aces full of kings; tournament bad-beat jackpot; \$3 rake (call for details).

IOWA

DIAMOND JO CASINO NORTHWOOD (641) 323-7777 • diamondjo.com	Mon. (\$40, 7p); Tue. & Thurs. (\$50, 7p); Sat. (\$60, 3p); monthly event, Nov. 5 (\$115, 11a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
GRAND FALLS CASINO (712) 777-7777 • grandfallscasinoresort.com	Mon. Omaha/8 (\$30, 11a); Thurs. (\$40, 6p); Sat. (\$60, noon).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quads).
HORSESHOE COUNCIL BLUFFS (877) 771-7463 • horseshoecouncilbluffs.com	Mon., Wed., Sat. (\$60, 10a); Tue. (\$60 w/\$60 re-entry, 7p); Thurs. KO (\$70, 7p); Sun. (\$40, 10a & 2p).	High-hand jackpot (quads or better).
ISLE CASINO BETTENDORF (563) 359-7280 • bettendorfisleofcapricasinos.com	Mon. KO (\$60, 6:45p); Tue. & Thurs. (\$40, 6:45p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (aces full of 10s) and Omaha (quad 10s); call for special poker player hotel rates on high volume weekends.
ISLE CASINO WATERLOO (319) 833-2183 • waterlooisleofcapricasinos.com	Mon. (\$45 w/rebuy and add-on, 6:30p); Sunday League Championship, Nov. 14 (\$140); call for details.	High-hand jackpots in hold'em for straight and royal flushes (call for details).

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IOWA (Continued)

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS/SPECIAL EVENTS	JACKPOTS/PROMOTIONS
MESKWAKI CASINO (641) 484-2108 • meskwaki.com	Tue. (\$20 w/rebuys, 7p); Wed. KO (\$45, 7p); Thurs. (\$30, 7p); Sat. & Sun. (\$30, 1p). Heartland Poker Tour is Oct. 30-Nov. 6.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; royal-flush jackpot.
MYSTIQUE GREYHOUND PARK (563) 585-2964 • mystiquedbg.com	Thursday (\$40, 6p); Friday (\$20, 1p); Sunday (\$50, 1p).	Straight flush progressive jackpot in hold'em, Omaha and stud pays 10 jackpots (call for details).
PRAIRIE MEADOWS CASINO (515) 967-8543 • prairiemeadows.com	Tue. (\$30, noon); Wed. (\$30, 7p); Sun. (\$60, noon).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is aces full of jacks losing to quads; straight flush pays \$200.
RIVERSIDE CASINO (319) 648-1234 • riversidecasinoandresort.com	Mon. limit Omaha (\$30, 11a); Wed. KO (\$50, 7p); Thurs. (\$30, 6p); Sat. (\$30, 1p); Sun. Turkey Poker Showdown satellites (\$30, 2p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; player comps (call for details).

KANSAS

NILLA'S (316) 927-2775 • nillasplace.com	Mon., Wed., Fri. (\$20, 7p); Tue. (\$10, 7p); Thurs. H/O (\$20, 7p); Sat. (\$55, 3p & \$40, 7p); Sun. \$2.5K guarantee (\$70, 3p).	Daily drink specials for poker players; ask about charity ring games.
PRAIRIE BAND CASINO (785) 966-7777 • pbggaming.com	Mon. & Thurs. (\$65 w/rebuy, 7p); Thurs. (\$45, noon); Sun. (\$45, 2:15p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.

LOUISIANA

AMELIA BELLE (985) 631-1745 • ameliabellecasino.com	Sunday Poker Challenge (\$50, 1p).	Bad-beat jackpot is quads over aces full of 10s.
BELLE OF BATON ROUGE (800) 266-2692 • belleofbatonrouge.com	Sunday (\$50, 10a).	Bad-beat jackpot is any quads; Aces Cracked (Mon. & Wed., 9a-3p); Aces Cracked happy hour (Mon.-Thurs., 6p-7p); hourly high hand (Tue. & Thurs., 9a-3p).
BOOMTOWN NEW ORLEANS (800) 366-7711 • boomtownneworleans.com	Tuesday freeroll (11a) for 4- or 5-Star Players; Wed. (\$35 w/\$10 add-on, 7p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quads) and Omaha; high hands (Mon. & Wed.); Aces Cracked (Tue. & Thurs.); get paid \$25 for any quads in Omaha (Thurs.).
COUSHATTA CASINO (800) 584-7263 • coushattacasinoresort.com	Daily (\$15-\$230); Tue. (\$15, 6:30p); Thurs. (\$75, 7p); Fri. (\$20 w/rebuys, 7:30p); Sat. (\$220, 2p). See ad on Page 27.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; Big Bonus Hands are progressive.
CYPRESS BAYOU/SHORTY'S CASINO (800) 284-4386 • cypressbayou.com	Wed. (\$40 w/two \$20 rebuys & add-ons, 6:30p); Sun. (\$40 w/\$20 rebuys & \$50 add-on, 1p).	Progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is quads; Aces Cracked pays \$100 (Thurs.); cash games run on non-tournament days.
ELDORADO CASINO SHREVEPORT (318) 220-5274 • eldoradoshreveport.com	Sun. (\$150, 11a); Mon. \$2K guarantee (\$130, 11a); Tue. (\$75 w/\$25 or \$50 rebuy & add-on, 6:30p); Sat. (\$125 w/rebuy & add-on, 11a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quads); Aces Cracked wins \$100 (Mon. & Thurs.); high hand pays \$100 (Thurs.); royals pay \$250 (24/7)
HARRAH'S NEW ORLEANS (504) 533-6000 • harrahsneworleans.com	Wednesdays (\$120, 11a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quads); Aces Cracked.
HOLLYWOOD BATON ROUGE (225) 709-7777 • hollywoodbr.com	No tournaments.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is aces full of 10s beaten by quads.
HORSESHOE CASINO BOSSIER CITY (800) 895-0711 • horseshoebossiercity.com	Mon., Wed., Sat., Sun. (\$100-\$200 w/rebuys & add-ons), including Thursdays (\$200, 6p).	High hands (Sun. & Wed.); Aces Cracked (Mon., Tue., Fri.); Splash Cash (Thurs.). Call for details and times.
ISLE OF CAPRI LAKE CHARLES (337) 430-2407 • lake-charles.isleofcapricasinos.com	Fri. (\$60, noon & \$90, 6:30p); Sat. (\$115, noon); Sun. KO (\$60, 2p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; minor jackpots daily; cash giveaways Mon.-Thurs.
L'AUBERGE DU LAC CASINO (337) 395-7777 • ldlcasino.com	No tournaments.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; player comps earned on a tier basis (call for details).
PARAGON CASINO (800) 946-1946 x1975 • paragoncasinoresort.com	Mon. KO (\$20 w/\$15 rebuys, 7p); Tue. (\$18, 10:30a); Fridays (\$60 w/one \$50 rebuy, 7p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; get paid (24/7) for quads (\$25), straight flush (\$50) and royals (\$125); high hands pay \$50 (Wed.).

MICHIGAN

FOUR WINDS NEW BUFFALO (866) 494-6371 • fourwindscasino.com	Mon.-Fri. (\$25, noon); Mon. (\$30, 7p); Tue. & Thurs. (\$10, 7p); Wed. (\$50, 7p); Fri. (\$30, 7p); Sat. (\$30, noon & \$50, 7p); Sun. (\$30, noon & 4p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
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MINNESOTA

CANTERBURY PARK (952) 445-7223 • canterburypark.com	Mon., Wed., Fri., Sun. (\$45, 10:30a); Tue. & Sun. (\$45, 6:30p); Wed. (\$235, 6:30p); Sat. (\$180, 10:30a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; high hand of the hour (Mon., 9a-mid.); Aces Cracked (Tue., 10a-6p); Pot of Gold pays \$200 to all players.
GRAND CASINO MILLE LACS (800) 626-5825 • grandcasinomn.com	Daily (\$30-\$160), including a Fri. DeepStack (\$160, 6:15p) and Sun. (\$110 w/re-entries, 2:15p); Mid States Poker Tour, Nov. 12-20 w/main event Nov. 19 (\$1,100).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; royals pay \$1K; Aces Cracked (Mon.-Fri., 10a-6p).
NORTHERN LIGHTS CASINO (218) 547-2744 • northernlightscasino.com	Mon. KO (\$30, 6:30p); Tue. (\$30, 6:30p); Thurs. (\$60, 6:30p); Sat. (\$50, noon); Sun. (\$40, 2p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em, Omaha and stud; Aces Cracked (Tue.); high hand (Mon. & Sun.).
RUNNING ACES HARNESS PARK (651) 925-4600 • runningacesharness.com	Mon. freeroll (\$10 optional add-on, 6p); Tue., Thurs., Sun. (\$40, 2p & \$125, 6p); Wed. (\$40, 10:30a); Fri. (\$65, 10:30a); Sat. (\$65, 9:30a); Sat. Series (call for details).	Aces Cracked; progressive running aces board pays up to \$1,700 (call for details).
SHOOTING STAR CASINO (218) 935-2711 • starcasino.com	Tue. (\$30 for ladies & \$40 for men, 7p); Fri. & Sat. (\$45, 7p); Sun. KO (\$60, 2p).	Quad bonus (Mon. & Wed.); bonus high hand (Tue. & Thurs.). Call for details.
TREASURE ISLAND RESORT & CASINO (651) 388-6300 • treasureislandcasino.com	Wed. (\$60, 6p); Thurs. (\$50, 7p); Island Cup Deep Stack events on Mondays (\$70, 6p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; Aces Cracked (Thurs., 10a-6p); get paid for quads (\$44), straight flush (\$75) and royals (\$100).

MISSISSIPPI

AMERISTAR VICKSBURG (601) 630-4996 • ameristar.com/vicksburg	Thursdays (\$70, 7p) with one optional add-on.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
BEAU RIVAGE RESORT AND CASINO (228) 386-7092 • beaurivage.com	Mon.-Thurs. (6p); Tue. & Thurs.-Sun. (noon); The Million Dollar Heater regional series coming Jan. 6-25 (\$330-\$5,175) w/main event Jan. 21 (\$5,175, noon).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; Aces Cracked; Pro Football Squares (call for details).
BOOMTOWN CASINO BILOXI (228) 436-8999 • boomtownbiloxi.com	No tournaments scheduled unless there is enough interest.	Bad-beat jackpot (aces full of kings); mini pays 10% (aces full of jacks); Aces Cracked pays \$100 (24/7) and \$100/\$200 (Mon.-Thurs., 4p-7p).
GOLD STRIKE CASINO AND RESORT (662) 357-1136 • goldstrikemississippi.com	Daily (\$35-\$340). See ad on Page 11 for Winter Poker Classic schedule.	Bad-beat jackpots (call for details); win \$100 every other hour (Mon.-Fri., 3a-10a); get paid to play (25 hours minimum).
HARD ROCK BILOXI (228) 374-7625 • hardrockbiloxi.com	Mon. (\$35, 3p); Thurs. (\$25, 3p); Fri. (\$45, 3p); Sat. (\$50 w/add-on, 3p); Sun. (\$55, 3p).	Bad-beat jackpot (aces full of queens beaten by quads); Hard Rock Jackpot Hands; Four of a Kind Blows My Mind.
HARLOW'S CASINO (662) 335-9797 x144 • harlowscasino.com	Tue. (\$65, 7:30p, 10K chips; 25-minute levels); Fri. (\$35 w/rebuys).	Bad-beat jackpot is aces full of 10s beaten by quads or better; bad-beat bonus (\$10K); mini bad-beat jackpot pays \$2K; Cash for Quads (Wed.); Aces Cracked.
HARRAH'S TUNICA (800) 946-4946 x33760 • harrahsunica.com	Daily at 1p (\$50-\$110), including a Thurs. \$1.1K guarantee (\$35 w/rebuys, 1p) and a Thurs. (\$50 w/one free rebuy, 6p).	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em, Omaha, and stud; progressive royal single-table promotion (call for payouts).
HOLLYWOOD CASINO BAY ST. LOUIS (866) 758-2591 x4026 • hollywoodcasinobs1.com	Monday and Wednesday (\$30 w/rebuys, 6:30p).	High hand wins \$50 (Mon. & Wed.); early bird special and Aces Cracked (\$100) from Fri.-Sun. (10a-2p); Aces Cracked progressive (Tue., 10a-10p) pays up to \$500.
HOLLYWOOD CASINO TUNICA (800) 871-0711 x5005 • hollywoodunica.com	Daily (\$10-\$40). Mon., Wed., Thurs. (6p); Fri. & Sat. (7p); Sat. & Sun. (2p); Sunday \$1K guarantee (\$10 w/rebuys & \$20 add-on, 2p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quads, must be in \$3-\$6 or higher) and Omaha.
HORSESHOE CASINO TUNICA (662) 557-5608 • horseshoetunica.com	Daily (\$65-\$160), including a Saturday \$10K guarantee (\$150, 4p, 10K chips); Sunday super deepstack (\$100, 2p, 15K chips).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is quads; Flush Frenzy (\$100) if you make a flush in every suit during your session.

* SNG = single-table tournaments; all tournaments are no-limit hold'em unless noted. Poker room managers email roth@anteupmagazine.com

MISSISSIPPI (Continued)

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS/SPECIAL EVENTS	JACKPOTS/PROMOTIONS
IP CASINO RESORT & SPA (888) 946-2847 • x8554 • ipbiloxi.com	Daily (\$60, noon) except Thurs. (\$120, noon); WSOP Circuit, Oct. 28–Nov. 8 (\$120–\$1,600) w/main event, Nov. 7 (\$1,600, noon).	Poker Squares pay up to \$1K (Sun. & Mon.); Aces Cracked pays \$100 (Tue. & Thurs., 4p–midnight); high hands pay \$100 hourly (Mon., 8a–4p & Wed., 8a–midnight).
ISLE CASINO HOTEL BILOXI (228) 436-7967 • biloxi.isleofcapricasinos.com	Mon. (\$45, 3p); Tue. KO (\$60, 2p); Wed. KO (\$40 w/rebuy, 7p); Thurs. (\$45, 2p); Fri. (\$60, 3p); Sat. KO (\$60 w/rebuy, 3p); Sun. (\$20 w/rebuy, 7p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em and Omaha and stud; aces full or better special (Sun.–Fri., 10a–midnight).
SAM'S TOWN CASINO TUNICA (800) 456-0711 • samstowntunica.com	Daily (\$20–\$70), including a \$3K guarantee on Saturday (\$20, 7p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is quads; high hands; ticket drawings.
SILVER SLIPPER CASINO (866) 775-4773 x3766 • silverslipper-ms.com	Mon. Turbo KO (\$45, 6p); Thurs. KO (\$75, 7p); Sat. Turbo KO (\$45, noon); Sun. PLO (\$65, 6:30p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em and Omaha; Aces Cracked wins up to \$300 (Tue., Thurs., Fri., Sat.). Splash the Pot (Mon. & Wed.).
SILVER STAR CASINO (PEARL RIVER) (601) 650-1234 • pearlriverresort.com	Daily (\$35–\$60), including a \$2.5K guarantee on Sat. (\$60, 2p). Start times for events are Mon.–Thurs. (7p) & Fri.–Sun. (2p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quads), Omaha (quad sevens) and stud (quads); diamond royals pay \$500.

MISSOURI

AMERISTAR ST. CHARLES (636) 949-7777 • ameristar.com	Mon. & Tue. (\$45 w/rebuys & add-on, 7p); Wed. & Thurs. (\$55, 7p); Fri. (\$75, 7p); Sat. (\$75, 2p); Sun. (\$55, noon).	Progressive high-hand jackpot pays quads, straight flushes and royals.
AMERISTAR KANSAS CITY (816) 414-7000 • ameristar.com	Monday Ladies Only (\$50, 7p); Tue.–Thurs. (\$85, 7p); Fri.–Sun. (\$65, 11a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
BORDERTOWN CASINO (800) 957-2435 • bordertownbingo.com	Daily at 2p and 7p; Mon. (\$20); Tue., Wed., Fri., Sat., Sun. (\$30); Thurs. (\$30/\$45); monthly deepstack event Nov. 12 (\$100 w/\$50 add-on, 7p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; tournament bad-beat jackpot.
HARRAH'S NORTH KANSAS CITY (816) 472-7777 • harrahsnkc.com	Sun.–Thurs. (\$50, 1p & 7p); Fri. & Sat. (\$50, 10a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quads); Aces Cracked pays \$100.
HARRAH'S ST. LOUIS (314) 770-8100 • harrahsstlouis.com	Mon.–Wed. (\$60, 1p & 7p); Thurs. (\$60, 1p & \$160, 7p); Fri. (\$60, 1p & \$125, 7p); every other Sun. (\$60, noon & 5p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em and Omaha.
LUMIERE PLACE (314) 881-7777 • lumiereplace.com	Sun.–Thurs. (\$35, noon); Fri. & Sat. (\$55, noon).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; Aces Cracked (daily).
RIVER CITY CASINO (888) 578-7289 • rivercity.com	Daily (\$35, 3p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; Aces Cracked (daily).

NEVADA

ALIANTE STATION (702) 692-7484 • aliantecasino.com	Daily (\$30, noon); Mon., Tue., Sun. (\$50, 7p); Wed.–Sat. KO (\$65, 7p).	Multiroom Jumbo progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em starts at quad sixes and pays \$100K guaranteed. See ad Page 33.
ARIA (866) 359-7111 • ariallasvegas.com	Twice daily at 1p & 7p (\$125, 8K chips, 30-minute levels).	No jackpots.
ATLANTIS CASINO RENO (800) 723-6500 • atlanticasino.com	Mon.–Thurs. (\$45, 7p); Fri. KO (\$65, 7p); Sat. (\$90, 7p); Sun. KO (\$65, 7p); High Stakes Hold'em main event Nov. 5 (\$1,060, noon).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quads) and pays \$50K; daily high hands; get paid for quads or better; poker-room comp points (call for details).
BALLY'S LAS VEGAS (702) 967-4111 • ballyslasvegas.com	Daily at 11a, 4p and 8p (\$75, 5K chips, 20-minute levels).	High hands pay quads (\$50), straight flush (\$250) and progressive royals (starting at \$1K); Round Table Royals pays \$100–\$500 to entire table when royal hits.
BELLAGIO (702) 693-7111 • bellagio.com	Mon.–Thurs. (\$120, 2p); Fri. & Sat. (\$540, 2p); Sun. (\$330, 2p); Five Diamond World Poker Classic, Nov. 25–Dec. 11 w/\$10K main event, Dec. 6.	No jackpots.
BINION'S GAMBLING HALL (702) 382-1600 • binions.com	Daily (\$60–\$100) at 10a, 2p, 7p and 10p.	High hands; quads pays (\$50); straight flush pays (\$100); royals pay (\$250); Monday Night Football promotion (call for details).
BOULDER STATION HOTEL & CASINO (702) 432-7777 • boulderstation.com	No tournaments.	Multiroom progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em starts at quad sixes and pays \$100K guaranteed; high hand (Wed.); Aces Cracked (Thurs.); \$500 high hand (Sun.).
CAESARS PALACE (702) 731-7110 • caesarspalace.com	Mon.–Fri. (\$65, 9a; \$80, noon; \$65, 3p; \$100, 7p; \$80, 10p); Sat. & Sun. (\$225, 2p); Caesars Classic runs until Nov. 7 (\$130–\$1,100), call for schedule.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em pays \$10K (24/7); high hands; payouts for quads (\$100), straight flushes (\$200) and royals (\$500).
CANNERY CASINO (866) 999-4899 • cannerycasinos.com	Nightly (\$25, 7p); \$10K monthly freeroll (play 40 hours to qualify).	Progressive high-hand jackpot; Aces Cracked (daily).
CIRCUS CIRCUS LAS VEGAS (702) 734-0410 • circuscircus.com	Mon.–Sat. (\$45 w/\$20 add-on, 2p); Sunday freeroll, 2p (play 15 hours to qualify).	High hands; Aces Cracked pays \$50; get paid for quads (\$50), straight flush (\$100) and royals (\$200); football parlay card with quads or better (call for details).
COLORADO BELLE HOTEL CASINO (702) 298-4000 • coloradobelle.com	Daily (\$30, 10a); Mon.–Fri. & Sun. (\$50, 7p); Sat. KO (\$100, 7p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em, Omaha/8 and stud; Aces Cracked pays \$25–\$100 (24/7); Super Beat pays \$10K guaranteed; quads of the day pays \$100–\$400.
ELDORADO HOTEL CASINO (775) 786-5700 • eldoradoreno.com	Tue.–Thurs. (\$60, 6p, 6K chips, 20-minute levels); play in any live hold'em game after tournament and get a \$20 bonus.	Progressive bad-beat jackpots in hold'em and stud; quads or better is paid daily.
EXCALIBUR HOTEL AND CASINO (702) 597-7777 • excalibur.com	Daily (\$25, 9a; \$40, 1p & 5p; \$30, 8p) w/one rebuy and add-on; \$500 first-prize guarantee on Sat. (\$40, 9p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (aces full beaten by quads); spin the wheel pays \$20–\$300 for quads or Aces Cracked.
FLAMINGO LAS VEGAS (702) 733-3111 • flamingolasvegas.com	Daily (\$70, 10a & 6p); Friday freeroll \$1.5K guarantee (9a); monthly freeroll \$5K guarantee with \$200 bounties.	High hand pays quads (\$50), straight flush (\$100) and royal (by suit); Aces Cracked pays \$100 (7a–3p) in limit games.
GOLDEN NUGGET LAUGHLIN (702) 298-7111 • goldennugget.com	Daily (\$45, 8K chips) at 10a, noon, 3p, 7p, and 10p.	Double high-hand progressive (9a–2p); Aces Cracked pays \$50.
GOLDEN NUGGET LAS VEGAS (702) 385-7111 • goldennugget.com	Daily (\$65) at 11a, 3p, 7p, 10p, 1a, and 4a.	High hand between 2a–2p wins twice the jackpot.
GRAND SIERRA RESORT (775) 789-2000 • grandsierraresort.com	Daily (\$25, 9a & \$60, 11a); Sun.–Thurs. (\$60, 6:30p); Fri. KO (\$80, 6:30p).	Aces Cracked pays \$50 (Sun.–Thurs.).
GREEN VALLEY RANCH (702) 617-7777 • greenvalleyranchresort.com	Daily (\$40, 10a); Mon. Omaha/8 (\$40, 7p); Tue. & Thurs.–Sun. (\$40 w/rebuys, 6p); Wed. H.O.R.S.E. (\$40, 7p).	Multiroom progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em starts at quad sixes and pays \$100K guaranteed; progressive quads high hand (daily).
HARD ROCK LAS VEGAS (702) 693-5000 • hardrockhotel.com	Daily (\$55, noon & 8p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quad aces); progressive high-hand jackpot pays quads (\$100), straight flushes (\$100) and royals (\$250).
HARRAH'S LAS VEGAS (702) 369-5000 • harrahsลาสvegas.com	Five tournaments daily: (\$25, 8a); (\$60, 10a, 3p, and 1a); (\$80 w/\$20 bounties, 8p); monthly \$10K guar. freeroll (30 hours minimum to qualify; call for details).	Mini bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is aces full and pays (\$500/\$200/\$50); high hands; Aces Cracked pays \$100 (9a–2p); Splash Pot football promo (call for details).
HARRAH'S LAUGHLIN (702) 298-4600 • harrahsلاughlin.com	Monthly cash-added tournaments (up to \$3K added to prize pools).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is aces full of jacks beaten by quads.
HARVEYS LAKE TAHOE (775) 588-6611 • harvestahoe.com	Daily (\$40, 10a); Mon. & Wed. (\$60, 6p); Tue. & Thurs. (\$80, 6p); Fri. (\$100, 6p); Sun. (\$115, 2p); WSOP Circuit Lake Tahoe, Nov. 10–21 (\$345–\$1,600).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; progressive rewards jackpot is quad nines or better; get paid for straight and royal flushes.
IMPERIAL PALACE (800) 634-6441 • imperialpalace.com	Mon.–Fri. at noon, 3p and 8p (\$40); Sat. & Sun. (\$25 w/rebuys, 9a).	Aces Cracked; get paid for quads (\$50), straight flushes (\$100) and royals (\$250).
LUXOR HOTEL & CASINO (702) 262-4000 • luxor.com	Daily (\$35, 10:30a); (\$60, 12:30p); (\$60, 8:30p).	High hand (24/7) pays quads (\$100), straight flushes (\$200) and royals (\$500).
M RESORT (702) 797-1000 • themresort.com	Daily (\$55, 10a & 6p); Thurs. Ladies Night (\$55, 6p).	Progressive high hand; bad-beat jackpot in Omaha.
MANDALAY BAY (702) 632-7777 • mandalaybay.com	Mon.–Thurs. (\$40, 10a; \$50, 3p & 7p); Fri.–Sat. (\$40, 10a; \$50, 1p; \$100, 5p); Sun. (\$50, 11a & 2p; \$100, 5p).	Tiered high-hand bonus (Mon. & Thurs.) pays to flop it (\$500), turn it (\$250) and river it (\$125); football promotion (Sat. & Sun., 10a–10p); call for details.
MGM GRAND LAS VEGAS (702) 891-1111 • mgmgrand.com	Daily (\$80) at 11:05a & 7:05p.	No jackpots.

* SNG = single-table tournaments; all tournaments are no-limit hold'em unless noted. Poker room managers email roth@anteupmagazine.com

NEVADA (Continued)

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS/SPECIAL EVENTS	JACKPOTS/PROMOTIONS
MIRAGE (702) 791-7111 • mirage.com	Daily (\$60, 11a & 7p).	Static bad-beat jackpot in hold'em includes a table-share payout; Aces Cracked pays up to \$150 (daily, 8a-2p); high hands; flopped royals pays table; football promos.
MONTÉ CARLO RESORT & CASINO (702) 730-7777 • montecarlo.com	Daily (\$50, 9a) & (\$60, 6p & 11p); Thurs. & Fri. (\$40, 2p); monthly freerolls (call for details).	Progressive high-hand jackpot is quads or better; Aces Cracked.
MONTEGO BAY HOTEL & CASINO (775) 664-4000 • wendoverfun.com	Mon. (\$30, 8:30p); Thurs. (\$40, 8:30p); Fri.-Sat. (\$30, noon); Sun. (\$40, 8:30p); all tournaments have rebuys.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; royal-flush jackpot; quads get paid.
THE ORLEANS (702) 365-7111 • orleanscasino.com	Daily (\$75, noon & 7p) except Fri. (\$125, 7p); variations include hold'em, Omaha/8 and H.O.R.S.E.	\$50K progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; tournament player of the month includes top point earners who will receive their share of a progressive prize pool.
PALACE STATION (702) 367-2453 • palacestation.com	No tournaments.	Multiroom Jumbo progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em starts at quad sixes and pays \$100K guaranteed. See ad Page 33; high hand of the hour (Mon.-Fri., 3a-11a).
PALMS CASINO (702) 942-7777 • palms.com	Sun.-Fri. (\$65, 10a); Wed. KO (\$75, 7p).	Early bird promo pays \$25 every hour between 8a-1p; earn up to \$200 per day by playing live cash games.
PEPPERMILL RESORT CASINO (775) 826-2121 • peppermillreno.com	Mon.-Fri. (\$35-\$115) at 2p & 6:30p; Sat. (\$115, 1p & 6:30p); Sun. (\$35 w/rebuys, 1p & 6:30p). See ad Page 49.	High hands; get paid for straight flushes and royals.
PLANET HOLLYWOOD (702) 785-5555 • planethollywoodresort.com	Daily (\$70) at 10a, 2p and 7p.	High-hand jackpots; quads pay \$100; straight and royals are progressive starting at \$250.
RAINBOW HOTEL & CASINO (775) 664-4000 • wendoverfun.com	No tournaments.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; Quadzillas pay \$500; Aces Cracked pays \$100; Splash Pots pays \$50.
RED ROCK CASINO (702) 797-7777 • redrocklasvegas.com	Daily (\$100, 10a); Mon.-Wed. (\$60, 6:30p); Thurs. & Sun. KO (\$70, 6:30p); Fri. Omaha/8 (\$60, 5:30p). See ad Page 45 for January's Red Rock Challenge.	Multiroom Jumbo progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em starts at quad sixes and pays \$100K guaranteed.
RIO CASINO (702) 777-7777 • riolasvegas.com	Daily (\$45, noon); (\$55, 3p); (\$65, 6p); (\$75, 9p); (\$75, midnight).	Progressive royals start at \$1K; cash drawings pay \$100 (5a, 7a, 9a and 11a); Graveyard Trip Comps (daily, 3a-noon) pays \$3 per hour instead of \$1 per hour.
RIVERSIDE RESORT (702) 298-2535 • riversideresort.com	Daily turbo at 10a, 5p and 11:30p (\$15); Mon., Wed., Fri. and Sat. (\$50, 6:30p).	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em and Omaha; Aces Cracked in hold'em and Omaha; high hands pay quads (\$25-\$50), straight flush (\$100), royal (\$300).
RIVIERA HOTEL AND CASINO (800) 634-3420 • rivierahotel.com	Daily (\$60) at 7a, 11a, 7p and 11p; monthly freerolls.	High hands (call for details).
SAM'S TOWN LAS VEGAS (702) 456-7777 • samstownlv.com	Daily (\$23, 10a) & daily (\$30 w/rebuy, 1:30p); Fri.-Sat. deepstacks (\$45 w/rebuy, 7p & 11p); Omaha/8 and pineapple available.	Uncapped progressive high hands; Aces Cracked pays \$50 (midnight-noon & 4p-9p); bad-beat jackpot (aces full of 10s beaten by quads) pays \$10K.
SANTA FE STATION CASINO (702) 658-4900 • santafestationlasvegas.com	Sun.-Thurs. (\$45, 7p); Mon.-Sat. (\$45, noon); Fri.-Sat. (\$45, 6p).	Multiroom Jumbo progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em starts at quad sixes and pays \$100K guaranteed. See ad Page 33; tournament bad beat in hold'em.
SOUTH POINT HOTEL CASINO (702) 796-7111 • southpointcasino.com	Daily KO (\$60) at 10a, 2p and 7p (unlimited re-entries during first hour). See ad on Page 35 for \$125K Christmas Freeroll.	Progressive bad-beat jackpot pays \$25K minimum; players earn comps while playing (call for details).
STRATOSPHERE (702) 944-4915 • stratospherehotel.com	Daily at 11a, 7p and 11p (\$45 w/\$20 add-on).	Royal and straight-flush progressive jackpots; progressive high-hand jackpot; get paid for quads, straight flushes and royals.
SUNCOAST HOTEL & CASINO (702) 636-7111 • suncoastcasino.com	Daily at 10a & 7p; Mon. & Tue. (\$45 w/\$20 add-on, 7p); Wed. & Sun. KO (\$65 w/\$20 bounties, 7p); all 10a tournaments are \$45 w/\$20 add-on.	High-hand bonus for quads or better; earn comp dollars for playing live games.
SUNSET STATION (702) 547-7982 • sunsetstation.com	No tournaments.	Multiroom progressive bad-beat jackpot; Splash the Pot (Tue.); Make 4 Flushes pays \$400 (Mon. & Thurs.); Aces Cracked double the pot (Wed., Sat. & Sun.).
TEXAS STATION (702) 631-1000 • texasstation.com	Thurs. & Sun. (\$25 w/\$20 rebuy, 10a).	Jumbo Jackpot is quad fours beaten.
TREASURE ISLAND (702) 894-7111 • treasureisland.com	Daily (\$50) at 11a, 2p, 7p and 10p; weekly \$2.5K freeroll every Sunday (10a).	High-hand jackpot pays straight flushes (\$100) and royals (\$599); quad spins win up to \$500.
TROPICANA (702) 739-2222 • troplv.com	Daily at 10a, 2p, 8p and midnight (call for schedule).	Player comps; cash giveaways (call for more promos).
TROPICANA EXPRESS (702) 298-4200 • tropicanax.com	Tue. & Thurs. (\$30, 6:30p); Sat. (\$30, 2p).	High hands pay quads, straight flushes and royals; Aces Cracked.
VENETIAN RESORT (702) 414-1000 • venetian.com	Daily (\$120-\$340) at noon & 7p w/ Tue. KO (\$150, 7p); monthly event, Nov. 5 (\$560, noon) Venetian Deep Stack Extravaganza IV runs until Nov. 22 (\$150-\$2,500).	No jackpots.
WENDOVER NUGGET HOTEL & CASINO (702) 770-7000 • wendovernugget.com	Tue. (\$10 w/\$10 rebuys, 7p); Thurs. (\$20 w/\$10 rebuys, 8p); Fri. (\$50, 8p); Sat. (\$50, 8p); Sun. (\$40 w/\$10 bounty, 3p).	Call for promotions.
WYNN LAS VEGAS (702) 770-7000 • wynnlasvegas.com	Daily (\$120, 7p); Sun.-Fri. (\$150, noon); Sat. (\$340, noon).	No jackpots.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

THE LODGE AT BELMONT (877) 872-2501 • thelodgeatbelmont.com	Daily (\$5-\$50). Times vary by day (1p, 4p, 4:30p, 5p, 7p). Big-stack events on Saturdays (\$50, 7p, 15K chips).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (call for details).
MANCHVEGAS POKER (603) 668-6591	Daily (\$5 w/rebuys-\$60); Mon.-Fri. (5:30p & 8p); Sat. & Sun. (noon, 4p & 8p).	No jackpots.
POKER ROOM AT HAMPTON FALLS (603) 601-2486 • thepokerroomnh.com	Daily (\$80-\$150) at 11a (Sat.), 1p (Fri.-Sun.), 3:30p, 4p (Sat.-Sun.), 5:30p, 7:30p and 9p).	High hands pay \$50 (Fri.-Sun.); royals pay \$100 (Mon.-Thurs.); Aces Cracked pays \$25 (Mon.-Thurs.); call for details.
RIVER CARD ROOM (603) 249-5548 • riverpokerroom.com	Daily (\$5-\$60). Times vary by day. Many of the tournaments have optional rebuys and add-ons. See website for complete schedule.	Mini-Monster (Wed. & Fri.); River 4,000 (call for details).
ROCKINGHAM PARK (603) 898-2311 • rockinghampark.com	Daily (\$50-\$150). Start times vary from 2p-9p (see website for schedule).	Call for future jackpots and promotions.
SEABROOK GREYHOUND PARK (603) 474-3065 • seabrookgreyhoundpark.com	Daily (\$30-\$200); tournaments times vary (see website for complete schedule); Sat. deepstack (\$100, 1:30p); Sun. (\$140, 1:30p).	Call for future jackpots and promotions.

NEW JERSEY

BALLY'S ATLANTIC CITY (609) 340-2000 • ballysac.com	Daily (\$55-\$80); Mon.-Thurs. & Sat. (1p & 7p); Fri. (1p & 7p); Sun. (1p & 6p); winners of each tournament will be invited to the \$10K TOC freeroll.	Harrah's AC multiroom bad beat starts at quad queens and decreases every Wed. if it doesn't get hit.
BORGATA HOTEL CASINO (609) 317-1000 • theborgata.com	Daily (\$100-\$340); \$10K guarantee (Mon.-Sun.), \$30K guarantee (Wed. & Fri.); Fall Poker Open, Nov. 9-23 (call for schedule).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is quad 10s; mini bad beat in hold'em is quad deuces-nines.
CAESARS ATLANTIC CITY (609) 348-4411 • caesarsac.com	Sun.-Thurs. (\$120, 1:15p & 9:15p); Fri. (\$120, 1:15p & \$200, 9:15p); Sat. (\$200, 1:15p & 9:15p); winners of each tournament will be invited to the \$10K TOC freeroll.	Harrah's AC multiroom bad beat starts at quad queens and decreases every Wed. if it doesn't get hit.
HARRAH'S ATLANTIC CITY (609) 441-5000 • harrahsresort.com	Daily at 10:15a, 1:15p, 8:15p and midnight (\$70-\$125); winners of each tournament will be invited to the \$10K TOC freeroll.	Harrah's AC multiroom bad beat starts at quad queens and decreases every Wed. if it doesn't get hit.
SHOWBOAT ATLANTIC CITY (609) 343-4000 • showboatcasino.com	Sun.-Thurs. (\$65, 11a, 2p, 7p); Fri. (\$65, 11a, 2p); Sat. (\$100, 11a, 2p, 7p); nightly (\$50, 11p); winners of each tournament will be invited to the \$10K TOC freeroll.	Harrah's AC multiroom bad-beat jackpot starts at quad Queens and decreases every Wednesday if it doesn't get hit; Sun. & Mon. night football promos (call for details).
TROPICANA ATLANTIC CITY (609) 340-4000 • tropicana.net	Daily (\$62, 11:15a & 7:15p), including a Fri. (\$122, 7:15p) and Sat. (\$122, 11:15a & 7:15p); midnight tournaments run Sun.-Thurs. (\$42) & Fri.-Sat. (\$62).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is quads; "3-8" special promotion jackpot (call for details); tournament bad-beat jackpot is quads over aces full of kings.
TRUMP TAJ MAHAL CASINO RESORT (609) 449-1000 • playtajpoker.com	Daily (\$50-\$230) at 12:15p, 4:15p, 7:15p, & midnight, including two deepstacks on Saturdays (\$230, 7:15p) & (\$120, 4:15p & midnight).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quads); high hands are entered into drawings to win \$1K, 50-50 club (call for details).

NEW YORK

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS/SPECIAL EVENTS	JACKPOTS/PROMOTIONS
SENECA NIAGARA (877) 873-6322 • senecaniagaracasino.com	Mon.-Wed. (\$60, 11a & 7p); Thurs. (\$90, 6p); Sat. & Sun. (\$60, noon).	Progressive bad beat jackpot in hold'em (quad deuces), Omaha (quad nines) and stud (quad sevens); Preferred Player Rewards (call for details).
SENECA SALAMANCA (877) 860-5130 • senecagames.com	Mon.-Wed. (\$60, 11a & 7p); Thurs. (\$90, 6p); Sat. & Sun. (\$60, noon); monthly event, Oct. 4 (\$150, 7p).	Progressive bad beat jackpot in hold'em (quad deuces), Omaha (quad nines) and stud (quad sevens); Preferred Player Rewards (call for details).
TURNING STONE RESORT (800) 386-5366 • turningstone.com	Mon.-Thurs. (\$60-\$100) at noon & 7p; Fri. (\$70, 2p & \$90, 7p); Sat. (\$100, 11a & \$125, 7p); Sun. (\$125, 11a & \$70, 7p); Super Stack Hold'em Series, Nov. 25-Dec. 4.	Bad-beat jackpot is in hold'em (quad deuces); royals pay \$100.

NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA

HARRAH'S CHEROKEE (N.C.) (828) 497-7777 • harrahsherokee.com	Tuesday (\$60, 6p); Saturday (\$120, 10a); Sunday (\$120, 2p).	Call for information.
SUNCRUZ (S.C.) (843) 280-2933 • suncruzaquasino.com	Tuesday (\$220, 7p); daily freerolls (call for schedule).	Bad-beat (aces full of jacks beaten by quads); get paid for quads (\$50), straight flush (\$100) royals (\$200).

OKLAHOMA

CHEROKEE CASINO ROLAND (800) 256-2338 • cherokeecasino.com	Mon. (\$50, 7p); Wed.-Sun. (\$30 w/rebuys, 1p); Wed. \$2K guarantee (\$60, 7p); Thurs. (\$60, 7p); Fri. (\$60, 7p); Sat. (\$60 w/rebuys, 5p); Sun. (\$60, 5p).	High hands; get paid for quads (\$50), straight flushes (\$100) and royals (\$250).
CHEROKEE WEST SILOAM SPRINGS (918) 422-5100 • cherokeecasino.com	Daily (\$30-\$80, 7p); Mon., Wed., Fri. (\$30, 10a); Tue., Thurs., Sat. (\$50, 10a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em pays \$10K.
CHOCTAW RESORT CASINO (580) 920-0160 • choctawcasinos.com	Mon.-Fri. (\$60-\$115) at 2p & 7p; Sat. (\$225, noon).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is quads.
DOWNSTREAM CASINO RESORT (918) 919-6000 • downstreamcasino.com	Daily (\$25-\$60); Mon.-Sun. (11a); Mon.-Thurs. (7p); Fri. (2p); Sat.-Sun. (3p). Heartland Poker Tour, Oct. 13-24 (See ad Page 41).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; tournament bad-beat jackpot.
FIRELAKE GRAND CASINO (405) 964-7263 • firelakegrand.com	Mon. (\$30, 11a & \$30 w/rebuys, 7p); Tue.-Wed. (\$15, 11a & \$50, 7p); Thurs. (\$50, 7p); Fri. (\$30, 11a & \$70, 6p); Sat. (\$120, 2p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
FIRST COUNCIL CASINO (580) 448-3015 • myfirstwin.com	Tue. \$1K guar. (\$25 w/\$20 rebuys, 7p); Wed. \$1K guar. (\$40, 7p); Thurs. \$1.5K guar. (\$65, 7p); Sat. \$1.2K guar. (\$55, 3p); Sun. (\$70, 3p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; splash pots pay \$100; high-hand bonuses.
HARD ROCK TULSA (918) 384-7800 • hardrockcasinotulsa.com	Daily; ask about future satellites to major events, including Hard Rock Open (Oct. 27-Nov. 6).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em pays \$10K.
OSAGE MILLION DOLLAR BARTLESVILLE (877) 246-8777 • milliondollarelm.com	Mon.-Fri. (\$30 w/\$10 rebuys and add-on, 2p); Sat.-Sun. KO (\$30, 1p); \$5K quarterly freeroll tournament (call for details).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
OSAGE MILLION DOLLAR TULSA (877) 246-8777 • milliondollarelm.com	Daily, \$40, except Saturday KO (\$60, noon); Mon.-Fri. (noon); Tue.-Thurs. (7:30p); Monday PLO (7:30p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
RIVER SPIRIT CASINO (918) 299-8518 • creeknationcasino.com	Sun.-Fri. (\$50, 9:30a); Mon. (\$40 w/rebuys and add-on, 7p); Tue. (\$50, 6p); Wed. (\$60, 7p); Thurs. & Sun. KO (\$70, 7p); Sat. KO (\$70, 9:30a); \$10K guar., Nov. 26 (10a).	Progressive bad beat in hold'em is quads; Omaha bad-beat jackpot pays \$5K; progressive tournament bad-beat jackpot; progressive royal flush; Hot Seat promo.
RIVERWIND CASINO (405) 322-6000 • riverwindcasino.com	Daily (\$40-\$100) at 11a; Sun.-Thurs. (7p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
WINSTAR WORLD CASINO (580) 276-4229 • winstarcasinos.com	Mon. (\$115, 7p); Tue. (\$100, 7p); Wed. (\$60, 1p); Thurs. KO (\$115, 1p); Fri. (\$220, 11a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (aces full of kings).

PENNSYLVANIA

HARRAH'S CHESTER (800) 480-8020 • harrahschester.com	Daily (\$60-\$195). Starting times are Mon.-Fri. (10:30a & 6:30p) and Sat.-Sun. (11:30a & 6:30p); Philly Poker Championship, Nov. 8-13 (call for schedule).	Bad beat in hold'em (call for details).
HOLLYWOOD PENN NATIONAL (717) 469-2211 • hcpcn.com	Mon.-Fri. (\$85, noon); Wed. & Thurs. (\$60, 7p); Sat. Survivor (\$150, 11a); Sun. deepstack (\$200, 11a); Sun. KO (\$125, 7p); SNGs available.	Call for future jackpots.
MEADOWS CASINO (724) 503-1200 • meadowsgaming.com	Daily (\$40-\$225); Mon.-Sat. (10:30a & 7:30p) including Fri. (4p), Sat. (3p) and Sun. (1p and 2p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
MOHEGAN SUN/POCONO DOWNS (570) 831-2100 • mohegansunpocono.com	Daily (\$60); Mon.-Fri. (noon & 7p), Sat.-Sun. (10a & 7p); Tue. KO (\$120, 7p).	High-hand promotion (call for details).
MOUNT AIRY CASINO (570) 243-5184 • mtairycasino.com	Fridays (\$100, 10a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is aces full of kings.
PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS & CASINO (866) 374-3386 • eriecasino.com	Daily shootout tournaments (call for schedule).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
PARX CASINO (215) 639-9000 • parxcasino.com	Tue. (\$120, 7p); Wed. (\$120, noon); Thurs. (\$120, 7p); Sat. (\$230, noon); \$50K freeroll (minimum of 60 hours play from Nov. 1-30), Dec. 4 (11a).	Call for details.
RIVERS CASINO (412) 231-7777 • theriverscasino.com	Daily (\$65-\$555). Sun.-Fri. (noon & 7p); Sat. (noon).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (aces full of jacks).
SANDS CASINO BETHLEHEM (877) SANDS-77 • sandsbethworks.com	No tournaments.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quads).

WEST VIRGINIA

HOLLYWOOD AT CHARLES TOWN (800) 795-7001 • ctowntables.com	Tuesday (\$150, 11a); Wednesday (\$250, 7p).	None.
MARDI GRAS CASINO AT TRI-STATE (800) 224-9683 • tristateracetrack.com	Daily (\$45-\$150); Mon. (1p); Tue. (7p); Wed. (7p); Thurs. (1p & 7p); Sun. (2p).	Bad-beat jackpots in Omaha and stud.
MOUNTAINEER RIVER POKER ROOM (304) 387-8458 • mountaineerpoker.com	Daily (\$25-\$100) at 12:15p & 7:30p except Wed. (10:30a) & Sun. (2p).	Bad beat is aces full of kings; high hands pay \$100 (call for details).
WHEELING ISLAND CASINO (304) 232-5050 • wheelingisland.com	Mon.-Thurs. (\$40, 7p); Fri. Turbo (\$50, 7p); Sat. KO (\$75, 7p); Sun. KO (\$50, 7p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; quads or straight flush lets you spin the wheel; early bird special (Mon., Tue., Thurs.).

WISCONSIN

POTAWATOMI BINGO CASINO (414) 645-6888 • paysbig.com	Monday KO (\$110, 6p); Sunday (\$110, 2p); \$100K guarantee Autumn Feast event, Nov. 13 (\$550, 10a).	None.
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* SNG = single-table tournaments; all tournaments are no-limit hold'em unless noted. Poker room managers email roth@anteupmagazine.com



Q&A

WITH TAYLOR VON KRIEGENBERGH

The WPT Hard Rock Showdown champ chats with *Ante Up*'s Todd Lamansky about his start in poker, what it's like being mentioned in the same category as some of the game's current stars and he gives advice for aspiring pros: "You have to remember, it's just a freakin' game."

How long have you been playing poker? I started playing poker at the dinner table with my grandparents back when I was six. They were trying to teach me how to count. My family's always been a gambling family so, of course, they showed me all of the old-school games, real poker, five-card draw, seven-card stud. All those games and that's when it first got in my blood, when I was real young. And I used to play at all the family parties. I just always loved poker.

And at what point did the hobby become a profession? I'd just graduated from college, my family was pressuring me to get a job, and I pretty much knew in January of this year that I either had to start winning money in poker or go get a job in an office. So I put a little bit of money on PokerStars and I won a \$50 satellite to go to a \$5K tournament in Brazil. I lost that, but I played another \$11 rebuy satellite immediately afterward; I was pretty much broke too; I didn't have much money at all, and I got first out 180 people and that gave me a seat to the Big Event in Los Angeles, where I got fourth place for \$140,000. That's kind of how this all got started.

How has your life changed since winning \$1.1 million in the WPT Seminole Showdown in May? It's weird... it really hasn't changed that much. I was kind of thinking about it today; I was saying to myself, "I've got to be, like, one of the lamest WPT champs out there." I haven't bought a car; I'm still driving my 2000 Buick. (laughs) I haven't even moved out of my house, like, I don't know even know what the hell I'm doing. I want to get a place back home, but when I go back home, I stay at my freakin' house, you know? I mean, I bought a house (in Florida) so that was cool, that's different. I definitely couldn't have done that. I paid off all my student loans. Who would have ever thought I could freakin' do that? Let me tell ya, a lot of the professors would never have thought that I would have been the kid with the most money made this soon after graduating.

What poker players do you look up to? Off the top of my head, I think of guys like Eugene Katchalov and Jason Mercier. Eric Seidel's been amazing

this year, too. You know, these guys are going day-in, day-out, playing every tournament, and they play all types of games. I don't know how they do it. Their work ethic is just through the roof. They rebound so fast from losses. It seems like they're playing their A-game all the time, and I don't know, they just handle themselves the right way.

Speaking of those guys, how does it feel to be in the running for player of the year? Honestly, I don't even deserve to be named in the same category as those guys, but ... it's definitely an honor. It's pretty damn cool to be on that list, let's put it that way.

How did it feel to be on the cover of *Ante Up*? It's awesome. I never thought my face would be on a magazine cover that is seen all around the U.S. It's still like a dream to me to be honest. Definitely surreal.

What advice do you have for aspiring pros? To make money in this game, I feel like you've got to enjoy the game and you've got to soak up the moment while you're playing. Don't be dwelling on all the other shit going on. Don't be worrying about problems at home. You can't be playing at the table worrying about whether you're gonna go broke. Don't put your last dollar up on the table unless you're prepared to lose it, you know?

If you're an up-and-coming poker player, you should follow some bankroll management. And when you play, just try to focus and play every hand to the best of your ability. And remember, it's just a game. You have to remember it's just a freakin' game. So many people lose their lives over this game. It's crazy. I mean, I've got some friends that, literally, they're only happy in life if they win in this game, and I can be that way a little bit, too, but you have to have some things outside of poker to keep your life balanced.

Keep it all in perspective? Exactly. If you're a negative person, this is not the right industry for you. You're gonna have a long, miserable life. Find the positive people. Find a good group of friends you can travel with and play with and, you know, like you said: keep it in perspective. It's just a f-----' game. ♠



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SATURDAY & SUNDAY, DEC. 3-4 EVENT 2

NO LIMIT HOLD'EM DEEP STACK

11AM • Two Day Event

20,000 Units • 40 Minute Blind Levels

\$75,000 GUARANTEED PRIZE POOL

\$690 + \$60

FRIDAY, DEC. 9 - DAY 1A • SATURDAY, DEC. 10 - DAY 1B SUNDAY, DEC. 11 - FINAL DAY EVENT 7

NO LIMIT HOLD'EM CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT

11AM • Three Day Event

30,000 Units • 40 Minute Blind Levels

\$250,000 GUARANTEED PRIZE POOL

\$2,000 + \$200 + \$50

For full tournament schedule and details, visit seminolehardrocktampa.com/poker



TAMPA



Must be 18 years old to play. See Poker Room Brush Stand for complete details. Management reserves the right to change or cancel this offer without notice based on operational and/or business concerns. Persons who have been trespassed or banned by the Seminole Tribe of Florida or have opted into the self-exclusion program are not eligible. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, please call 1.888.ADMIT.IT.

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