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YOUR POKER MAGAZINE™

GULF COAST CHAMPIONSHIP

Ali Alawadhi wins the main event, capping another successful series at the Beau Rivage in Mississippi

Road Trip: Reno, Tahoe, Laughlin

Navarro's tells

Delaware Park's world record



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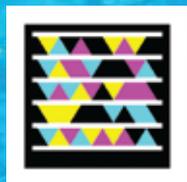
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OUR MISSION

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



Christopher Cosenza

Scott Long

DON'T FORGET LIVE POKER

Somewhere in a plush boardroom in the middle of Washington, D.C., the U.S. Congress "debt supercommittee" is meeting today with an aggressive mandate to save our country from financial peril.

Several congressional watchers say this committee is the best opportunity online poker supporters have had (or perhaps will have) to see the industry recognized and supported by the federal government. When the amount you're trying to save is not millions, not even billions, but a trillion, any possible revenue source, and especially an expansive one like online poker, is sure to get thoughtful consideration.

But a reader of *Ante Up* recently wrote us inquiring why all the hub-bub in Washington is over online poker. If poker is a game of skill, as we all know it is, why not write a federal law allowing for it to be played not only online, but live, anywhere from sea to shining sea?

Ante Up always has focused on live poker and the great rooms in our country where men and women can look opponents in the eye. So count us among those who would support that idea enthusiastically. But also count us among those who know the odds of legislation like that to be longer than even those facing online poker.

Despite all of this, there is cause of optimism that we'll see live poker spread from state to state. On Page 16, Kay Fitzpatrick, *Ante Up*'s Northeast Ambassador, tells you about Massachusetts' determined effort to legalize casinos and live poker. If that push comes to fruition, Massachusetts will be only the latest domino in the spread of gaming in America. And it's unlikely to be the last.

We're never fond of the "times are tough, so let's legalize gaming" sentiment. We believe it's entertainment that's acceptable and desirable regardless of the economic climate, but the reality is movements like this catch fire when times are tough. And times are tough.

So while we doubt we'll see a federal bill authorizing live poker everywhere, optimism exists that more states will see the fallacy in resisting offering this great game to its residents. We're in the midst of a "sweet spot" where opposition to poker is literally melting before our eyes. It's up to each of us to write our state and federal lawmakers to make sure they know this is an opportunity they shouldn't miss.

We'll see you at the tables.

— Christopher Cosenza and Scott Long

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NEW	7pm	\$75 (\$60 + \$10 + \$5)	\$2,500 w/\$25 bounties & re-entries	5,000
Thursdays	11am	\$40 (\$30 + \$5 + \$5)	\$1,000 w/ \$10 bounties & re-entries	3,000
NEW	7pm	\$50 (\$40 + \$5 + \$5)	\$1,500 w/ \$10 bounties & re-entries	4,000
NEW Fridays	11am	\$75 (\$60 + \$10 + \$5)	\$2,500 w/\$25 bounties & re-entries	5,000
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CONTENTS

ARIZONA

"Packy" Paulson wins the Arizona State Championship at Talking Stick. **10**

ATLANTIC CITY

Hurricane Irene all at once wreaks havoc on A.C. and creates a safe haven. **14**

CALIFORNIA

L.A.: Phyllis Caro started trends and set milestones in poker history; now she's a Hall-of-Famer. **8**

SoCal: Pala's Summer Open saw plenty of chops. **8**

NorCal: The Bay 101 Open featured a nice mix of events. **10**

CHICAGOLAND

Horseshoe Hammond's summer main event goes to Jose Torres. **42**

COLORADO

The World Poker Tour lands at the Isle Black Hawk on Oct. 5. **38**

KENTUCKIANA

The Hollywood Casino crowns Indiana's best poker player at the ISPC. **44**

LOUISIANA

Phil Hellmuth shows up for a special event to help kick off L'Auberge's new room. **26**

MID-ATLANTIC

Delaware Park sets a world record for poker tournament longevity. **24**

RENO-TAHOE-LAUGHLIN



When you think of Nevada poker think of Reno, Lake Tahoe and Laughlin, too. If not, you're missing out on great poker and beautiful scenery. **48-50**

ON THE BUTTON

Poker pro Maria Ho has had her hands in a lot of projects lately, but she found time for *Ante Up*. **70**

ANTE UP POKER CRUISE



Why does *Ante Up* senior strategy columnist Lee Childs have his arms raised in a V? Did he win another WSOP Circuit ring? No! He's excited to be aboard the Ante Up Poker Cruise! Take a pictorial look back at the great time had by all. **52-53**

• If you want to join Lee on our next poker cruise out of New Orleans turn to Pages 2-3.

MINNESOTA

Minnesota poker rooms have creative ways to simulate NLHE cash games. **44**

MISSISSIPPI

Smilin' Don Norman is an "adopted" local guy, and has a nice run at the GPC. **28**

MISSOURI

Paul Harris' passion for poker shows up in his podcast with pro Dennis Phillips. **42**

NEVADA

Las Vegas: Yes, there are games other than no-limit hold'em in Sin City. **32**

• Jeremy McLaughlin uses something he heard on TV to help boost his career. **34**

Reno: Margie Heintz began as a dealer, now she's a Hall-of-Famer **34**

• We recap Peppermill's Chop Pot Classic. **36**

NORTHEAST

It looks like Massachusetts may finally get casinos and, of course, poker! **16**

OKLAHOMA

Bronson Tucker wins the main event to cap WinStar's River Poker Series. **40**

PENNSYLVANIA

East Pa.: McLean Karr wins the Parx Open Poker Classic main event. **12**

West Pa.: Presque Isle Downs opens its nine-table poker room Oct. 3, plus look for Chris MoneyMaker at the official launch Oct. 14-15. **14**

STRATEGY

JONATHAN LITTLE

In the latest excerpt from his new book, Mr. Little says you can't just wait for big hands. **54**

JOE NAVARRO

Did you know even your jaw can give off poker tells? **55**



ANTONIO PINZARI

You need to learn the differences between intuition and reasoning at the poker table, then act appropriately. **57**

LEE CHILDS

Tackling the core realities and simple math of poker can make all the difference. **56**



DECEMBER 1 - 11, 2011

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Tournament Schedule

Date	Day	Event #	Game Type	Time	Buy-in	Entry Fee
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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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A look at the Los Angeles poker scene

PHYLLIS CARO: TRENDSETTER, HALL-OF-FAMER

Phyllis Caro's legacy is secure, being inducted into the Women in Poker Hall of Fame at the Golden Nugget in Las Vegas on Sept. 2, joining the likes of **Barbara Enright** and **Jennifer Harman**.



DAVE PALM

Originally from New York, Caro ended up in Las Vegas after college because of "a guy." She started playing seven-card stud to pass the time and found it was a profitable pastime. She doesn't get to play much these days, though. She's an accomplished player, making the final table of the World Series of Poker ladies event in 1978, but she knows her induction was for her contributions to poker and not what she has taken from it.

She eventually moved into dealing. From 1979-84 she dealt at the El Cortez, the Aladdin and eventually the Golden Nugget. She convinced the Stardust to spread Texas Hold'em after the Aladdin closed its room in 1981. In 1984, she dealt the final hand of the World Series of Poker Main Event for **Jack Keller's** victory.

It was in 1983 while dealing at the Nugget that she heard about a high-roller who had the high-limit game raised from \$10-\$20 to \$20-\$40 and \$30-\$60. She also read an article written by the same guy that said dealers were obsolete and with the advancements in artificial intelligence, would eventually be replaced.

"Who is this (expletive) who is knocking my livelihood?" Phyllis said. "That's how I met him. I hated him." After a while they started flirting at the table. That guy was **Mike Caro**.

In 1984 he landed a position at the Bicycle Club in Los Angeles,

which was due to open shortly. Phyllis accepted a job as dealer coordinator. As one of the original employees, she was in on the ground floor of the planning and opening.

"Mike was offered something at another casino," she said. "They said, 'You want to leave? Go ahead, but you can't take Phyllis.' That's how it started. They appreciated my work ethic or whatever. I was there entrenched in the Bike for the 10 years that I was there. I moved up the ranks. I started off as dealer coordinator, which is the dealer supervisor. Then the tournament director left. Next thing I know I'm the first woman tournament director."

One of her achievements in that role was instituting a non-smoking policy for tournaments, making it the first club to do so. In 1989 she ran a tournament series that had an event with 861 runners, a number unheard of at the time. She also started the Queen of Hearts, the first women's tournament at the Bike, which still runs today. She eventually moved up to vice president of casino operations, becoming the first woman to hold a VP title at a major card club.

In 1995 she left the Bike to become director of poker at Hollywood Park, a position she still holds. During our interview she handled numerous issues from members of her team and made sure to mention Hollywood Park is in the first phase of a huge remodeling project.

The poker room should move to the newly finished section of the casino this month, and with this Hall-of-Famer at the helm you just know this new room will be worth checking out.

— **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

Pala Summer Open features quite a few chops

The second annual Pala Summer Open (Aug. 13-17) included a wide variety of tournaments culminating with the Quest for the Cup main event that featured a \$135 buy-in, three days of qualifying, 244 entries and a \$24,400 prize pool.



KITTIE ALEMAN

Nick Spiteri of Vista, Calif., captured his second title at Pala (he won this trophy in May, too) over **Kelly Sprunkle**. During heads-up play Spiteri raised on the button with A-K. Sprunkle, who held J♥-7♥, went all-in and Spiteri called. The final

board was A♣-4♥-3♠-6♣-Q♣. Spiteri pocketed nearly \$6,500 for the victory as Sprunkle earned \$3,855 for second.

The series kicked off with a Ladies International Poker Series event. **Diana Radford** of Seattle took first place in an event that attracted 49 players and generated a \$4,900 prize pool. She earned \$925 and a seat to the LIPS Grand Championship (valued at

\$230) in Las Vegas.

Event 2 was an \$80 buy-in with \$10 bounties. It drew 89 entries for \$6,230 prize pool, which was chopped 10 ways.

Event 3 saw another 10-way chop, a popular theme in this series, as the \$55 Survivor tournament had 100 entries for a \$5,500 prize pool. Each player earned \$550.

Gilbert Gorou of San Diego and **Josh Hickock** of Poway captured Event 4, a tag-team NLHE tournament that had 50 teams. They won \$1,000.

Event 5, a \$55 turbo, had a 10-way chop, giving the final 10 players \$500 each.

Though a deal was made when the six-max Event 6 reached seven-handed play, chipleaders **Dan McGettrick** and **Don Devore**, both of Temecula, each won \$1K as the remaining five players each earned \$600.

These days you don't find much no-limit Omaha, but Event 7 was an \$80 NLO tournament with 50

players, and again a 10-way chop earned \$500 each.
— **Kittie Aleman is Ante Up's Southern California Ambassador. Email her at anteupkittie@gmail.com.**



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



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KARCIE CAPTURES BAY 101 OPEN MAIN EVENT

The end of summer saw a great turnout for the Bay 101 Open in San Jose. Famous tournament director **Matt Savage** returned to his home turf to give **Brian Gudin** a hand with the series, which drew more than 400 players for just the championship event.



BRET MILLER

In the first tournament, \$345 no-limit hold'em, **Eric Schafer** bested a field of 268 to take down \$21,700.

On Day 2, the action switched to \$345 Omaha/8 as 134 players began the day only to see **Cuong Leong** hoist the trophy and pocket \$13,280 for first place.

It was back to \$345 NLHE on Day 3, but there was a slight twist in that the final 36 played six-handed. San Jose's **Don Santos** outlasted the field of 185 for an \$18K payday.

Event 4, a \$345 NLHE bounty tournament, attracted 237 players. With one-third of the prize money paid in bounties, \$12,810 was left for first-place finisher **Houston Williams**.

The championship played out as a three-day event. On Day 1A, 169 players paid \$1,080 each for a shot at the \$100K-plus first-place money.

Day 1B drew a larger field (232) and the final 18 from each day advanced to Day 2. **Evan Karcie** of San Francisco eventually captured the title to take home \$110,300 and a seat to the Bay 101 Shooting Star event in 2012.

Event 6, the \$120 all-in-or-fold tournament, went to **Sylvia Day**, who plowed her way through more than 100 players for the trophy and \$3,440.

The \$450 partners event rounded out the series with 80 teams as **Bao Huynh** and **Thanh Phung** earned the title and \$11,200. Nearly 1,500 entrants overall played for close to \$700K in prize money.

In other notable news, **Scott Numoto** and **Andy Gamboa**, both of San Jose, had two final-table appearances each. Two-time World Series of Poker bracelet-winner **Howard "Tahoe" Andrews** added to his impressive list of tournament cashes by placing 29th in the championship event.

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



**EVENT 1 WINNER
ERIC SCHAFER**



**EVENT 2 WINNER
CUONG LEONG**



**EVENT 3 WINNER
DON SANTOS**



**EVENT 4 WINNER
HOUSTON WILLIAMS**



**MAIN WINNER
EVAN KARCIE**



**EVENT 6 WINNER
SYLVIA DAY**



**EVENT 7 WINNERS
BAO HUYNH and THANH PHUNG**



Bay 101 Open Aug. 22-29

Event 1 • \$345 NLHE
268 Players • \$80,400 Prize Pool
WINNER: Eric Schafer, \$21,700

Event 2 • \$345 Omaha/8
134 Players • \$40,200 Prize Pool
WINNER: Cuong Leong, \$13,280

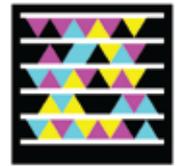
Event 3 • \$345 NLHE
185 Players • \$55,500 Prize Pool
WINNER: Don Santos, \$18,000

Event 4 • \$345 Bounty
237 Players • \$71,100 Prize Pool
WINNER: Houston Williams, \$12,810

\$1,080 Main Event
401 Players • \$401K Prize Pool
WINNER: Evan Karcie, \$120,300

Event 6 • \$120 AIOF
103 Players • \$10,300 Prize Pool
WINNER: Sylvia Day, \$3,440

Event 7 • \$450 Partners
80 Teams • \$32,000 Prize Pool
WINNERS: B. Huynh/T. Phung, \$11,200



For full results from the Bay 101 Open events scan the above tag with your smartphone.

Paulson knocks 'em out at Arizona State Championship

By Joe LeGer

Stephen "Packy" Paulson captured the seventh annual Arizona State Poker Championship at Talking Stick Resort at Casino Arizona on Aug. 16, collecting a whopping \$202,703 for first place.

"We are continually amazed by the growth of this championship," Talking Stick director of poker **Kent Odekirk** said. "This year was our seventh year and it has been the biggest one yet. We had more than 1,000 players and were able to surpass the \$1 million mark. With this kind of success, we only see it getting bigger and bigger."

The event generated a prize pool of \$1,053,000.

Winning is nothing new to Paulson, who lives in Apache Junction, Ariz. He's a former pro fighter (1972-90) with four Arizona Golden Gloves Championships under his belt. He also spent 27 years working for Salt River Project, one of Arizona's largest utility companies. He said he plays poker once or twice a week exclusively at Talking Stick and believes poker is 80 percent skill and 20 percent luck.

— **Joe LeGer is Ante Up's Arizona Ambassador. Email him at jl_poker@yahoo.com.**



Arizona State Championship

Aug. 16

1. Packy Paulson, \$202,703
2. Jason Cronan, \$136,890
3. Hesam Alasha, \$105,300
4. Eric Gault, \$83,187
5. Janet Nguyen, \$63,180
6. Adel Papa, \$50,018
7. Loc Truong, \$39,488
8. Matt Kirby, \$31,590
9. Jake Merrill, \$24,219
10. Todd Lundwall, \$18,428

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KARR WINS PARX MAIN EVENT, \$74K

By Mark Hoke

The Parx Casino in Bensalem, Pa., hosted the \$500K Parx Open Poker Classic in conjunction with DeepStacks on Aug. 10-24. The series featured 15 events, plus the Mizrachi brothers hosted a power poker clinic for DeepStacks University. Nine of the events were eligible for Player of the Year points.

The series attracted more than 2,200 players, and **McLean Karr** rode a flopped straight that cracked two sets to claim the main event title and more than \$74K. It was the second-biggest live cash for Karr, who defeated **Daniel Smith** in the heads-up finale. Event winners are featured below. For full results scan the tag on the left with your smartphone. Numerous pros attended the main event, including **Mike Matusow**, **Tristan Wade** and **Michael Mizrachi**. Team Bustout was well-represented by **Jeff Gross**, **David Inselberg** and **Cris Belkewich**, the Ante Up Atlantic City Ambassador.

It was a big week for Parx as it was announced the 90-table room signed a three-year pact to host World Poker Tour events, including a televised main event in 2012. Look for more details here in the coming months.

PHILLY POKER CHAMPIONSHIP: Harrah's Casino in Chester, Pa., had a big event in August, hosting the Philly Poker Championship in its 32-table event center. The series featured the Prince of Poker, 1998

WSOP Main Event champion **Scotty Nguyen**.

Abraham Faroni of Penn Valley, Pa., captured the main event, knocking off **Michael Anvari** of Maryland in the 224-person championship. Faroni earned a cool \$27,155. Here are the event winners:

- Event 1:** Robert Specht, Philadelphia, \$6,835
- Event 2:** William Aldridge, Collingdale, PA, \$13,557
- Event 3:** Craig Whitby, Fleetwood, PA, \$3,940
- Event 4:** Brian Christy, Media, PA, \$5,335
- Event 5:** Asher Conniff, Brooklyn, \$3,642
- Event 6:** Michael Taylor, Bromall, PA, \$4,669
- Event 7:** Vance Propati, Cherry Hill, NJ, \$3,994
- Main Event:** Abraham Faroni, Penn Valley, PA, \$27,155
- Event 9:** Yeun Wong, Conshohocken, PA, \$4,085

NEW PHILLY ROOM? According to numerous reports, the Valley Forge Casino Resort will open in Montgomery County, Pa., in the spring with a 40,000-square-foot gaming floor that will have room for 15 poker tables for tournaments. Look for more information on this in an upcoming issue of *Ante Up*.

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

Parx Open Poker Classic, Parx Casino, Bensalem, Pa., Aug. 10-24



Event 1 • \$340 NLHE
Entrants: 479 • Prize Pool: \$139,389
WINNER: Kheong Chin, \$27,393



Event 2 • \$500 NLHE
Entrants: 63 • Prize Pool: \$31,500
WINNER: Manh Nguyen, \$7,984



Event 3 • \$560 NLHE
Entrants: 164 • Prize Pool: \$79,540
WINNER: Trevor Savage, \$18,292



Event 4 • \$1,100 NLHE
Entrants: 54 • Prize Pool: \$52,380
WINNER: Vyacheslav Eyzerochiv, \$15,191



Event 5 • \$340 NLHE
Entrants: 184 • Prize Pool: \$53,544
WINNER: Dave Barone, \$12,315



Event 6 • \$230 NLHE
Entrants: 217 • Prize Pool: \$42,098
WINNER: Kobi Waldfogel, \$9,681



Event 7 • \$340 NLHE
Entrants: 116 • Prize Pool: \$33,576
WINNER: John Del Rossi, \$9,788



Event 8 • \$230 LHE
Entrants: 135 • Prize Pool: \$26,190
WINNER: Joshua Keyser, \$7,595



Event 9 • \$340 NLHE
Entrants: 134 • Prize Pool: \$38,994
WINNER: Brian Corbett, \$11,309



Event 10 • \$340 NLHE
Entrants: 73 • Prize Pool: \$21,243
WINNER: Jeffrey Gurfinkel, \$6,160



Event 12 • \$560 NLHE
Entrants: 95 • Prize Pool: \$50,000
WINNER: Nick Spence \$14,500



Event 13 • \$230 NLHE
Entrants: 146 • Prize Pool: \$28,234
WINNER: Paul Colwell, \$8,215



Event 14 • \$340 NLHE
Entrants: 54 • Prize Pool: \$15,714
WINNER: Rob Recine, \$4,557



Event 15 • \$230 NLHE
Entrants: 162 • Prize Pool: \$31,428
WINNER: Carlos Rodriguez, \$7,229



\$2K Main Event
Entrants: 181 • Prize Pool: \$324,804
WINNER: McLean Karr \$74,706

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PRESQUE ISLE TO OPEN POKER ROOM OCT. 3

Despite poker being spread legally in Pennsylvania for more than a year, it took until this month (Oct. 3) for Presque Isle Downs and Casino in Erie to get into the game.

The new nine-table room has been approved to spread hold'em and Omaha, and once dealers are trained for all games (with state approval) stud might be added to the mix.

Christine Stacy, a former shift manager for the Mountaineer Casino, will run this non-smoking

room, which will be on the second floor in the betting area. Presque's official opening weekend will be Oct. 14-15, featuring **Chris**

Moneymaker and a \$25K "Final Table" SNG, which you can qualify for in satellites leading up to Oct. 15. The room will be open daily, including 24 hours on Friday and Saturday.

Presque Isle Downs, owned by MTR Gaming Group, which also operates the Mountaineer Casino in Chester, W. Va., said it has spent \$400,000 on this poker room. According to plans presented to the

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, the room will be glass-enclosed, blocking outside noise. The board approved the plan on July 20.

The rake will be the Pennsylvania standard 10 percent of the pot up to \$5, plus \$1 for a bad-beat jackpot. The room, which figures to have \$3-\$6 limit and \$1-\$3 NLHE as its mainstay cash games, doesn't plan on having high-hand jackpots.

At nine tables, Presque Isle will be the smallest room in the area, followed by Wheeling Island Casino (12), the Meadows in Washington County (20), the Mountaineer in West Virginia. (24) and the Rivers in Pittsburgh (30).

Presque officials predicted the poker room will add at least 73 jobs and generate close to \$2.5 million a year in revenue.

In other PA news, Washington County players looking for a seven-card stud game will be excited to learn the Meadows recently added one on Saturday nights. It is a \$5-\$10 limit with a 50-cent ante and a \$2 bring-in.

— **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



ATLANTIC CITY

A look at the Atlantic City poker scene

Hurricane Irene turns A.C. into a safe haven

By Cris Belkewitch

Hurricane Irene was all the rage at the end of August, and with the chaos Hurricane Katrina brought to New Orleans still fresh on people's minds, and not to mention an earthquake earlier in the week, Atlantic City casinos opted not to press their luck and closed shop in anticipation for what turned out to be one hell of a storm.

Atlantic City's 11 casinos shut down Aug. 26-29. It was just the third time in the 33-year history of legalized gambling in New Jersey that the gambling halls were shuttered. The closing caused a massive overflow at surrounding casinos causing waitlists 90 players deep in some arenas.

So how does this translate into a poker column? A few days after the storm I met a man named Mike while playing at the Tropicana. Another player at the table asked Mike what brought him to Atlantic City. Mike, who lives in North Carolina, said, "Me and a few other guys whose stuff got wrecked in the hurricane hopped in the car and came until who knows when."

It's not often a group of middle-aged, married men take a road trip with no return date set, but as the conversation went on we learned "wrecked" didn't mean his basement flooded or that he they had to throw out a couch. It meant Irene destroyed everything they owned, leaving the group of men homeless.

"I run a poker game out of my house down there five days a week and me and my friends take a trip up here every couple of months. We're basically just living here until we figure out what the hell we're going to do."

Mike was in high spirits given his situation, and one of his friends

NEW YORK'S FAILLA WINS WPT LEGENDS

Will "The Thrill" Failla bested a field of 757 to capture the WPT's Legends of Poker at the Bike in Bell Gardens, Calif. The New York pro, playing for more than 20 years, won his first coveted WPT title and \$758K. Here are the undercard winners:

Event	Entries	Winner, First-Place Prize
\$150 MegaMillions	7,239	Fausto Saucedo, \$340K
\$125 Quantum	308	Arvinder Nijjar, \$22,364
\$120 All-In or Fold	170	Jose Sandoval, \$4,000
\$225 Turbo	85	Tom Fitzpatrick, \$6,590
\$335 O/8-Stud/8	152	Marshall Ragir, \$17,022
\$335 Bounty	169	Martiros Manukyan, \$12,376
\$335 NLHE	1,168	Brian Patrick, \$80,438
\$335 Omaha/8	156	Alex Ferrari, \$17,136
\$335 2-7 TD/Badugi	38	Cody Shedd, \$4,858
\$120 6-max	163	Jeffrey Kim Hyun, \$17,078

across the table seemed pretty jovial as well. The staff, he said, was accommodating.

For the time being, poker is their outlet and Atlantic City is their sheltering savior. It's a reminder of how eclectic a poker table can be. You never know who you're going to come across or what their story is going to be; but for Mike and his group we can only hope their story has a happy ending.

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

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A look at the Connecticut-New Hampshire-New York poker scene

MASS. READY TO GAMBLE ON CASINOS

It looks like the Massachusetts Legislature is going to approve the construction of casinos in the state. At the end of August, **Gov. Deval Patrick** worked with House Speaker **Robert A. DeLeo** and Senate President **Therese Murray** to draft a proposal for approval by lawmakers. This was the state's third attempt in three years to put together a casino gambling bill that would pass muster, but there's nothing like unrelenting budget gaps to motivate legislators hung up on moral qualms about gambling.



KAY FITZPATRICK

The bill would allow three resort casinos and one slots parlor to be constructed. Three areas are designated for casino locations in the northeast, central/western and southeast regions.

Since Patrick, DeLeo and Murray cooperated on the bill, it was considered a done deal even before it went to the Legislature in September. The bill stipulates that 25 percent of the casino revenue and 40 percent from the slots parlor will go to the state's coffers. That money will be used to compensate for the state's revenue gaps, and will be earmarked for specific purposes, such as promoting tourism, job training and schools.

Five percent of the gambling revenues should allay moral qualms by going to programs that fight compulsive gambling. In addition, 9 percent of the slots parlor revenue would be allocated to support and promote live horse racing.

That last bit implies some insider wheeling and dealing, since Suf-

folk Downs — the only live thoroughbred-racing venue in New England — is in DeLeo's district and the racetrack is a main contender for eventual licensing. Critics of the bill object to the behind-closed-doors nature of the bill's creation.

Competition for the licenses is intense. Lobbyists from Wynn Resorts, Las Vegas Sands Corp., Penn National Gaming and others have spent an estimated \$1.8 million during the first half of the year to promote their interests. The Mashpee Wampanoag Indian tribe has long lobbied to build a casino in the southeast and has been given a fast track to approval over other bidders. Seeing the writing on the wall for their Connecticut casino, Mohegan Sun is competing for a license to build in Palmer, Mass.

Besides who will get the licenses, the big question is whether there are enough New England gamblers to support new casinos. Moody's Investors Service issued a report at the end of August predicting a bad beat for Connecticut when Massachusetts casinos open their doors.

It's estimated Massachusetts residents spend \$700 million each year at Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun. New Hampshire and Maine residents, who spend about \$100 million at Connecticut casinos, will most likely choose the shorter drive to Massachusetts given that option. Massachusetts casinos also will draw customers from New Hampshire's charitable gaming rooms. There's only so much gambling money to go around, and no one knows who will win the jackpot when Massachusetts gets in the game.

— **Kay Fitzpatrick is Ante Up's Northeast Ambassador. She's a freelance journalist who recently wrote a series of strategy blogs for Everest Poker and is an avid player at New England's poker rooms. Email her at kayfitzpat@yahoo.com.**

CONNECTICUT



With your smartphone, scan the above tag for complete Mega Stack results. Scan the tag below for information about Foxwoods' World Poker Finals, including the \$10K WPT main event. Also, see the Foxwoods ad on the facing page for the tournament series schedule, which runs Oct. 10-Nov. 1.



Foxwoods Mega Stack Challenge, Aug. 13-21

\$120 NLHE
Entrants: 456 • Prize Pool: \$44,232
WINNER: Richard Bourgojn, Lewiston ME, \$4,999

\$600 NLHE
Entrants: 500 • Prize Pool: \$257,050
WINNER: Salvatore Morello, Rockfall, CT, \$60,202

\$120 NLHE
Entrants: 398 • Prize Pool: \$38,606
WINNER: Robert Pitt, East Hampton, NY, \$6,177

\$300 NLHE
Entrants: 1,063 • Prize Pool: \$268,089
WINNER: Gene Santora, Manhasset, NY, \$44,264

\$400 NLHE
Entrants: 250 • Prize Pool: \$59,875
WINNER: Daniel Chan, New York, \$13,200

\$120 NLHE
Entrants: 302 • Prize Pool: \$29,294
WINNER: Devon Schultze, Wolcott, CT, \$7,030

\$500 NLHE
Entrants: 182 • Prize Pool: \$59,477
WINNER: Joseph Pitti, East Meadow, NY, \$12,268

\$120 NLHE
Entrants: 292 • Prize Pool: \$28,324
WINNER: Joanne Dorin, New York, \$4K

\$230 NLHE
Entrants: 277 • Prize Pool: \$53,738
WINNER: Chris Carreiro, Braintree, MA, \$12,898

\$120 NLHE
Entrants: 247 • Prize Pool: \$23,959
WINNER: Joe Nelligan, W. Roxbury, MA, \$5,100

\$120 NLHE
Entrants: 270 • Prize Pool: \$26,190
WINNER: Charles Atkinson, Boston, \$4,274

\$400 NLHE
Entrants: 461 • Prize Pool: \$156,509
WINNER: Chris MacNeil, Peabody, MA, \$23,525

\$300 NLHE
Entrants: 283 • Prize Pool: \$57,223
WINNER: James McIntosh, L. Ronkonkoma, NY, \$9,004

\$180 NLHE
Entrants: 305 • Prize Pool: \$45,857
WINNER: Scott Reynolds, Warwick, RI, \$4,999

\$1,200 Main Event
Entrants: 409 • Prize Pool: \$432,436
WINNER: Eric Phan, Revere, MA, \$74,862



Mega Stack Main Event winner Eric Phan

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. Connor Drinan, Arlington Hgts., Ill., 794
6. Allen Bari, West Orange, N.J., 752
7. Curt Kohlberg, Western, Mass., 735
8. Alexander Kuzmin, Moscow, Russia, 731

Upcoming events

- Oct. 8:** HPT, Daytona Beach (Fla.) Kennel Club
- Oct. 14:** WPT Regional, Isle Black Hawk
- Oct. 15:** Fall Classic, Canterbury Park, Minn.
- Oct. 21:** MGM Grand Challenge, Las Vegas
- Oct. 21:** Isle Poker Open, Isle Casino, Florida
- Oct. 22:** HPT, Downstream Casino, Oklahoma
- Oct. 27:** WPT, Foxwoods Casino, Connecticut
- Nov. 4:** Hard Rock (Tulsa) Open
- Nov. 11:** RN'R Open, Hard Rock Hollywood, Fla.
- Nov. 12:** Magnolia Classic, Horseshoe, Tunica, Miss.
- Nov. 19:** WPT Regional, Orange Park, Fla.
- Dec. 3:** HPT, Peppermill Casino, Reno, Nev.
- Dec. 10:** Gold Strike Winter Classic, Tunica, Miss.

Scan this tag for more AUPT details.



Interested in Connecticut-New Hampshire-New York tournaments and promotions? Turn to our Where to Play pages in the back of the magazine.



OCTOBER 10-NOVEMBER 1, 2011

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day	Date	Time	Type of Event	Buy-in/ Entry Fee	Starting Chips/ Time Per Level
Mon	Oct 10	11am	\$600 No-Limit Hold'em "Deep Stack"	\$530/\$70	20,000/50 min
Mon	Oct 10	5pm	\$400 7-Card Stud	\$350/\$50	8,000/40 min
Tue	Oct 11	11am	\$400 No-Limit Hold'em "Deep Stack"	\$350/\$50	20,000/40 min
Wed	Oct 12	11am	\$300 No-Limit Bounty "Deep Stack"	\$210/\$40/\$50	15,000/30 min
Wed	Oct 12	5pm	\$400 Limit Hold'em	\$350/\$50	8,000/40 min
Thu	Oct 13	11am	\$400 No-Limit Hold'em "Deep Stack"	\$350/\$50	20,000/40 min
Fri	Oct 14	11am	\$500 No-Limit Bounty "Deep Stack"	\$340/\$60/\$100	20,000/45 min
Fri	Oct 14	5pm	\$400 Omaha High/Low 8+	\$350/\$50	8,000/40 min
Sat	Oct 15	11am	\$600 No-Limit Hold'em "Deep Stack"	\$530/\$70	20,000/50 min
Sun	Oct 16	11am	\$500 Seniors No-Limit Hold'em "Deep Stack"	\$440/\$60	20,000/45 min
Mon	Oct 17	11am	\$300 No-Limit Hold'em "Deep Stack"	\$260/\$40	15,000/30 min
Mon	Oct 17	5pm	\$400 Pot Limit Omaha High	\$350/\$50	10,000/40 min
Tue	Oct 18	11am	\$400 No-Limit Hold'em "Deep Stack"	\$350/\$50	20,000/40 min
Wed	Oct 19	11am	\$300 No-Limit Bounty "Deep Stack"	\$210/\$40/\$50	15,000/30 min
Wed	Oct 19	5pm	\$400 7-Card Stud 8+	\$350/\$50	8,000/40 min
Thu	Oct 20	11am	\$400 No-Limit Hold'em "Deep Stack"	\$350/\$50	20,000/40 min
Fri	Oct 21	11am	\$500 No-Limit Bounty "Deep Stack"	\$340/\$60/\$100	20,000/45 min
Fri	Oct 21	5pm	\$400 HOSE	\$350/\$50	8,000/40 min
Sat	Oct 22	11am	\$300 Ladies Only No-Limit Hold'em "Deep Stack"	\$260/\$40	15,000/30 min
Sat	Oct 22	Noon	\$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em	\$1,375/\$125	25,000/50 min
Sun	Oct 23	11am	\$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em "Deep Stack"	\$910/\$90	20,000/50 min
Mon	Oct 24	11am	\$500 No-Limit Hold'em "Deep Stack"	\$440/\$60	20,000/45 min
Mon	Oct 24	5pm	\$230 No-Limit "Super Bounty"	\$100/\$30/\$100	20,000/20 min
Tue	Oct 25	11am	\$2,500 No-Limit Hold'em	\$2,325/\$175	25,000/60 min
Thu	Oct 27	Noon	Day 1 \$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Championship	\$9,700/\$300	30,000/90 min
Fri	Oct 28	Noon 2pm	Day 2 \$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Championship \$5,000 No-Limit Hold'em Special	\$4,750/\$250	30,000/60 min
Sat	Oct 29	Noon 11am	Day 3 \$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Championship \$3,000 No-Limit Hold'em Special	\$2,800/\$200	25,000/50 min
Sun	Oct 30	Noon 11am	Day 4 \$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Championship \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Special	\$910/\$90	20,000/40 min
Mon	Oct 31	Noon	Day 5 \$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Championship		
Tue	Nov 1	4pm	Day 6 \$10,000 Championship "WPT Final Table"		



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A look at the South Florida poker scene

HAS OUR NOVEMBER NINE TREND ENDED?

In my July column I tried to anticipate the success of Floridians at the World Series, which was no easy task. And while we didn't have the same results as 2010 when it came to the November Nine, there were quite a few South Florida highlights in the other bracelets events.

Amir Lehavot of Weston got things on the right track by winning the pot-limit hold'em title in the opening week to bring his first bracelet back to the edge of the Everglades in western Broward County. Davie's **Jason Mercier**, recognized as one of the best in the world, defeated Miami's **Hans Winzeler** heads-up in Event 35 to capture his second bracelet in PLO, his favorite game, giving South Florida a 1-2 in that event. Mercier would make two more final tables (both in 2-7 draw lowball) and Winzeler finished ninth in Event 42 (PLO).

Other top-10 finishes in the WSOP went to Davie's **Anthony Ruberto** and **Corey Burbick**, **Matt Waxman** of Parkland, **Chad Brown** of Margate, **Corey Zeidman** of Coral Springs, **Brett Tannenbaum** of Pembroke Pines, **Robert Campbell** of Miami and Aventura's **Jason Lester** in the \$50K Players Championship.

Which brings me back to my now-softened (and less important) disappointment that there will be no Floridians at the November Nine for the first time. ... unless I get a bit creative.

TREND? WHAT TREND? **Chino Rheem** of Miami in 2008 (OK, so he lived in L.A. at the time; he's still a Miami guy!), **Kevin Schaffel** of Coral Springs in 2009 and the **Grinder/John Racener/John Dolan** trio in 2010 all reached the November Nine. That certainly seems like a Florida trend to me. Now, as *Ante Up's* South Florida ambassador, I have to look for a South Florida angle and as the number of players remaining in the

event dwindled, I thought I'd found one in **Badih Bou-Nahra**.

Bou-Nahra appeared in the chip counts identified as being from Ft. Lauderdale. But somewhere along the way in the coverage his hometown became Belize City, Belize. Several local poker room employees were familiar with him from play at the Seminole Hard Rock in Hollywood, though nobody knew much about him.

I chatted via phone with him at his home in Belize and discovered Bob (as he likes to be called) was born in Aargess, Lebanon, to a Lebanese father and a mother from Belize. He moved to Belize City at age 20 in 1982 and has lived there since.

So where does the South Florida connection come from? Bou-Nahra said his mother, sister and daughter live in Ft. Lauderdale and he stays with them for about two weeks at a time every month or two. He has owned a successful grocery wholesale business in Belize City since 1989, importing only American products. He has his America-related mail sent to a Ft. Lauderdale address, thus the listing in WSOP records.

Bob also is part-owner of a small poker room in Belize City, serving mainly as a consultant for the six-table room. He will be the ultimate underdog at the final table, listed as a 12-to-1 longshot along with short-stack **Sam Holden**. He is by far the oldest player in the field at 49 and has limited final-table experience. And OK, he's not a South Floridian, but with a great sense of humor and a laid-back-yet-fearless attitude, Bob is looking to have fun and represent his country well.

"Eight more to go. This is a tremendous opportunity, but this is 100 percent fun for me," he said, acknowledging he has nothing to lose at this point. That is a dangerous combination, and I know who I'll be pulling for come November.

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



BIG DAVE LEMMON



Rick Sessions

PALM BEACH KENNEL CLUB Sessions wins PBPC main; Bristow POY

The Palm Beach Poker Classic at the Palm Beach Kennel Club attracted 1,125 players overall to generate a \$232,100 prize pool. **Stephen Bristow**, who won the pot-limit Omaha event, also captured the PBPC Player of the Year award by more than 200 points after chopping the main event four ways. **Rick Sessions**, who finished second for POY, earned the \$550 main-event title as part of the deal. The main had 258 players and a \$129K prize pool, from which Sessions won \$18,655.

- Event 1 • \$120 NLHE**
Entrants: 209 • Prize Pool: \$20,900
WINNER: Ted Vidas, \$2,940
- Event 2 • \$120 PLO**
Entrants: 70 • Prize Pool: \$7,000
WINNER: Stephen Bristow, \$2,350
- Event 3 • \$170 Bounty**
Entrants: 150 • Prize Pool: \$15,000
WINNER: Ray DelCueto, \$2,650
- Event 4 • \$120 H.O.R.S.E.**
Entrants: 79 • Prize Pool: \$7,900
WINNER: Eric Kessler, \$2,155
- Event 5 • \$230 NLHE**
Entrants: 168 • Prize Pool: \$33,600
WINNER: Scott Turner, \$7,020
- Event 6 • \$230 NLHE w/rebuy**
Entrants: 191 • Prize Pool: \$18,700
WINNER: Mike Rosen, \$3,350

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OCTOBER 8 - 31

Event	Date	Day	Time	Tournament	Buy-in	Guarantee
	10/8	Sat	7:30pm	Single Mother's Charity Poker Tournament		
1	10/9	Sun	noon	No Limit Hold'em	\$550	\$50,000
2	10/10	Mon	noon	\$500 Bounties NLH	\$1,600	\$100,000
3	10/11	Tue	noon	No Limit Hold'em Re-entry	\$330	\$30,000
	10/12	Wed	noon	Satellite for Main Event		
4	10/13	Thu	noon	No Limit Hold'em Day 1A	\$330	
	10/14	Fri	noon	Day 1B	\$330	\$200,000
	10/15	Sat	noon	Day 1C	\$330	
	10/16	Sun	noon	Day 2		
5	10/17	Mon	noon	Heads-up PLO 32 Players Max	\$1,100	
6	10/18	Tue	noon	No Limit Hold'em Re-entry	\$330	\$30,000
7	10/19	Wed	noon	No Limit Hold'em Re-entry	\$550	\$50,000
	10/20	Thu	noon	Day 2 if Necessary		
8	10/20	Thu	3:00pm	6 Max	\$1,100	\$50,000
9	10/21	Fri	noon	Main Event Day 1A	\$2,200	\$300,000
	10/22	Sat	noon	Main Event Day 1B	\$2,200	
	10/23	Sun	noon	Day 2		
	10/24	Mon	noon	Day 3		
	10/28	Fri	noon	Jack's High Event Day 1A	\$10,000	
	10/29	Sat	noon	Jack's High Event Day 1B	\$10,000	
	10/30	Sun	noon	Day 2		
	10/31	Mon	noon	Day 3		

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WPT WRAPUP

WORLD POKER TOUR HAS BIG MONTH IN FLA.

The World Poker Tour continued to push with a vengeance into the Florida market as it co-hosted two regional tournament series in August and announced another poker room partnership. Here's a recap of the events:

WPT JACKSONVILLE: Tampa's **Chris Conrad**, who has had much success in this corner of the country, outlasted 460 players in the first World Poker Tour regional main event at Jacksonville's Orange Park Poker Room on Aug. 16, Conrad, who owns Winter Bayou Challenge and Beau Rivage Spring Break undercard titles, topped **Ray Leone** when his flopped set of nines beat Leone's aces.

Conrad earned the WPT trophy and \$143,145. Leone of Jacksonville won \$90,245. The WPT regional series attracted nearly 2,000 players from across the country and generated a combined prize pool of more than \$1 million. Jacksonville's next WPT tournament is a \$3,500 main event Nov. 19-22.

• **Brent Rasmussen**, 18, of St. Petersburg, Fla., won the main event's "Last Player Standing Under 21" surfboard. Local craftsman **Mike Whisnant** created the unique trophy.

WPT HARD ROCK HOLLYWOOD: The Summer Splash attracted a ton of players, including a whopping 1,600 for the first event, a \$350 no-limit hold'em tournament that had a \$480K prize pool. **Gil Nagar** won that title and \$52K. But the \$2K main event was the culmination of this series and popular online pro **Brian Hastings** captured the first-place prize of nearly \$214K.

WPT IN TAMPA BAY: With events in the northern and southern ends of the state it was only natural the WPT would look for a home that could serve Central Florida as well. Derby Lane in St. Petersburg, Fla., has signed a deal to host three upcoming WPT events in the coming calendar year:

- Dec. 9-20: 12 Days of Poker
- March 17-24: Derby Lane & WPT Poker Challenge
- July 14-16: Derby Lane & WPT Rebound Tournament

More details will be announced later.



Chris Conrad



Brent Rasmussen

WPT Jacksonville

Orange Park Kennel Club
Aug. 5-17

Event 1 • \$340 NLHE

Entrants: 501 • Prize Pool: \$150,300
WINNER: Richard Malone, \$21,000

Event 2 • \$230 NLHE

Entrants: 183 • Prize Pool: \$36,600
WINNER: Thomas Abernathy, \$6,693

Event 3 • \$340 NLHE

Entrants: 110 • Prize Pool: \$33,000
WINNER: Lars Smith, \$9,144

Event 4 • \$340 Bounty

Entrants: 135 • Prize Pool: \$40,500
WINNER: Robert Hudson, \$5K

Event 5 • \$230 Omaha/8

Entrants: 90 • Prize Pool: \$18,000
WINNER: James Hagan, \$5,640

Event 6 • \$340 NLHE

Entrants: 109 • Prize Pool: \$32,700
WINNER: Alan Epsteinm \$10,000

Event 7 • \$560 NLHE

Entrants: 206 • Prize Pool: \$103K
WINNER: Donte Larson, \$26,059

\$1,500 Main Event

Entrants: 460 • \$622,350 Prize Pool
WINNER: Chris Conrad, \$143,145, Tampa, FL

Event 9 • \$340 NLHE

Entrants: 65 • Prize Pool: \$19,500
WINNER: Donald Vaughn, \$6,500

Event 10 • \$340 NLHE

Entrants: 55 • Prize Pool: \$16,500
WINNER: Hitold Wasne, \$6,270

Event 11 • \$340 NLHE

Entrants: 51 • Prize Pool: \$15,300
WINNER: Joe Gaskinis, \$2,843

WPT Summer Splash

Hard Rock Hollywood
Aug. 12-22

Event 1 • \$350 NLHE

Entrants: 1,600 • Prize Pool: \$480K
WINNER: Gil Nagar, \$52,272

Event 2 • \$200 NLHE

Entrants: 101 • Prize Pool: \$20,200
WINNER: Robert Sazlaburu, \$6,463

Event 3 • \$200 NLHE

Entrants: 153 • Prize Pool: \$30,600
WINNER: Tang Cao, \$9,791

Event 4 • \$300 NLHE

Entrants: 74 • Prize Pool: \$22,200
WINNER: Phillip West, 7,549

Event 5 • \$260 NLHE

Entrants: 208 • Prize Pool: \$54,080
WINNER: Harvey Freedman, \$12,139

Event 6 • \$300 NLHE

Entrants: 38 • Prize Pool: \$11,400
WINNER: Andrew Conroy, \$2,910

Event 7 • \$125 NLHE

Entrants: 360 • Prize Pool: \$45,000
WINNER: Christopher Lewis, \$12,293



Brian Hastings

Event 11 • \$200 NLHE

Entrants: 176 • Prize Pool: \$35,200
WINNER: Michael Laake, \$11,263

\$2K Main Event

Entrants: 391 • Prize Pool: \$782K
WINNER: Brian Hastings, \$213,877

Event 13 • \$125 NLHE

Entrants: 246 • Prize Pool: \$30,750
WINNER: Rafael Tome, \$7,000

Event 14 • \$125 NLHE

Entrants: 237 • Prize Pool: \$29,625
WINNER: James Ladeira, \$8,595

Event 15 • \$125 NLHE

Entrants: 84 • Prize Pool: \$20K
WINNER: Kevin Spires, \$4,456

Event 16 • \$80 NLHE

Entrants: 303 • Prize Pool: \$24,240
WINNER: Billy Hayes, \$4,500

Event 17 • \$125 NLHE

Entrants: 43 • Prize Pool: \$5,375
WINNER: Zohair Karim, \$1,523

Event 19 • \$260 NLHE

Entrants: 157 • Prize Pool: \$40,820
WINNER: Steven Morens, \$5,600

Event 8 • \$300 NLHE

Entrants: 97 • Prize Pool: \$29,100
WINNER: Barry Hutter, \$9,893

Event 10 • \$350

Entrants: 45 • Prize Pool: \$15,750
WINNER: Griffin Malatino, \$7,086



HARD ROCK HOLLYWOOD

Eddie Jones was declared the winner of the Big Slick event on Aug. 28 after the last six players agreed to chop the prize pool, giving Jones \$13K. The \$560 tournament drew 105 players for a \$52,500 prize pool.



DANIA JAI-ALAI

David Schwartz, known for giving Twinkies to the tournament players, won the **Dan LeBatard** tournament, taking home \$2,800 and the trophy after a seven-player chop. The remaining six players each received \$1,200.

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



JACKSONVILLE

\$500,000

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NOV. 11-22, 2011

WPT JACKSONVILLE MAIN EVENT • NOV 18 – 22 • POY

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		
11/13	Sun	2PM	#2 No Limit Hold'Em 2 day Event	\$500 + \$50 + \$10	\$50,000
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	
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	\$50,000
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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EBRO DOUBLES DOWN ON DOUBLE HAND POKER

By **Scott Long**

Texas Hold'em isn't for everyone.

Following a trail blazed a couple of years ago by Palm Beach Kennel Club's introduction of a jackpot-funded version of Three Card Poker, Ebro Greyhound Park has won a hard-fought battle to offer Florida players a player-banked form of Pai Gow Poker that plays similarly to the casino version.

And, in the process, the poker room in Florida's Panhandle is altering the betting structure for poker in Florida.

"In traditional poker games, players may bet and raise their chips into a pot that the winner eventually takes down," said **Dennis Hone**, a veteran of California cardrooms who has brought West Coast thinking to Ebro when he became director of poker operations more than three years ago. "Double Hand Poker is the first approved poker game in Florida that does not follow this traditional betting structure. Instead, players select the size of their wager before each hand begins and may only win or lose this pre-determined amount."

In Double Hand Poker, players make their wagers and are dealt seven cards. They must set two poker hands - one with two cards and one with five cards, with the five-card hand always being the strongest. (Players may ask the dealer to set their hands for them using a pre-described "house way.") After all hands are set, the hands are compared to hands of a "Designated Player" to determine who wins and who loses or whether players tie, which is common. The "Designated Player" keeps any money won, aside from a \$1-per-\$100-wagered rake, but also must pay out all the wagers that he or she loses.

The "Designated Player" is the other feature of the game that should appeal to players with big enough bankrolls, since the "Designated Player" has a built-in edge against all other players because they win when individual hands tie, or "copy." In the casino version, this edge is 2.73 percent over the long haul, according to WizardofOdds.com. The right to be the "Designated Player" is offered to everyone and players can decline if they wish.

Ebro allows wagers from \$10 to \$1,000 per hand, so it's an opportunity for a player who is willing to be the "Designated Player" a chance to win a lot of money quickly rather than grinding it out on the hold'em tables.

"The cardroom style of play is much better for the customers because the players have the edge that usually goes to the casino," Hone said.

The fact that the game is player-banked, rather than house-banked, is what makes it allowable under Florida law (though Ebro had to clear potholes along its path to approval). The state's Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering, which interprets state law for poker rooms, initially approved the game, but then asked Ebro to shut it down while it investigated it further. The poker room was forced to sue to get the game reinstated.

Hone credits track owner **Stocky Hess** for his willingness to fight to make sure the game can be dealt, and he hopes the hard work the poker room put into approval will inspire other poker rooms to create similar versions of casino games that all poker rooms can share in offering. Several casino card games can be adapted to fit Florida law as long as they can be player-banked and follow normal poker hand rankings.

"This non-traditional betting structure gaining approval is significant because it gives each cardroom in Florida the possibility to add more games to their room; games that were not previously at their disposal," Hone said. "More games means more choices for players, and an increase in employment in the surrounding area and an increase in revenue for the cardroom."

— Email **Scott Long** at scott@anteupmagazine.com.



Double Hand Poker

Double Hand Poker is nearly identical to the casino card game Pai Gow Poker. It uses a standard 52-card deck, but with one joker added that can be used as an ace or to complete straights or flushes. Normal poker hand rankings apply.

- In the Florida version, players play against a "Designated Player" who bankrolls the game, not the casino. The poker room takes a rake based on the amount wagered.
- Players must divide their seven cards into a two-card hand and a five-card hand that is stronger than the two-card hand. If a hand is set incorrectly, it is reset according to the "house way" of setting hands.
- Each player compares his or her two hands with the two hands of the "Designated Player." If the player's two hands are better than the "Designated Player's" two hands, then he or she wins the amount wagered. If both of the player's hands lose, then the "Designated Player" wins the amount wagered. If one wins one hand and the other wins the other, it's a push and players take their bets back. If one or both of the hands are equal in rank, the "Designated Player's" hand wins.
- The opportunity to be the "Designated Player" rotates around the table so every player has an equal opportunity at the role. Players may decline the option, and if so, it will be offered to the next player until one player accepts the role.



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Wednesday – Noon · Buy-in: \$50	7 p.m. · Buy-in: \$120
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MID-ATLANTIC

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



Iron Man Challenge

1. Hieu Tran, Essex, MD, \$43,761
2. John Barber, Wilmington, DE, \$26,552
3. Warren Wiggins, Woodstock, MD, \$17,780
4. Don Delaney, West Deptford, NJ, \$12,400
5. Michael Watkins, Woodbridge, NJ, \$9,300
6. In Min, Severn, MD, \$7,294
7. Tom Patterson, Wilmington, DE, \$6,164
8. Mustafa Ali, Salisbury, MD, \$5,106
9. Ilya Nudelman, Garrison, MD, \$4,377
10. Marcus Seitz, Lacey, WA, \$3,465

DELAWARE PARK SETS A LONGEVITY RECORD

The Delaware Park Iron Man Poker Challenge proved a successful event in all aspects, with 376 participants and a world record for the longest “documented” continuous poker tournament. The only other documented marathon poker event happened at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles in September 2009, lasting a mere 19 hours. **Hieu Tran** was the last man “standing” and took home \$43,761. The Iron Man, which had a \$182K prize pool, began at noon on Aug. 20 and ended the next night at 7:58. That’s 31 hours, 58 minutes.



MICHAEL YOUNG

While falling short of the Guinness benchmark of 36 hours, an overwhelming amount of positive feedback was received from players, as well as outside interest in the event.

“At one point, there were 177 people streaming the live video and 1,700 following the live updates (online), in addition to the 40-plus people in the crowd around the final table,” poker room manager **Kevin Castora** said. “We are constantly trying to innovate the game of poker by creating new and exciting events. I want our players to always feel welcome and be a part of special events such as this.”

• The Delaware State Poker Championships concluded at Dover Downs Hotel and Casino just in time to make the *Ante Up* press run. The main event ended in a three-way chop 12 hours after the tournament began with 96 players in the Crown Royal Poker Room. Pictured from left are **John Vaccariello** of Newport News, Va., **Jeff Lord** of Denton, Md., and **Mike Zhang** of Chesapeake, Va., who each took home \$9,983. The final hand was played for the bracelet, which Vaccariello won.

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

The three winners of the Delaware State Championship main event were happy to chop the prize pool after 12 hours of play.





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

POKER LEGEND PAYS THE BAYOU A VISIT

In Louisiana we've become accustomed to seeing our share of IA-List Hollywood stars. With Shreveport ranked as the second-most-preferred location for filmmaking and often referred to as "Hollywood South," hardly a day goes by without a celebrity sighting. It is rare,



SCOTTY RUSHING

however, to see a poker legend come to town and we were happy to host two of them in recent weeks.

Phil Hellmuth made an appearance at the L'Auberge du Lac in Lake Charles to celebrate the opening of the new poker room by playing in an invitation-only \$75K-guarantee tournament. Joining Hellmuth at the tables were three Playboy Playmates.

These events are geared to be fun for the celebrities and the players, but the event at the L'Auberge quickly became a competitive affair as players not only tried to take it down but send Hellmuth to the rail, too.

"It ran so long that the final table agreed to a chip chop after a lengthy session," L'Auberge's **Kerry Andersen** said. The ultimate bragging rights went to **Jared Arbuckle**, who amassed the biggest stack and busted the Poker Brat in the process for an additional \$10,000.

Up North in Bossier City it was **Scotty Nguyen** gracing the red carpet, baby. Fresh off his "On The Button" interview in last month's *Ante Up*, Nguyen arrived at the Horseshoe to kick off World Series of Poker Circuit at Bossier by competing in two events.



Phil Hellmuth with winner Jared Arbuckle

WSOPC STARTS WITH A BANG: As *Ante Up* went to press the WSOPC event in Bossier City was still running, but the initial response was overwhelming as 175 preregistered for the first ring event, and Event 2 drew more than 600 entries.

Kenny "Badhat" Piel was impressed. "I had a few concerns with the rooftop structure, but I have to say that it exceeded my expectations. It's sturdy and secure and the air conditioning is fantastic."

Look for a full report in next month's *Ante Up*. **DARK CITY WELL REPRESENTED:** Shreveport's Dark City Poker League held a special tournament for its members to award three entries to ring events. **James Rattanachi, Allen Presler** and **Matt Terral** won the seats and will be sharing any winnings with those

who participated in the qualifier. "These are three of our best players," Dark City's **Greg Shafer** said. "They will definitely give the rest of the field a run for their money." — **Scotty "The Spokesman" Rushing** is a poker professional and sports journalist. Email him at scottyrushing@gmail.com or on Twitter: [@scottyrush](https://twitter.com/scottyrush).



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A look at the Mississippi-area poker scene

HE MAY BE SMILIN' DON, BUT HE'S FIERCE

Down South, it's that time again. Poker season. Every year we look forward to the fall lineup of Mississippi poker tournaments, while sweating hurricanes and notorious gulf weather. Tropical Storm Lee kept things interesting at the recent Gulf Coast Poker Championship at the Beau Rivage. Rainy, windy weather had the locals preparing to evacuate and the poker players worried about the main event number. Priorities, poker players have them.



JENNIFER GAY

The worry was for nothing as Lee dissolved into a series of thunderstorms and the main event drew 175 players, 66 more than last year's turnout. This year the main event's close was about as anticlimactic as the tropical storm. A chop left **Ali "Desert Storm" Alawadhi** of Longwood, Fla., signing for the first-place win and technically claiming the championship. The actual terms of the chop are speculative, but we know the final five divided up the remaining prize pool by chip count. The top five also included **Bob "Pac Man" Beck** of Redding, Calif.; **Mark Fledderman** of St Louis; **James Hartley** of St. Petersburg, Fla., and **Jim Ispser** of Gainesville, Fla.

Not quite making the chop, but cashing a nice \$15,278 in eighth place was **"Smilin" Don Norman**. He has become a bit of a fixture locally, despite being from Marion, Ill. Between Biloxi and Tunica, Norman is an honorary "local guy," and one who keeps moving up in the ranks. Just three weeks ago he brought home \$43,359 for his third-place finish at the World Poker Open at Gold Strike, Tunica.

This is only his second season following the poker tour, but I see great things in store for him. In 2010, Norman signed a deal with Bustout Poker, joining the ranks of other pros such as **Matt Stout**, **Lee Childs**, **Chad Brown** and **Jeff Gross**. He scored this high-profile opportunity by playing solid poker and by being one of the nicest guys in the game. It doesn't hurt that he looks like a model either.

Following the GCPC, Norman said of his recent success: "This just keeps getting better and better. You know, I don't have a favorite moment in my poker career to date. I've enjoyed this from the very first hand I've been dealt, to the last hand I was dealt. I'm just waiting to hit a big score. I can feel it coming, too."

"I'm definitely going to travel the circuit this year. My goal is to make the (World Series of Poker) million-dollar national freeroll. I have a great feeling about this season, the deeper I get the better I'm playing late in tournaments," he said.



You can't see him smiling here, but Don Norman is one of poker's good guys.

Back in Marion, Ill., Norman owns a family construction business and considers himself to be a family man and father first and foremost. Known for his energy, and of course the smile that earned him the moniker Smilin' Don Norman, we're proud to call him one of ours down South, even if he is a transplant.

The GCPC was a successful event as expected. Maybe a bit too successful as one noon event had more than 100 alternates. Every table in the event room was packed, with five tables of overflow down in the live room. Staff, which seemed a bit on the light side, worked round the clock to take care of the thousands who made their way through the Magnolia Ballroom. I noted last month that this event's crew is one of the most professional in the business, and as with the WPO, the GCPC is always a good time and worth making the trip.

The next event for Mississippi will be the WSOP Circuit event at the IP Biloxi, Oct. 27-Nov. 7. At the Horseshoe in Tunica, overlapping the IP just a bit, is the Magnolia State Classic on Nov. 4-13. This year the first noon event of the Magnolia will feature a \$240 buy-in and guarantee a \$40,000 prize pool. The full schedule can be found on the facing page. Last year this event was one of the most fun I attended all fall and I'm sure this year will be a success as well.

— 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).

Gulf Coast Championship, Beau Rivage, Biloxi, Miss., Aug. 25-Sept. 5



\$550 NLHE
266 players • Prize Pool: \$129,010
WINNER: Vasile Fabian, \$38,704



\$340 Omaha/8
78 players • Prize Pool: \$22,698
WINNER: Frank Kitchens, \$8,170



\$340 NLHE
456 players • Prize Pool: \$132,696
WINNER: Aaron Lasater, \$34,434



\$230 PLO w/re-entries
48 players • Prize Pool: \$22,698
WINNER: George Bursavich, \$8,555
* David Snitkin is pictured.



\$230 NLHE
308 players • Prize Pool: \$59,752
WINNER: Ronnie George, \$17,922

Continued on next page

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



BE PART OF THE LEGEND

FALL CLASSIC NOVEMBER 4 – 13

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT #	EVENT	BUY-IN	
Fri	11/4	10am – 7pm		Single Table Satellites	35-45-65-125	
Fri	11/4	12pm	1A	No-Limit Re-Entry*	200+30+10	
\$40,000 Guarantee Prize Pool						
Fri	11/4	7pm	2	No-Limit	125+25+10	
Sat	11/5	12pm	1B	No-Limit Re-Entry*	200+30+10	
\$40,000 Guarantee Prize Pool						
Sat	11/5	7pm	3	No Limit	125+25+10	
Sun	11/6	12pm	4	No Limit	200+30+10	
Sun	11/6	2pm	1	\$40,000 Guarantee Re-Start		SEAT
Sun	11/6	7pm	5	No-Limit	125+25+10	
Mon	11/7	12pm	6	No Limit	200+30+10	SEAT
Mon	11/7	7pm	7	No-Limit	125+25+10	
Tues	11/8	12pm	8	No Limit	200+30+10	
Tues	11/8	7pm	9	No-Limit	125+25+10	
Wed	11/9	12pm	10	No Limit	200+30+10	SEAT
Wed	11/9	7pm	11	No-Limit	125+25+10	
Thurs	11/10	12pm	12	No-Limit – Seniors	200+30+10	
Thurs	11/10	4pm	13	Main Event – MEGA	100+20+5	
Thurs	11/10	7pm	14	No-Limit	125+25+10	
Fri	11/11	12pm	15	No-Limit	300+30+10	SEAT
Fri	11/11	4pm	16	Main Event – MEGA	100+20+5	
Fri	11/11	7pm	17	No-Limit	125+25+10	
Sat	11/12	12pm	18	Main Event	500+50+10	SEAT
Sat	11/12	3pm	19	No Limit – Ladies	125+25+10	
Sat	11/12	7pm	20	No-Limit	125+25+10	
Sun	11/13	12pm	21	No Limit	125+25+10	
\$10,000 Guarantee						

Single table satellites start November 4 at 10am daily. All Tournaments are 1 day events except Re-Entry Tournament. Noon – Starting chips are \$10,000 plus \$2000 bonus chips. 7pm tournaments start with \$5000 chips plus \$2000 bonus chips. Ladies Event Tournament – \$10,000 plus \$2,000 bonus chips. Seniors Event Tournament – age 40 and above. \$10,000 plus \$2,000 bonus chips. Main Event Starting Chips – \$15,000 plus \$5,000 Bonus chips. Re-Entry Tournament first weekend \$40,000 Guarantee Prize Pool 10,000 plus 5,000 bonus chips. (SEAT) Event Winner will win a seat into WSOPCE® Main Event at Harrah's, January 2012. Seats paid for by Horseshoe – not out of prize fund.

Hotel rates:

Horseshoe Sunday – Thursday \$49.00 / Friday and Saturday \$99.00
 Harrah's Sunday – Thursday \$30.00 / Friday and Saturday \$50.00
 Reservation line 662-357-5608



Continued from previous page



\$550 Heads-Up
32 players • Prize Pool: \$15,520
WINNER: Michael Pillsbury, \$8,555



\$230 Seniors
222 players • Prize Pool: \$43,068
WINNER: Pierce Webster, \$14,212



\$230 PLO
59 players • Prize Pool: \$23,862
WINNER: David Eller, \$8,339



\$660 Six-Max Bounty
81 players • Prize Pool: \$39,285
WINNER: Kyle Cartwright, \$12,571



\$230 PLO/NLHE
86 players • Prize Pool: \$16,684
WINNER: Wayne Lippman, \$6,006



\$130 NLHE w/re-entries
89 players • Prize Pool: \$23,862
WINNER: Pablo Garcia-Salas, \$8,591



\$1,070 NLHE
85 players • Prize Pool: \$82,450
WINNER: Chip Ervin, \$29,680



\$230 NLHE
102 players • Prize Pool: \$41,322
WINNER: Jonathan Taylor, \$14,875



\$230 Charity
72 players • Prize Pool: \$23,862
WINNER: Phillip Weinberg, \$5,639



\$225 Turbo
162 players • Prize Pool: \$31,428
WINNER: Davy Murrah, \$10,372



\$1,580 NLHE
98 players • Prize Pool: \$142,590
WINNER: Vincent Phan, \$51,332



\$335 Turbo
211 players • Prize Pool: \$61,401
WINNER: Jonathan Moseley, \$20,261



\$225 Turbo
103 players • Prize Pool: \$19,982
WINNER: Larry Riggs, \$7,193



\$3,125 Main Event
175 players • Prize Pool: \$509,250
WINNER: Ali Alawadhi, \$168,048
2. Bob Beck, Slidell, LA, \$92,684
3. Mark Fledderman, St. Louis, \$50,925
4. Jim Hartley, St. Petersburg, FL, \$40,740
5. Jim Isper, Gainesville, FL, \$30,555
6. Ron Lee, Long Beach, MS, \$25,463
7. Linh Nguyen, Rock Hill, SC, \$20,370
8. Don Norman, Marion, IL, \$15,278
9. Jacob Bazeley, Cincinnati, \$10,185

Photos courtesy of IMPTDI

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 **WPT**
(World Poker Tour)
REGIONAL

Keep an eye out for
upcoming WPT events in
December, March and July.

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

YES, THERE ARE GAMES OTHER THAN NLHE

We all know Texas Hold'em (specifically no-limit) is the most popular game spread, including Las Vegas. But many of us desire to be more rounded in our poker education and want to play games other than NLHE while in Vegas. Fortunately there are some options.



MICHAEL HAMAI

By far, the most common non-hold'em cash game spread with regularity here is Omaha/8.

There's a \$4-\$8 and \$8-\$16 Omaha/8 (with a half-kill) spread daily at Orleans, which has O/8 games 24 hours a day, and usually gets multiple tables running. Other off-Strip rooms that spread O/8 with regularity are Red Rock and Santa Fe Station. On the Strip, O/8 is found daily at Venetian (\$4-\$8 and \$8-\$16) and Bellagio (\$30-\$60).

A unique daily spread game (and unique poker room in general) is found at Boulder Station. It spreads a game that's known as being the deepest and heaviest action limit game in town: \$4-\$8 Omaha (high, not O/8) with a half-kill. It's the most common game spread at Boulder, often with four tables or more of just Omaha. This game often has players each with six or seven racks of \$1 chips. Swings of \$600 or more in one hour are common. Be sure to buckle your seatbelt and light up a smoke before you take a seat in that game. You read that right. Boulder Station is one of only two poker rooms left in Las Vegas that allows cigarette smoking at the table. This, along with Omaha high, contributes to Boulder's extreme popularity. The room is packed most nights, often with all 11 of its tables going strong.

Pot-limit Omaha is slowly gaining popularity in Vegas. New PLO tournaments and cash games are popping up in pretty random places. With regularity, PLO is found mainly at Aria and Venetian. Aria spreads \$1-\$3 PLO whereas Venetian offers \$1-\$2 PLO with a \$5 bring-in.

Stud games are seeing a slight resurgence. In August, Tropicana's new poker room started spreading a weekly \$2-\$8 spread-limit razz game every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. The game has built a following and often lasts late into the night. Suncoast (in the Summerlin area of Las Vegas), spreads \$4-\$8 stud/8 with some regularity and is home to "The Hoggie Game," which is a \$2-\$10, \$2-\$20 (on seventh street) stud double qualifier (two-pair or better for high, 8/B for low). The Hoggie Game has been around since the 1980s and spreads every Monday at Suncoast.

Stud can be found with regularity at El Cortez (\$1-\$5), Sam's Town (\$1-\$5) and Bellagio (\$20-\$40).

Mixed and H.O.R.S.E. games are gaining significant popularity. Low limit mixed games are found with regularity at Imperial Palace (Sunday nights) and Tropicana (Wednesday and Saturday nights) and



The Orleans in Las Vegas is considered by many to be the Omaha capital of the poker world.

occasionally at Wynn, Aria and Treasure Island. Mid- and high-limit mixed games are found at Aria (\$12-\$24 and \$300-\$600) and Bellagio (\$40-\$80 and more).

The longest running low-limit mixed game is at Imperial Palace every Sunday night at 7 p.m. It's a fun, action-oriented 10-game mix that I put together in March 2008 and am proud to see that it still runs with regularity. Games include the standards of O/8, razz and stud/8, as well as unique games such as deuce-to-seven triple draw, badugi, four-card ocean crazy pineapple and 3-2-1 Omaha (three flops, two turns, one river). If you're in town on a Sunday night, it's a game you don't want to miss!

Non-hold'em tournaments are out there, but unfortunately not with any consistency on the Strip. Orleans, Fitzgerald's, Green Valley Ranch and Red Rock offer non-hold'em tournaments. A PLO/8 tournament is every Monday at GVR that carries a \$45 buy-in. Orleans gets big numbers for its weekly \$75 H.O.R.S.E. and O/8 tournaments, and Red Rock offers an O/8 tournament every Friday evening.

Non-hold'em cash games and tournaments are a great way to build your poker knowledge and take a break from the monotony that is hold'em. With limits as low as \$3-\$6 and usually a friendly and patient group of players these unique games offer a fun and educational way to expand your poker knowledge with little financial risk. Be sure to call ahead to get on the list for the weekly cash games.

— 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.

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MCLAUGHLIN'S CAREER 'SERENDIPITOUS'

By Todd Lamansky

Jeremy McLaughlin is living every poker player's dream.

In May 2007 he entered his first big buy-in competition, a \$1K no-limit hold'em tournament at the Borgata in Atlantic City. The night before it started, he was watching TV in his hotel room and came across an interview with **Vanessa Rousso** on *Big Idea* with **Donny Deutsch**, a since-cancelled show on CNBC featuring success stories that outlined a road map to the American Dream.

During the interview, Rousso used a Darwinian image to illustrate the importance of survival in a poker tournament. The next day, as McLaughlin nursed a short stack in frustration — he had been card dead for hours and received more than his fair share of bad beats — he held on to Rousso's metaphor as his competition slowly dropped off.

Then his luck began to change.

McLaughlin went on a heater and found himself chipleader at the final table, where they struck a deal giving him first-place honors and a \$210,976 payday. The prize money allowed him to quit his job as a D.C. police officer and play poker full time. He even wound up telling his story as a guest on *Big Idea*, where it all began.

"Looking back, the whole thing was very serendipitous," he said.

The Borgata has been good to him as well. He's cashed there 12

times since that first payday, including a third- and fourth-place finish for \$148,180 and \$205,942, respectively. He's also cashed in three WPT events, nine times at the WSOP, including the 2011 main event (420th), and has lifetime earning totaling \$1,171,313 (though he goes by Jeremy, most databases have him listed as Robert).

But McLaughlin has yet to top that initial score, which is one of the reasons why he's recently shifted his focus to cash games, along with the grueling nature of the tournament circuit and the aggravation of variance. He moved to Florida last year in the wake of its new poker laws and makes his living playing \$10-\$25.

"Tournaments are like a commission-based job in that you do a lot of work you don't get paid for, save for those occasional windfalls," he said, "whereas cash games are more like having a job where you get paid by the hour. It's more stable, more consistent. It also provides you with a lot more freedom since you don't have to be anywhere at a certain time."

But McLaughlin still plays tournaments, which he admits, "are like a drug."

What does he do when he's not playing cards? Sleeping and watching TV. "My entire life revolves around poker," he said, admitting it's one of the reasons he doesn't have a girlfriend, which he said would only be a distraction at this point, though his favorite movie is *Titanic*. "I'm a hopeless romantic."



RENO

Heintz: from dealer to manager to Hall-of-Famer

Reno's **Margie Heintz**, manager of the Eldorado poker room, joined fellow inductees **Phyllis Caro** (see story Page 8) and **Kristy Gazes** in the Women in Poker Hall of Fame on Sept. 2 at the Golden Nugget in Las Vegas. Her most noted achievement in poker is being the first woman to deal in the World Series. I had a chance to ask her a few questions about her career.

How important is being in the Women in Poker Hall of Fame? It's an honor to be one of the three that are being inducted and to be among the inductees from past years.

How surprised were you when you were selected for induction? I didn't know I was going to be nominated so it was very surprising.

Where did you get your start in poker? I got my start in Billings, Mont. Poker became legalized there in 1975 and I turned 21 in January of that year. I became fascinated with poker and started playing a bit.

What was your first dealing job? A small club in Billings called Zivios. The action was very good for about a year and a half and then the state put a \$100 cap on the pot size.

How did you get the job dealing the WSOP? I came to Las Vegas in 1976 and began to work for **Bill Boyd** at the Golden Nugget. Through that process I met **Jack Strauss** and dealt his tournament at the Marina, a casino on the strip. From there I met **Cowboy Wolford** and he recom-

mended me to **Benny Binion** to deal the World Series of Poker.

Was it difficult being a female dealer back then? It was incredibly abusive. The players were horribly verbally abusive. This is probably why no female dealers even applied for the job back then. I am incredibly grateful to the (Tournament Directors Association) and to supervisors that enforce the rules of bad behavior nowadays.

What are some of the situations you had to deal with? In one hand of a seven-card-stud game a player refused to release his hand after losing the pot. After a few minutes I went to reach for the cards when he twisted my arm and took me down on the table. The floorman did nothing. In another high-stakes cash game a player used my face for the muck, throwing her discards at me. This induction is like a badge of honor to me for all the things I went through.

What brought you to Reno? I had a lot of culture shock going from Montana to Las Vegas and I thought the players in Reno would be easier to deal to.

How did you become the poker-room manager at Eldorado? I worked as a dealer at the MGM when it first opened. I also dealt at the Eldorado for a couple of years. After the Eldorado closed the poker room I went to work at the Peppermill for 10 years as a dealer and a supervisor. In 1998 the Eldorado reopened the poker room and I was asked to be the manager and have been so ever since.

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



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"BOUNTY" Tournaments**

Monday Thru Sunday at 7pm • \$60 Buy-In



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Chop Pot Classic at Peppermill has it all

Mike Gaaney's Chop Pot Classic at the Peppermill Hotel Casino in Reno, Nev., offered players a chance to compete in their favorite mixed games.

All 10 events, from Aug. 31-Sept. 5, featured split-pot games, including Omaha, stud and even crazy pineapple. The live games were packed with action, utilizing every table over the weekend, and even featured a rare \$100-\$200 no-limit hold'em game where one pot exceeded \$200,000.

Whether players were looking for a mixed-game variety or high-stakes action, the Peppermill had it all in this one-of-a-kind tournament experience. — Cory Howard



Players enjoyed a host of split-pot tournament choices.

Chop Pot Classic, Peppermill Hotel Casino, Reno, Nev., Aug. 31-Sept. 5

Event 1 • \$120 Omaha/8

Entries: 99 • Prize Pool: \$9,603
WINNER: Nick Polydoros, Scottsdale, AZ, \$3,168

Event 2 • \$120 H.O.R.S.E.

Entries: 52 • Prize Pool: \$5,044
WINNER: David Diiorio, Placerville, CA, \$1,525

Event 3 • \$120 P.O.E.

Entries: 56 • Prize Pool: \$5,432
WINNER: James Martini, Incline Village, CA, \$1,182

Event 4 • \$120 Stud/8

Entries: 36 • Prize Pool: \$3,492
WINNER: Bill Hall, Redding, CA, \$900

Event 5 • \$120 Omaha/8

Entries: 86 • Prize Pool: \$8,342
WINNER: Louis Oropallo, Vacerville, CA, \$2,237

Event 6 • \$120 Crazy Pineapple/8

Entries: 30 • Prize Pool: \$2,910
WINNER: Mike Politiski, Newport Bch., OR, \$900

Event 7 • \$225 Omaha/8

Entries: 54 • Prize Pool: \$10,476
WINNER: Ron Ware, Discovery Bay, CA, \$2,156

Event 8 • \$120 H.O.R.S.E.

Entries: 38 • Prize Pool: \$3,686
WINNER: Greg Derov, Reno, NV, \$1,143

Event 9 • \$225 Crazy Pineapple/8

Entries: 16 • Prize Pool: \$3,104
WINNER: Jerry Thomas, Reno, NV, \$1,200

Event 10 • \$120 Stud/8

Entries: 31 • Prize Pool: \$3,007
WINNER: Peter Hsu, San Francisco, \$1,207

Event 11 • \$120 Omaha/8

Entries: 49 • Prize Pool: \$4,753
WINNER: Jason Stern, San Jose, CA, \$1,450

Event 12 • \$120 H.O.R.S.E.

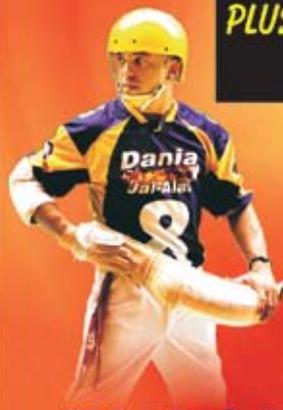
Entries: 21 • Prize Pool: \$2,037
WINNER: Ilene Schefman, Phoenix, \$800

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A look at the Colorado poker scene

WPT LANDS AT ISLE OCT. 5

There's been a lot less poker on television since Black Friday, but if reality TV's your thing, you might enjoy the *Survivor*-style deception going on in Black Hawk lately — even if the victim of that deception does not.

The Isle Casino at Black Hawk has been making a big push to increase its presence in the Black Hawk/Central City poker scene, an initiative helped by landing Colorado's first World Poker Tour regional tournament. The event runs Oct. 5–12, and satellites are running now.



RICK GERSHMAN

However, if you follow Internet buzz, you might have thought the tournament was off.

The confusion originated from a post that appeared on Backpage.com under the title "WPT not coming to Colorado!"

The author of the post claimed to be **Matthew Dodd**, the Isle's poker manager, though a close reading makes it clear that's false. The post claimed that the WPT had pulled out, with the pseudo-Dodd providing all sorts of mea culpas, including apologies to Black Hawk's Golden Gates Casino and links to the Gates' tournament websites.

The sham was pretty transparent, but it looked believable enough

at first glance to have the discussion boards abuzz.

For the record, it was all bogus. Dodd confirmed the tournament was never in jeopardy, though he couldn't comment specifically on the misinformation campaign, which suggests the Isle is taking this seriously. That's understandable since even a few potential entrants failing to participate because of fraud affects the tournament.

"I cannot discuss the disinformation at this time," (the actual) Dodd said. "The entire situation is under investigation. Rest assured, the WPT is going on as scheduled and as planned."

He went on to note the Isle was running sit-n-go satellites daily beginning at noon, and that advertising efforts have been effective in generating buzz from players in Colorado and out of state.

To be clear, there's no suggestion the Gates had any involvement with the fake post, though the poster certainly tried to imply as much. A call to the Gates for comment was not returned, though we'll try again.

Meanwhile, it so happens the Gates put on a big event, too. The Mile High Poker Open marked the 10th Heartland Poker Tour event the casino hosted. The main event, which runs Sept. 29-Oct. 2, will be nationally televised in December.

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

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

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October 5 - 16

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10/5	Wed	6:30pm	WPT Regional Event Mega-Satellite	\$160	\$15	7,000	3,000
10/6	Thurs	6:30pm	WPT Regional Event Mega-Satellite	\$160	\$15	7,000	3,000
10/7	Fri	3:00pm	No Limit Hold 'Em	\$200	\$25	7,000	3,000
10/8	Sat	noon	No Limit Hold 'Em	\$500	\$45	12,000	8,000
10/9	Sun	2:00pm	No Limit Hold 'Em (6-Max)	\$300	\$35	7,000	3,000
10/10	Mon	6:30pm	Limit Omaha Hi-Lo (Eight or better)	\$200	\$25	7,000	3,000
10/11	Tues	6:30pm	No Limit Hold 'Em	\$200	\$25	7,000	3,000
10/12	Wed	6:30pm	"OH" 1/2 No Limit Omaha Hi 1/2 NLH	\$200	\$25	7,000	3,000
10/13	Thurs	6:30pm	No Limit Hold 'Em	\$300	\$35	7,000	3,000
10/14	Fri	3:00pm	WPT Regional Event NLH (Day 1A) Players eliminated from 1A may buy into 1B.	\$1,500	\$100	20,000	10,000
10/15	Sat	noon	WPT Regional Event NLH (Day 1B)	\$1,500	\$100	20,000	10,000
10/16	Sun	noon	WPT Regional Event NLH Final Day - Players remaining from 1A and Day 1B.				

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Get Winning!
BLACK HAWK

TUCKER'S WIN CULMINATES RIVER SERIES

WinStar World Casino in Thackerville, Okla., concluded its annual \$3 million guarantee River Poker Series on Sept. 5, as **Bronson Tucker** of Round Rock, Texas, captured the title and the \$640,400 first-place prize. Renowned professional players **Greg Raymer** and **Maria Ho** hosted the \$2,100 main event, which drew 1,355 players for \$2.71 million prize pool.



CRYSTALLYNN HARRIS

Tucker is no stranger to tournaments. "This is my biggest cash," he told Ho in a post-tournament interview. "I got lucky in an online tournament that allowed me to play in live games like the **Scotty Nguyen** tournaments."

Tucker's day job kept him playing recreationally, but he managed to pull out small tournament cashes, including a \$500 win in the Winter Bayou Poker Challenge in New Orleans. From an online win to WinStar main event champion, Tucker found himself clutching his "trophy bracelet" and more money than he was sure what to do with. When Ho asked about his plans for his winnings he shrugged his shoulders and shook his head in awe.

"I have two daughters," he said. "This will allow me to do a lot for them."

Noah Nodine of Norman, Okla., finished fifth, adding \$108,400 to his total career of more than \$200,000. Other players such as **Dwyte Pilgrim** (16th) and **David Baker** (17th) also cashed in the main event. Ho placed 112th (Turn to Page 70 for our interview with her).

WinStar poker room manager **Jay Wiles** attributes the success of the series to the players and hard-working staff.

"We are continually improving. This year we allowed re-entries into the main event and that drew tremendous player support. We don't see any reason not to continue providing that option."

There was more than hot tournament action at WinStar. Cash games were busting at the seams in the full 46-table room where games from \$1-\$2 no-limit hold'em and \$4-\$8 limit to \$10-\$20 pot-limit Omaha were spread. By Labor Day evening there were still 18 tables running.

• Another upcoming event on the Oklahoma tournament map, Downstream Casino is heading into an action-packed month with its HPT series Oct. 13-24. The main event guarantees \$100,000 for first place and a **Brad Garrett** charity comedy show will take place during the series with all money going to the Joplin Relief Fund, but nothing has been confirmed.

For as little as \$45 players can satellite into the \$1,100 main event and work their way to the televised final table. Other satellite buy-in range from \$80-\$350, including tournament entry fees.

Downstream Casino poker room manager **Elliott Schecter** contends that October is a great time for poker players to come out and play.

"Our cash games are very exciting during the HPT series. We attract players from all over the four-state area and HPT is our solution to provide players a cost-effective way to score a big tournament win."

Players can register online by visiting downstreamcasino.com. Downstream Casino is four miles west of Joplin, Mo., so mark the dates in your planner and we will see you at the final table.

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



Bronson Tucker can't contain his \$640K smile.

River Poker Series, WinRiver Casino

\$2,100 Main Event • Entrants: 1,355

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Bronson Tucker, \$640,400 | 11. Michael Sanders, \$43,360 |
| 2. Ricky Barker, \$342,300 | 12. James Anderson, \$41,327 |
| 3. Doug Ashmore, \$182,290 | 13. Benjamin Mintz, \$35,230 |
| 4. Daniel Hornbaker, \$135,500 | 14. Mike Schneider, \$35,230 |
| 5. Noah Nodine, \$108,400 | 15. Ken Blanton, \$27,100 |
| 6. Jesse Rockowitz, \$94,850 | 16. Dwyte Pilgrim, \$27,100 |
| 7. Ryan Snickles, \$81,300 | 17. David Baker, \$21,680 |
| 8. Bobby Suer, \$67,750 | 18. Shane Sigsbee, \$21,680 |
| 9. Joon Cho, \$60,975 | 19. Matthew Bray, \$17,615 |
| 10. Justin Cereste, \$54,200 | 20. Gregg Merkow, \$17,615 |

Cherokee Blast to the Past

- | | |
|---|--|
| Event 1 • \$120 NLHE
Players: 63 • Prize Pool: \$7,560
WINNER: Alex Young, Fayetteville, AR, \$2,205 | Event 4 • \$150 Survivor
Players: 40 • Prize Pool: \$5,000
WINNER: Adam Garner, Boulder, Colo., \$1,250 |
| Event 2 • \$120 H.O.R.S.E
Players: 23 • Prize Pool: \$2,300
WINNER: Frank Fullerton, S. Springs, AR, \$1,150 | Event 5 • \$230 NLHE
Players: 87 • Prize Pool: \$17,400
WINNER: Daniel Hughes, Tulsa, \$5,568 |
| Event 3 • \$120 NLHE
Players: 59 • Prize Pool: \$9,740
WINNER: Phil Ford, Lowell, AR, \$3,702 | Event 6 • \$230 Omaha/8
Players: 17 • Prize Pool: \$3,400
WINNER: Matthew Lyons, Owasso, OK, \$1,700 |

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

OCTOBER 13 - 24, 2011

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A look at the poker scene in and around Chicago

TORRES TURNS AROUND HIS FORTUNES

Jose Torres was in the right place at the right time. The Horseshoe Hammond wrapped up its Summer Series with a \$1,500 main event on Aug. 27. The 260 players and \$364,000 prize pool made it the largest non-tour/circuit event in the Chicago area, giving Torres a historic victory and \$83,720 payday. Torres said he has been relying on his poker skills since the real estate industry took a dive, winning his main-event seat in a \$1-\$2 game at the Horseshoe.



Jose Torres



JOE GIERTUGA

Many of Chicagoland's top players showed up, including third-place finisher **Elvin Simpson, Aaron Massey, Joel Casper, Kevin Saul, Tom Koral** and **Kenny Nguyen**.

The Horseshoe staff is anticipating another record turnout for its World Series of Poker Circuit this month, especially for the \$350 no-limit hold'em opener. It has a \$500,000 guaranteed prize pool with a split Day 1. Thursday (Oct. 13) at noon will be Day 1A, and players will be allowed to re-enter 1B on Friday. With the new format this tournament could exceed a record 2,000 entrees.

The four-day \$1,600 main event starts Oct. 21 at noon; this event also features a split Day 1 with a \$1.5 million guaranteed prize pool. It's poised to be another record-breaker over last year's 872 players.

For the budget-minded player the \$200 stimulus tournament will be noon on Oct. 19. Other interesting events include pot-limit Omaha (Oct. 16, 5 p.m., \$350 with \$100 rebuys); Omaha/8 (Oct. 20, noon, \$350); six-max (Oct. 18, noon, \$560) and H.O.R.S.E. (Oct. 18, 5 p.m., \$350). For the complete WSOPC schedule at Horseshoe Hammond visit wsop.com.

HARRAH'S JOLIET: Since opening its poker room, Harrah's Joliet keeps coming up with great promotions. Its latest WSOP qualifier tournaments will send five players to the WSOP main event and 105 players to various WSOPC locations to

play in the corresponding main events. Players can win a seat to the WSOPC main event at the Horseshoe Hammond. Monday through Friday sit-n-go qualifiers run 9 a.m. till midnight. Players can choose from a \$45 SNG (one player advances to the Saturday mega satellite) or a \$75 SNG (two players advance).

- The Michael Rolfe Pancreatic Cancer Foundation will hold its seventh annual casino night Oct. 22 at the Chicago Cultural Center. This charity event will feature a hold'em tournament for the grand prize. The Rolfe Foundation plays a critical role helping fund research for pancreatic cancer, raising more than \$4 million this year. For more information rolfefoundation.org or call 312-726-7766.

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

SHOW ME!

A look at the Missouri poker scene

Harris and Phillips have a passion for the game

Paul Harris is a longtime radio host in St. Louis. After the World Series of Poker success of his friend **Dennis Phillips**, they started the *Final Table Show*, which covers poker news, interviews and strategy. The weekly show is broadcast from the Harrah's St. Louis poker room every Tuesday at 3 p.m. CT on 590 KFNS-AM (kfns.com). It's also a popular podcast that can be found at dennisphillips poker.blogspot.com.



DON MATUSOFSKY

Phillips discusses events from around the tournament circuit while both hosts interview the biggest names in the poker world. Some of Harris' favorite interviews include **Matt Affleck, Phil Hellmuth** and **Jennifer Harman** (the show's most downloaded podcast). Strategy segments from Stack'em Coaching cover topics from handling a downswing, bet-sizing, dealing with tilt and changes for heads-up



and six-max play.

Harris' interest in poker goes back to his high school and college days. After working in numerous cities he landed in Washington, D.C., and that's when his interest in poker skyrocketed. He frequented home games and made occasional trips to the Taj Mahal in Atlantic

City to play his favorite game, seven-card stud.

Once **Harris** moved to St. Louis in 1999 he began to play regularly at the local poker rooms, starting with stud and working his way up to \$20-\$40 limit hold'em. He now plays in the bigger no-limit hold'em games, but prefers pot-limit Omaha. While primarily a cash-game player, Harris has cashed in a number of tournaments, including WSOP Circuit and World Poker Tour preliminary events.

The *Final Table* hosts are bringing a big cash game to St. Louis on Oct. 28-30, drawing players from all parts of the country. The \$25-\$50 NLHE game with a \$10 ante will have a \$15K buy-in and is expected to be the biggest game held in Missouri. The backup game will be \$10-\$20 NLHE with a \$5 ante. The games will be in Harrah's main poker room. Access near the tables will be restricted, but large windows should provide a good view for spectators.

Hotel discounts are available and players can wire funds to the cage. Email dennisphillips poker@gmail.com for more information or to reserve a place in the game. The hope is this will become a quarterly event. With this in mind, Harris said, "Anyone who books a significant win on Friday will be expected to play again on Saturday or risk not being invited next time."

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

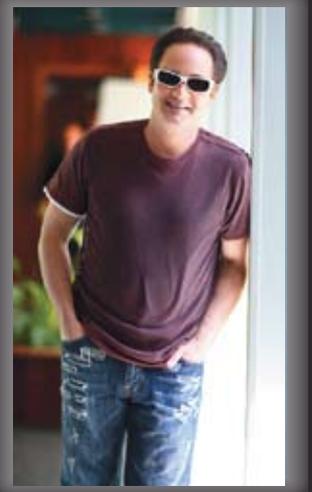
Interested in Chicagoland or Missouri tournaments and promotions? Turn to our Where to Play pages in the back of the magazine.

HIT THE RIVER RUNNING

THE JERSEY
OUTLAW'S NEW
HIT SINGLE



The Jersey Outlaw-Jimmie Lee, explodes into the poker world armed with his latest single, "HIT THE RIVER RUNNING" that perfectly captures the emotions poker players feel as they sweat out that crucial card that can seal their fate!! This single is the "talk of the town" in the poker magazines, and can be heard on Poker Radio including OnTiltRadio, Short Stacked Radio and more. The Jersey Outlaw has just signed big deals with LIPS (Ladies Invitational Poker), HokesHouse, and Poker Euphoria, and will be making appearances at Celebrity Poker Tournaments throughout the year.



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CREATIVE WAYS TO SIMULATE NLHE CASH GAMES

When people visit a Minnesota cardroom for the first time, they're often surprised to learn no-limit hold'em is not offered as a cash game. Most tournaments are NLHE, so why not cash games? The first Minnesota law authorizing card clubs was passed in 1999, before

the poker boom in 2003, and limit poker was the game of choice. The law originally stated players could bet up to \$15 on the opening rounds and a maximum of \$30 for each bet/raise on later rounds. Clearly \$15-\$30 limit games were intended to be the highest stakes. In 2001 the laws were changed to allow up to a \$60 bet regardless of which betting round it was.



JOHN SOMSKY

Obviously the times have changed since then and poker has evolved. With the growth of poker on television, NLHE has become the most popular form of poker. But the law is not as quick to change as people's tastes. In fact the laws are essentially the same as they were in 2001. So how do poker rooms accommodate players who want to play NLHE with the \$60-max-bet restriction?

I visited Canterbury Park in Shakopee, Minn., which boasts a large selection of limit games, to speak with **Michael Hochman**, senior director of table games, to see how they accommodate NLHE players.

"The Survival tournament was specifically designed to be a no-limit hold'em cash game in tournament format," he said. "**Annie Adlin**, one of our shift managers, actually came up with the idea, which I thought was brilliant."

The Survival tournaments, which launched in September 2010, are available at three different buy-in levels: \$230, \$330 or \$530, which are meant to emulate a \$1-\$2, \$1-\$3 and \$2-\$5 cash games, respectively. Using the \$330 tournament as an example, here is how the tournaments work:

- The tournament starts as soon as nine players have signed up and lasts two hours.
- The blinds are \$1-\$3 for the first hour and \$2-\$3 for the second hour.
- Each player starts with \$300 in tournament chips, one for every dollar of the buy-in.
- Any time a player gets below half the starting stack (\$150) they can add \$150 or \$300 in chips.
- If a player busts and elects not to buy-in again, the seat may be

filled by a player on the waiting list.

- At the end of the two hours every player is paid \$1 for every tournament chip in their stack.

Overall it's pretty close to a cash game, but it still follows tournament rules. So you wait to tip the dealers until the end of the tournament, and you can't use your cell phone at the table. I've played a few of these and found them to be enjoyable. The time spent during the payouts can be a little tedious, but it's fairly easy to play a few of these games on a busy night without too much waiting. Just be sure you play it like a cash game, don't try to get all your chips in the pot just because time is running out. You don't need all the chips; you get to cash out whatever is in front of you when the "tournament" ends.

I then went to Columbus, Minn., to Running Aces Harness Park, which takes a different approach. I spoke with poker manager **Gregg Barktu** about their spread-limit cash games.

"Our whole idea was to offer something different from our competitors, which was regular limit games, so we (decided) to offer these spread-limits," he said. "(\$2-\$60 spread-limit) is our most popular game by far."

The \$2-\$60 spread-limit hold'em game allows players to buy in for anywhere from \$50 to \$200. The blinds are \$1-\$2 and players can bet \$2-\$60. Of course \$60 raises and reraises are allowed, so it's still possible to get your stack in fairly quickly. They also offer a \$5-\$60 spread-limit game, which has an uncapped buy-in and \$2-\$5 blinds.

I play the \$2-\$60 game regularly, and while it isn't quite a true no-limit game, it's pretty close. Though you still see new players trying to go all-in with more than \$60 in their stack, people catch on fairly quickly. The main strategy change I've noticed is you can't make monster bluffs to chase people out of the pot and likewise you might not get the implied odds with drawing hands as you would in a no-limit game.

For no-limit fans there is hope the Legislature will change the laws to allow Minnesota poker rooms to offer games comparable to those offered in other states. One proposal was made this year, House File 1419, which would have allowed the Minnesota Racing Commission set the betting limits instead of being codified in law. However that proposal fizzled without being put up for a vote. Until then we can be happy poker rooms still offer a variety of games to satisfy no-limit players.

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

KENTUCKIANA

A look at the Kentucky-Southern Indiana poker scene

Hollywood Casino crowns Indiana's top player



DON LAWSON

Who's the best poker player in the Hoosier State? That's what folks at the Hollywood Casino in Lawrenceburg intended to find out during the Indiana State Poker Championships. The ISPC, which ran Aug. 11-20 and culminated with the \$1,500 main event, saw a remarkable increase in attendance.

"Tournament numbers just about doubled over last year," poker room manager **Thomas "TK" Kraus** said. "The

attendance and registration was simply a major success. When you have your opening day event with over 1,600 entries that is a great start. Every event showed an increase in numbers across the board. We set an attendance and prize-pool record for a regional event."

The ISPC is just one of the many marquee events Hollywood posts each year.

Continued on next page

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



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Date	Buy-In+Entry	Game
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Sun, Oct. 2	\$150 \$25	No-Limit Hold'em
Mon, Oct. 3	\$200 \$30	No-Limit Hold'em
Tue, Oct. 4	\$200 \$30	Omaha Hi/Lo 8 or Better
Wed, Oct. 5	\$200 \$30	Mix Limit Omaha 8/Hold'em
Thu, Oct. 6	\$200 \$30	No-Limit Hold'em
Fri, Oct. 7	\$300 \$40	No-Limit Hold'em
Sat, Oct. 8	\$500 \$50	No-Limit Hold'em
Sun, Oct. 9	\$150 \$25	No-Limit Hold'em
Mon, Oct. 10	\$200 \$30	No-Limit Hold'em
Tue, Oct. 11	\$200 \$30	No-Limit Hold'em
Wed, Oct. 12	\$200 \$30	7 Card Stud
Thu, Oct. 13	\$500 \$50	6-Handed No Limit Hold'em
Fri, Oct. 14	\$500 \$50	No-Limit Hold'em

6:30 PM Tournaments:

Date	Buy-In+Entry	Game
Sat, Oct. 1	\$100 \$20	No-Limit Hold'em
Sun, Oct. 2	\$100 \$20	Seniors No-Limit Hold'em
Mon, Oct. 3	\$100 \$20	Ladies No-Limit Hold'em
Tue, Oct. 4	\$100 \$20	No-Limit Hold'em
Wed, Oct. 5	\$100 \$20	All-in or Fold Hold'em
Thu, Oct. 6	\$100 \$20	Mix Limit Omaha 8/Hold'em
Fri, Oct. 7	\$100 \$20	No-Limit Hold'em
Sat, Oct. 8	\$100 \$20	No-Limit Hold'em
Sun, Oct. 9	\$100 \$20	Omaha Hi/Lo 8 or Better
Mon, Oct. 10	\$100 \$20	No-Limit Hold'em
Tue, Oct. 11	\$100 \$20	Super Satellite
Wed, Oct. 12	\$200 \$30	Super Satellite
Thu, Oct. 13	\$200 \$30	Super Satellite
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KENTUCKIANA

A look at the Kentucky-Southern Indiana poker scene

Indiana State Poker Championships



\$1,500 Main Event

1. James Wright, Fairfield, OH, \$71,195
2. Samuel Steele, Louisville, \$53,195
3. Eli Loewenthal, Carmel, IN, \$54,194
4. Justin Truesdell, Ewing, KY, \$24,083

5. Dwayne Walters, Paragon, IN, \$18,147
6. Jeffrey Rowland, Fortville, IN, \$14,416
7. Charlie Cibula, River Forest, IL, \$12,211
8. John Curry, Holbrook, NY, \$10,854
9. Troy Gamble, Rockford, OH, \$9,701

Continued from previous page

“The ISPC was started when I was giving names to the events that we would be hosting during a calendar year,” Kraus said. “Knowing that the WPT would be our national event (Hollywood Poker Open) I wanted an identity for the regional events and thus was born Indiana State Poker Championships.”

The ISPC even drew 2005 World Series of Poker champ **Greg Raymer**, who won the Omaha/8 tournament. He also went deep in the main event. Other WSOP veterans in attendance included **Dennis Phillips** and 2007 WSOP main event champion **Jerry Yang**.

The big winner was **James Wright** of Fairfield, Ohio, who took home \$71,195, a trophy and a TagHauer watch.

DENNY CRUM POKER OPEN: Hall-of-Famer and former Louisville men’s basketball coach **Denny Crum** held his yearly event at the Horseshoe Southern Indiana in Elizabeth, helping support the Denny Crum Scholarship Foundation. The series ran Aug. 18-27 and even included a H.O.R.S.E. and Omaha event. **Craig “Smity” Smith** of Shepherdsville won the main event for \$24,243.

— **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.**

Denny Crum Open

Horseshoe S. Indiana
Aug. 18-27

Event 1 • \$200 NLHE

Entrants: 414 • Prize Pool: \$70,686
WINNER: Ben Grice, Radoff, KY, \$7,321

Event 2 • \$225 NLHE

Entrants: 160 • Prize Pool: \$29,970
WINNER: Bhavin Patel, Liberty, KY, \$6,500

Event 3 • \$135 NLHE

Entrants: 212 • Prize Pool: \$23,549
WINNER: Roger Branam, Knoxville, TN, \$7,771

Event 4 • \$135 NLHE

Entrants: 111 • Prize Pool: \$11,687
WINNER: Stephen Binkley, Greenbrier, TN, \$2,288

Event 5 • \$135 NLHE

Entrants: 207 • Prize Pool: \$22,962
WINNER: Rodney Dennis, Leitchfield, KY, \$3,616

Event 6 • \$135 NLHE

Entrants: 65 • Prize Pool: \$6,284
WINNER: Marcus Wirth, Plainfield, IN, \$2,513

Event 7 • \$135 NLHE

Entrants: 188 • Prize Pool: \$20,730
WINNER: Ernest Entin, Louisville, \$6,841

Event 8 • \$225 NLHE

Entrants: 122 • Prize Pool: \$22,531
WINNER: Mark Bell, Louisville, \$5,300

\$600 Main Event

Entrants: 195 • Prize Pool: \$101,790
WINNER: Craig Smith, Shepherdsville, KY, \$24,243

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FLORIDA

PLEASURE ISLAND POKER



On Aug. 18 **Bennie Lott** won the monthly tournament at Scully's on the Bayou in Fort Walton Beach. He received a prize package that included a Pensacola Greyhound Track tournament entry to the \$20K event. **Cindy Davis** earned a \$100 PGT seat for second and **Loria Walters** won a \$50 PGT tournament chip. They were followed by **Keith Lapine, Ray Cascias, Brian Daugherty, Mike Dougherty, Mike Johnson, Jack Chaemcheun** and **Mike Yoder**. The next PIP charity event for disabled veterans will be at Scully's on Nov. 12 at 2 p.m. Go to PleasureIslandPoker.com or call 850-733-0916 for details.

TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURS



More than 500 players attended the Central Florida quarterly event as **Leroy Hettler** earned a \$1,660 Heartland Poker Tour main event seat plus a \$250 sponsorship at Daytona Beach Kennel Club. He was followed by **Edison Largo** (\$1,660 HPT seat), **Sylvia Pacheco** (\$365 qualifier), **George Puccio** (\$365 qualifier) and **Wayne Tutton** (\$365 qualifier).

NUTZ POKER LEAGUE



• **Manny Gonzalez** won a \$500 gift card for capturing the August monthly at Fat Cat Tavern in Clearwater.

• **Marc Lowe** earned a \$300 gift card for defeating more than 120 players at the Dream Come True Project tournament at Courtside Grille in Tampa. In the field was former NBA star **Matt Geiger** and the event raised \$4K for Nutz girl **Jessika Biele**, above right, and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.



• **Bob Schamp** won a Silks satellite seat for taking down the Pappas Ranch Kickoff in Trinity.

TREASURE CHEST POKER



• **Scott Hopkins**, top, defeated nearly 130 players at the Thirsty Marlin in Largo to capture the monthly event and a \$700 gift card.

• Longtime TCP player **Sophie Keil**, middle, won a \$250 gift card after beating 125 players at the Snappers Grille monthly.



• **Kris Hannon**, bottom, won the Stix monthly a \$175 gift card in Palm Harbor.

• **Deb Ebner** won a \$50 gift card and the Battle of the Bars.



• **Asa Bailey** beat about 100 players en route to the Stokers monthly title and a \$250 gift card.

• **Susan Hirst** is the Queen of Ocala, beating a large crowd for the trophy and \$50 gift card.

NORTH CAROLINA



The United Cancer Alliance charity tour hosted four events Aug. 26-28 in Charlotte, N.C. Winners included **Philip Goldsmith** (\$1,600 World Series seat), **Natalie Stull** (\$1,600 seat), **Howard Nirenberg** (\$540 seat) and **Ed Mosquera** and **Jeremy Turner** chopped first place in the main event for one \$5K WSOP seat each. The UCA tour's next event will be in Richmond, Va., on Nov. 11-13. Go to ucarecharitypokertour.com for more details.

— Mark Rhoades

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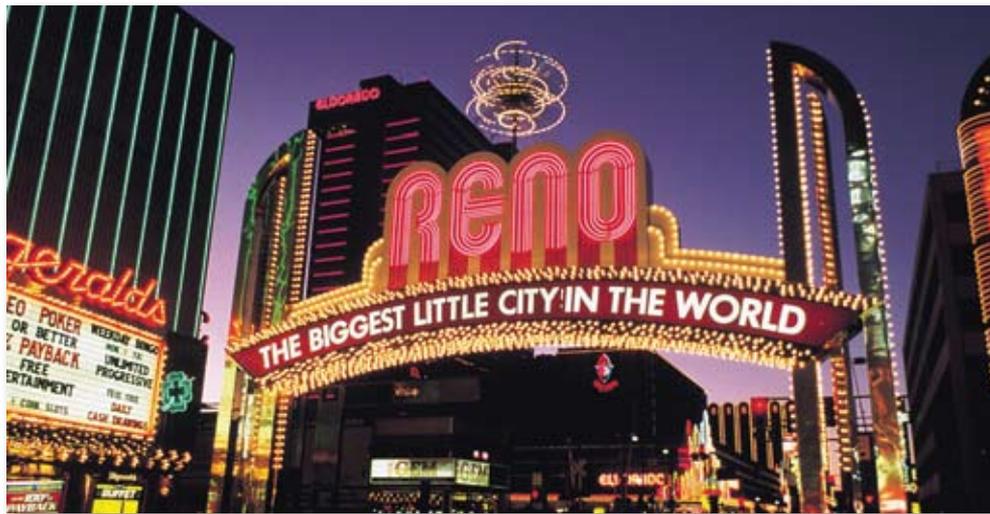
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Nevada's poker secret

By Scott Long

Vegas has the glitz and glamour, but if you only think of Sin City when you think of “Nevada” and “poker,” you’re missing a whole other world. And plenty of great poker to boot. To the north, Reno is known as the “Biggest Little City in the World,” but nothing is little about the poker being played there and the neighboring playground of Lake Tahoe. To the south, you’ll find a peaceful oasis away from the hustle and bustle of Vegas called Laughlin — and plenty of places to play some cards.

RENO/LAKE TAHOE

If you’re looking to play right after you land — or play right up until your flight takes off — it’s hard to beat the convenience of Reno. Three of the largest rooms in the area — Atlantis, Peppermill and Grand Sierra — appear to be almost walkable from Reno-Tahoe International Airport.

And they are rooms worth the walk.

South Virginia Street boasts the two biggest, both run by personable veterans of the poker world with owners who “get” poker. Don’t underestimate what that last part means as more and more poker

rooms in the country are being managed out of the pits, forced to fight their more profitable table-game siblings. Both offer a variety of games and limits, yet another refreshing feature rare these days in many poker rooms.

Mike Gainey this summer oversaw a multimillion-dollar renovation of his room at Peppermill, making him the envy of poker room managers everywhere (see story in the August issue of *Ante Up*). Finished in rich colors and even richer fixtures, the room offers a comfortable place to play during a blistering series of tournament events throughout the year, including the wildly unique and recently concluded Mike Gainey’s Chop Pot Poker Classic (See results on Page 36).

Bee Estis, no stranger to innovation, continues his creativity down the road under orders from the top to put the Atlantis on the poker map. A new deal with the World Poker Tour highlights his tournament offerings, but the room takes loyalty to a new level with a rewards card so exclusive you can’t ask for it. Estis gives it to you after you’ve established a record of play in the room. And membership has its privileges.

The Grand Sierra to the north is known to many as the Reno Hilton, but the resort that has gone through numerous ownership and

Continued on next page



The Atlantis Resort is getting on the poker map with a WPT stop.



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Continued from previous page

name changes continues to evolve again as it's aggressively marketing its seasonal tournament series. Those events play out conveniently in a large space just in front of the poker room.

The Eldorado anchors casino strip proper — the area made famous with pictures of the city's historic curved sign. **Margie Heintz**, recently inducted into the Women in Poker Hall of Fame (See Q&A on Page 34), puts her personality on the resort that towers literally and figuratively over downtown with a loyal base of players that ensures there's always a variety of games, including stud. About a half-dozen smaller rooms keep each other on their toes in the shadow of the Eldorado, and the Silver Legacy is the latest to try the all-electronic route with a new room outfitted exclusively with PokerPro tables.

A handful of other rooms can found on the outskirts of town, the largest of which is **John Ascuaga's Nugget** in the town of Sparks. But head south on Highway 395, and you'll pass a couple of small rooms north of Lake Tahoe and a few more small rooms in Carson City before heading west to the playground of northern Nevada — South Lake Tahoe.

The bustling resort town offers plenty of recreation regardless of the season, but its small cadre of poker rooms is highlighted by the busy Harveys Lake Tahoe, a Caesars Entertainment property that hosts a World Series of Poker Circuit event each November. More than capably run by **Vince Contaxis**, the 20-table room is party central for the young weekend crowd in town.

LAUGHLIN

About a two-hour drive south of Las Vegas sits a resort town carved by **Don Laughlin** on the

southernmost tip of Nevada. It offers a laid-back and wildly inexpensive respite from the neon rush of the Strip, where outdoor recreation rivals casino gaming for attention.

Casino row sits on the rushing waters of the Colorado River, with many of the town's poker rooms offering a picturesque view of the water — a welcome change from the scenery in most poker rooms.

Many of the town's rooms are walkable from each other, some connected by a pedestrian-friendly riverwalk, and the only room truly requiring a car is **Avi**, which holds the distinction of being the only tribal-owned casino in Nevada. The full-featured resort is worth a drive, especially if you want to hit the charming, burro-dominated tourist trap of **Oatman**.

But most visitors will find it relaxing enough to stay in **Laughlin** proper, where the standard is \$2-\$6 spread-limit. Many a **Laughlin** poker room manager has tried to steer the mostly older clientele into no-limit hold'em, but the friendly town likes its friendly game.

Harrah's, however, gets no-limit going, and **Colorado Belle**, the largest room in town, offers a bit more variety, including **Omaha**. The **Belle**, which also runs the nearby **Edgewater**, features plenty of character, extending its riverboat feel to the poker room with period-piece artwork.

Jim Vincent, a veteran of **Laughlin**, can now be found helming the room at **Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort**, and the **Golden Nugget** is the new kid on the block, opening a room after having success with occasional tournaments that are the hallmark of the **Nugget** brand in Las Vegas. And the **River Palms** offers what many poker players wish for — a room set way aside from the dingy of slot machines. ♠

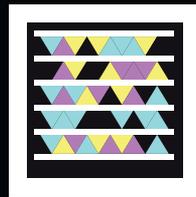
- Nevada's 'other' poker rooms**
- Reno**
 Atlantis
 Circus Circus
 Eldorado
 Grand Sierra
 Harrah's
 Peppermill
 Sands Regency
 Silver Legacy
- Reno area**
 Alamo
 Boomtown
 John Ascuaga's Nugget
 Rail City
- North Tahoe**
 Crystal Bay
 Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe
- South Tahoe**
 Harveys Lake Tahoe
 Lakeside Inn
 MontBleu
- Carson City area**
 Carson Nugget
 Casino Valley Inn
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Casino row in Laughlin sits on the Colorado River.



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Cruisin'

The summer Ante Up Poker Cruise to the Bahamas was a bona-fide blast as players enjoyed all of the amenities of a fantastic voyage while playing any kind of poker their hearts desired. Ante Up would like to thank all of those who participated in our dream vacation, and we'd like to give special thanks to Cori Vagle, James Kalinowski, Joel Geist and the Ante Up crew who gave us all of these terrific photos.



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YOU CAN'T WAIT AROUND FOR A-A

Editor's note: This is one in an ongoing series of poker-book excerpts in Ante Up. The following is from Jonathan Little's Secrets of Professional Tournament Poker, Vol. 1.

There is much discussion over which style of play is better, one where you try to play lots of small pots, called "small ball," or one where you try to play a few large pots, called "long ball." You have to play a decent number of pots if you want to make it in poker tournaments. Waiting for A-A, hoping to double up every time you get it, will not work in the long run. There are three main reasons for this.



JONATHAN LITTLE

First, if you play only premium hands, you will be playing about 7 percent of hands, which is much less than you need to play to maintain your chip stack.

Second, most opponents are observant enough to realize how tight you are playing, so you will rarely get action when you pick up a good hand. On average, you will lose the blinds every orbit but will only win the blinds every 0.7 orbits, meaning that you should expect to lose 0.3 sets of blinds on every orbit. This will clearly cause you to go broke over time.

Finally, even if you are patient and get all the money in as a 2-to-1 favorite, you will usually have blinded off your stack so much that even if you win the hand, you will just be back at the stack you started with. For example, say you have 20 big blinds and decide to blind off until you get a premium hand. If you blind down to 10BBs and get all-in with A-A vs. 4-4, you will double up 80 percent of the time to 20BBs, which is where you started, and 20 percent of the time you will go broke.

Waiting for a big hand is a sure way to go broke in no-limit hold'em tournaments. Weaker players often say that if they didn't constantly suffer bad beats, they would do well in tournaments. They fail to realize that everyone will lose hands as a huge favorite throughout a tournament. You have to build up a large chip stack to survive these beats and still have a chance to win. If you are blinding off and waiting for a big hand, you are setting yourself up to get all-in, which leads to going broke. If you can avoid ever being all-in throughout a tournament, it will be tough to go broke.

That does not mean you should raise to three big blinds out of your 10BB stack and fold to an all-in reraise. It means that you should keep a large stack and maintain the aggression, picking up numerous small pots while still getting large amounts of money in as a favorite. Small ball is so effective because people fold too often. If you can make most opponents fold by raising to 2.2BBs preflop, and then betting 2.5BBs on most flops, by all means do it.

In the high-stakes tournaments, though, most players realize that when they're getting 5-to-1 to see a flop, they should usually take it. Also, when they are getting 3-to-1 on the flop, there are huge odds to call or bluff. Because of this, the extreme version of small ball that is preached by a few of the big tournament winners does not work too well in high-stakes tournaments. I have figured out that if, instead of basically min-raising preflop, you raise to 2.5BBs and make reasonably-sized continuation bets, you will accomplish all the goals of small ball, while still getting some of the respect of a long-ball player.

When you raise more than your fair share of pots, people will eventually start to call. This isn't a problem if you will be in position in most hands and can induce your opponents to fold postflop. Because of this, you need to size your raises preflop a little larger so you can later make flop and turn bets a little larger, which will get you many more folds. You need to be in position. If you are constantly raising hands out of position, you are destined to lose.

Another huge benefit of this hybrid style that I play is that when you actually get a good hand, instead of winning only a decent amount of chips, you can usually get your opponent's entire stack. If you min-raise preflop and then bet half-pot on the flop, you will find it tough to get your entire stack in if you make a strong hand. If you raise just a tiny bit more preflop, you can get all-in as long as your stack is around 80BBs or less, which it will be once you get to the middle stages of most tournaments, because the pot tends to grow exponentially in no-limit hold'em. People generally bet around the size of the pot or a bit less, so you tend to make small bets if the pot is small and larger bets as the pot grows. You don't have to make larger bets. But it's an option. It's well worth the risk of raising by 0.3BB more before the flop to give yourself more options throughout the hand. Because you are raising to a slightly larger amount preflop, you should tighten your range. You need to win a higher percentage of pots preflop because you're giving yourself slightly worse odds to steal the blinds. This is usually negligible though, as the extra 0.3BB you raise over a normal small-ball strategy will win the blinds a higher percentage of the time.

All winning poker players are aggressive. If you take the passive route on most hands, you will find yourself losing money. If a winning player thinks a play is profitable, he will make the play. In fact, not making aggressive plays that you know you should make is similar to burning money. In order to take home first prize, unless you get a great run of cards, you are going to have to take some risks. The best way to take risks is to be aggressive. This will give you a chance to play some big pots, and pick up numerous small pots along the way.

— 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.

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WHAT EVERY "BODY" IS SAYING

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

POKER'S VERSION OF A GLASS JAW

As most readers by now know, each part of the body communicates something about what we're thinking, feeling, desiring, fearing or intending. The chin is certainly one of those areas of the body that communicates a lot but is often ignored by poker players, unfortunately to their detriment.



JOE NAVARRO

In my latest book, *200 Poker Tells*, I write about the 14 or so tells associated with the cheeks and the jaw. That is a lot of territory to cover, but it's worthwhile because for some people jaw behaviors are like polygraph needles, spewing ink when something interesting is happening inside the head.

Let's start with "jaw displacement" and by that I mean where a player suddenly drops his jaw then moves it to the side. There is not much on this in the research literature, but over 25

years in law enforcement I certainly saw it plenty of times during intense interviews. The movement of the jaw shifts the chin from side to side as **Gus Hansen** is often prone to do. If you were to watch it on high speed you'd notice how odd this behavior is. We often see this with players who perceive themselves as weak, marginal or indecisive. By moving the chin from side to side (try it) you'll notice how it stimulates the nerves of the jaw (Mandibular Nerve in particular) and when done in the extreme (side to side) it acts as a pacifying behavior with which by now you should be familiar if you've read my previous articles here.

Ages ago I first noticed jaw displacement with people I had recently arrested. In the middle of the day and for no apparent reason, they would yawn and then they would shift their chin to the side. This action, which obviously was subconscious, forces the mouth open putting pressure on the nerves of the jaw, again stimulating the nerves that help calm the individual. When jaw-shifting or chin-shifting is repeated often enough, this stimulates the salivary glands to release saliva (from the pressure). This explains why I saw so many arrestees yawning. You often see bluffers yawning or shifting their chin back and forth and for good reason: Under stress

the mouth gets dry, yawning helps the saliva glands moisturize the mouth.

Chin location is something we often ignore except maybe when Russian troops parade by with their chin high in the air. And yet, chin location can be an accurate barometer of how a player feels about his hand. We know the chin tends to stick out or sit high when we're confident and it withdraws automatically and subconsciously when we lack confidence or when we're scared.

On some players it's not noticeable. Part of this has to do with culture. There are cultures where it's a practice to indicate to others superiority, confidence or high status by presenting a nose-high chin-high posture. They do it so often growing up and have seen it so many times that they don't notice how often they do it. This is especially true at the poker table when they subconsciously realize they're strong or their fortune has turned for the better.

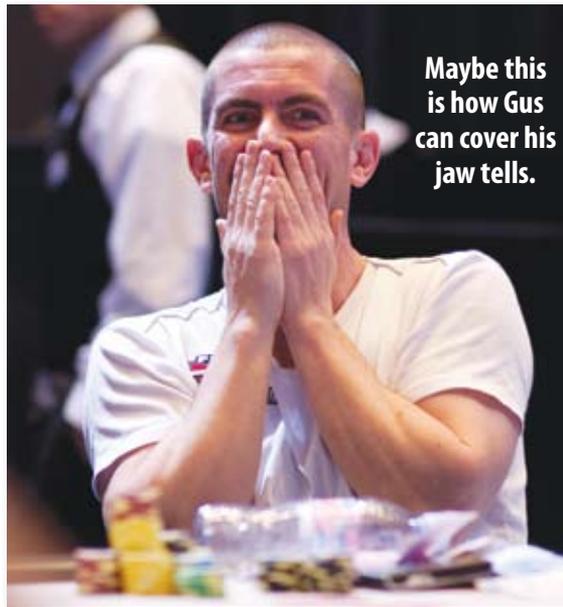
Incidentally, one of the things you should always try to do with other players is collect useful information. By asking players where they're from or where their family is from, you gain insight into how culture may influence some of their behaviors.

The opposite of this, of course, is when the player suddenly drops his chin (mouth closed), which begins to telegraph there are issues or concerns. And then there's the extreme of that, when the player tucks the chin in toward the throat. It looks odd, but notice how often you see it when people are deliberating what to do next because they're marginal or weak.

In case you're interested, the reason tucking your chin down toward the throat is so accurate is because we evolved certain behaviors to protect our necks, the most vulnerable part of our body. When we see neck covering or touching, or in particular, when the chin moves to cover the throat, this is a reliable subconscious tell that the person is weak, marginal or concerned.

The next time you're at the poker table keep an eye on the chin; it may just unveil what is going on inside the head.

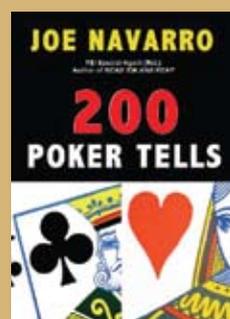
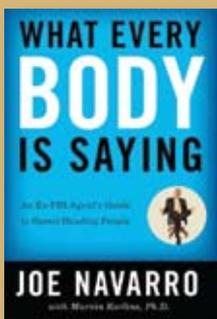
— **Joe Navarro** is a former FBI special agent and the author of *200 Poker Tells* and *Read 'em and Reap*, both available on Amazon. For additional information go to his web site www.joennavarro.net or follow him on twitter: @navarrotells.



Maybe this is how Gus can cover his jaw tells.

Photo by Neil Stoddart for PokerStars EPT

— POKER TELLS EXPERT JOE NAVARRO —

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UNDERSTANDING CORE REALITIES

I like to focus on a lot of the realities of poker. It helps keep my mind-set in the proper state and ensure I'm playing consistently according to my game plan. If you don't understand the realities of poker and some of the basic odds of things that occur, then negative ramifications on your mind-set and your bankroll are certain to follow.



LEE CHILDS

The more you understand the math surrounding what can happen, you're more likely to play hands correctly and not be affected negatively when things don't go your way. When playing poker, our goal is to consistently make the best decisions based on the information we have.

Yes, you need to assess opponent ranges, betting patterns, physical and verbal actions, but if you're not factoring in the math that tells you what is most likely the case in a specific situation, you're missing key information to make the best decisions.

Here's a common key example: You raise preflop and then are heads-up with a flop that has two cards of one suit. For many players, there's a tendency to bet strongly on the flop to dissuade your opponent from drawing to a flush.

I've fallen victim to this, and it's OK to admit you do it, too. This begs the question: Why? For every decision you make at the table you must answer this question. Why are you betting? Why are you betting this amount? Why are you checking? Why are you folding?

In the case of the *possible* flush draw, let's look at *why* we have a tendency to overbet to keep our opponents from drawing and then look at the realities of the situation factoring in the fundamental math we need.

The main reason we're afraid of the flush draw is the dreaded third card of that suit hitting on the turn or river, which forces us to make a tough decision.

We get caught up in wanting to win pots easily (and right now!), rather than maximizing our value when we are ahead and limiting our losses when we're behind. No one likes to fold and no one likes to make really tough decisions.

So we just overbet the flop to try to take the pot, and if our opponent still calls and hits a flush, we can complain about how we played

the hand perfectly and this donk paid too much to hit a flush.

Let's be honest. If your opponent *is* playing two suited cards and flops two more of that suit, do you really expect him to go away? Of course not, just like you're not likely to fold when you flop a flush draw. The key is we want to bet consistently, about half to two-thirds the size of the pot, which will give them the incorrect odds to draw *if they even have the draw*. The simple math here is *if* they have a draw and we bet even just half the pot, we are laying them 3-to-1 to hit, when they are 4-to-1 against hitting. This means we have done our job by betting correctly.

If we understand the math and apply some good old-fashioned common sense to the situation, we'll understand why it's a silly idea to try to "bet them off" of the flush draw. When anyone sees a flop after being dealt two cards of the same suit, they will flop four to the flush (a flush draw) about 11 percent of the time. Looking at the converse of this, 89 percent of the time they won't.

To drive this point home a little further, let's say your opponent holds a pocket pair. They will flop a set about 12 percent of the time, slightly more often than they would flop a flush draw when holding two cards of the same suit.

If your opponent is more likely to have flopped a set than they are to have flopped a flush draw, how much sense does it make to overbet the flop because you're scared of the draw? Based on the math, if you're going to be scared, then you should be more afraid of a flopped set. And are you going to bomb the pot on the flop to try to get them to fold a set? Of course not.

Understanding this and other core realities of poker, most of which are based on fundamental math, will help you in common situations.

Hopefully this will help you stay consistent with your betting, maintain pot control, maximize wins and minimize losses. Trust yourself to have the discipline to get away from hands when you think you're beat. Don't be scared you *may* be faced with a tough decision at some point in the hand. Having confidence in your knowledge and discipline will let you focus on making the best decisions you can with the information you have.

Decide to Win!

— Lee Childs is a poker pro who founded Acumen Poker. If you'd like to check out his video on Tournament Poker Edge visit tournamentpokeredge.com and register with referral ID: CHILDS.

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STRATEGY

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INTUITION VS. REASONING

How many times in your life have you felt something just wasn't right? How many times has the thought, "If I had only gone with my gut this wouldn't have happened," crossed your mind? Have you ever wondered where this intuition comes from? Could it come from a knowledge-based foundation? If so, could this be considered reasoning? If so, how and when do we separate them? Are we capable of separating intuition from reasoning?



ANTONIO PINZARI

A well-known philosopher once described intuition as "the absence of logic coupled with truth." I like to think we all have the power to use intuition and reasoning to make the correct choices. The real question, however, is which weighs more heavily in our thought process?

When you lay down a big hand to a big bet do you do so based on intuition or reasoning? When you bet into a check or when you flat call a big bet is it intuition or reasoning?

More often than not the answer to the previous questions will be based on reasoning.

Seldom are you put to the test and use intuition to decide what to do.

Super-aggressive players may use intuition more often than reason to play this style of poker. "If I keep the pressure on he'll lay it down."

Will reason or intuition work more often on an aggressive player? Can a well-timed bluff be considered intuition or reason? Do we all possess a sixth sense to guide us in the process?

I've always maintained that a knowledge-based foundation would carry me much further in poker than any form of intuition. That being said, intuition has become a much bigger part of my game.

Many of my students have asked, "How do you defeat an aggressive player?" My answer has been, "Wait for a big hand and trap them." This doesn't always work out well, however. When I have that hand the aggressive player isn't

in the hand, or my hand simply isn't strong enough to risk it. What now?

Intuition coupled with reason.

So, are we capable of separating intuition from reason? Can we combine both to make a more informed decision? Yes, and both must be encompassed to protect us from the super-aggressive players who dominate the game.

Recently I've been asking, "What's my gut telling me about this play?" What is my sixth sense (intuition) telling me? I then ask, "What has happened so far in the hand (reasoning)?" By combining both I'm forcing myself to think more about the hand. This process has several major effects on play. Because I'm taking more time to play I'm able to pick up more tells from my opponents. My game seems to have a more vigorous effect on other players; they seem to have a more difficult time putting me on a hand. I'm able to make different style bets that seem more difficult to understand.

Being able to define a hand more clearly is a great advantage over simply using reasoning through a hand.

Asking "What is your gut telling you?" and then replaying the hand to the point of reason often allows you to make the correct decision.

Admittedly there are times when good old intuition comes roaring in and saves us all. Super-aggressive players are so common that relying solely on reasoning detracts from our ability to make the correct decisions. Finding a well-balanced approach to the aggressive game is mandatory for survival in this pressure-cooker environment of the poker world.

Poker is really a people game and always will be. If our understanding of players' factors in intuition based on reasoning we are combining the best of both worlds and adding a facet to the game that we may not have used previously.

All tools make us better players. Exploring new ideas and adding a new approach to our game keeps us fresh and vibrant. Try never to allow yourself to become a player who only sees the game in one fashion.

— 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

FLORIDA POKER: 15 YEARS OF CHANGE

With World Series of Poker Circuit and World Poker Tour stops a regular fixture now in the Sunshine State, Florida cardrooms have emerged as a growing force in the poker world. Unlike California or Nevada, which have boasted legalized commercial poker for more than 100 years, Florida is in its infancy in the relative history of the poker industry. It's worth looking back on how Florida has come onto the national poker scene and now vies for some of the best games in North America.



MARC DUNBAR

The history of Florida's parimutuel cardroom operations dates to 1996, when the Florida Legislature authorized poker as a "side game" of sorts at horse tracks, dog tracks and jai-alai frontons. Poker was just one of many "penny ante" games authorized to parimutuels, which included bridge, canasta and dominoes to name a few of the low-stakes parlor games permitted at that time. From its first year of operation and for several years thereafter, cardrooms were greatly restricted by Florida law despite efforts to expand the attractiveness of the games to the playing public.

For example, poker could be played only on days when the facility was operating live parimutuel activities (dog racing, horse racing or jai-alai games), and the limit on the size of each pot, \$10, was constraining to say the least. With many of today's players utilizing a loose-aggressive style of play, it's hard to imagine being successful with these strict limitations on pot size. Evidence of this is provided by the total gross receipts of Florida's 15 cardroom operators during the fiscal year 1997-98. It was just shy of \$5.5 million, which translated to an annual tax paid to the state of about \$550,000.

The poker boom did not go unnoticed in the Sunshine State. The poker landscape began to change in Florida in 2003, when the Legislature expanded the hours of operation to allow poker from noon to midnight on live operating days, and increased betting limits from a \$10 maximum pot, to a \$2 maximum raise, with three raises allowed per round of betting. Though this expansion is mild by today's standards, the increase in player participation and revenues were significant. The 17 cardrooms in operation during the 2003-04 fiscal

year reported \$18.5 million in gross receipts, more than three times what was reported just six years earlier. As the tax rate of 10 percent on gross receipts remained unchanged, these facilities paid about \$1.8 million to the state.

The addition of no-limit hold'em, with a maximum buy-in of \$100 per player, occurred in 2007. Along with this new game and a "limited no-limit" structure came the addition of tournament games, which were limited to a maximum buy-in of \$800, expanded operating times for any 12-hour period on any day, and the introduction of prizes such as high-hand and other types of giveaways, all of which were authorized during this time. Not surprisingly, the jump in gross receipts was significant, as the gross receipts from the 23 cardroom licensees totaled more than \$90 million, translating to \$9 million in taxes.

The most recent expansion to Florida's poker laws occurred in 2010, as "no-limit" poker was introduced in Florida's parimutuels. The Legislature removed limits on cash-game buy-ins, tournament buy-ins and expanded the hours of operation to a maximum of 18 hours during the week and 24 hours on weekends.

At 12:01 a.m. on July 1, 2010, Florida parimutuel facilities were legally authorized to dictate the stakes in their cardrooms. On average, Florida poker room revenues grew 26 percent that July. As momentum grew throughout the year in Florida's poker industry, so did the revenues reported by the facilities. In fiscal year 2010-11 gross revenues climbed to more than \$125 million, and \$12.5 million in taxes were paid, an increase of more than 22-fold in the 15 years since poker was introduced to the parimutuel market.

Florida's poker rooms now attract some of the best dealers and managers in the country, and the players are following. New rooms are expected to come on line in the next several months, and investors are flocking to Florida to develop additional rooms around the state. As the number of tables in the state increases and the tournaments and cash games gain notoriety, it's likely the double-digit growth in Florida will continue for some time.

— 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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Decision-making is not an effortless task; it requires effort and depletes resources. In poker, there are constant decisions to make. A cash-game session or a tournament may require more decisions to be made than the average person faces in an ordinary month.



DR. BLOOMFIELD

There's a psychological hypothesis that centers on what has been called *decision fatigue*: the notion is that making choices is effortful and can therefore deplete resources. Once resources are depleted, impaired decision-making may kick in: decisions may become impaired because of long hours and lack of sleep, being physically out of shape, not eating properly, too much caffeine and drug taking.

This theory suggests our resources are depleted simply by the number of decisions we have to make. People outside the poker arena have shown dysfunction because of decision fatigue; imagine for a moment how few decisions you would be making if you didn't come to the poker room.

In poker this may mean one makes better decisions at the beginning of a cash session or in the early stages of a tournament. It also means one should evaluate decisions much more carefully in the later stages of a tournament or late in a cash session.

Watch your play and see if your decision-making process changes as the session moves along. Some people become less confident in their decision-making and start playing too passively. Others get overconfident in their decision-making, their reads, their analysis and play too loosely. Observe yourself and see if these scenarios fit or if there is another scenario. If the pot comes limped to you and you hold K-Q you probably typically raise with this hand in many situations. But thinking about calling the limp and knowing that's the passive play, as a player aware of decision fatigue you might take the extra few seconds to realize a raise is the best move, though you feel like calling.

A number of researchers have found this depletion causes numerous behavioral problems: prejudicial responding, inappropriate self-presentation, impulsive decision-making and intellectual underachievement.

Recently the *New York Times* looked at this issue and found "good decision making is not a trait of the person, in the sense that it's always there." Dr. Roy Baumeister said. "It's a state that fluctuates." His studies show people with the best self-control are the ones who structure their lives to conserve willpower. They don't schedule endless back-to-back meetings. They avoid temptations like all-you-can-eat buffets, and they establish habits that eliminate the mental effort of making choices. Instead of deciding every morning whether to force themselves to exercise, they set up regular appointments to work out with

a friend. Instead of counting on willpower to remain robust all day, they conserve it so that it's available for emergencies and important decisions.

Back to poker: You're engaging in an activity that requires continual decision-making; it would be wise to reduce all non-poker decision-making to save your resources:

- "The best decision-makers," Baumeister said, "are the ones who know when *not* to trust themselves." So learn self-regulation and honest self-analysis.

- Learn the precursors to poor decisions: extreme passivity or impulsivity; crankiness; tilt.

- Set routines for non poker-related activities. Don't decide if you're going to eat; set a time to eat; the days you play, make a schedule or a list; don't be bothered by excessive, extraneous decision-making and choice; making decisions each hand, each street, sometimes several times each street, is enough.

- Accept that you can't control everything, but realize others are going through the same process, they just might not know it.

- Remember a pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity while an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty. Optimism is necessary to successfully compete in the poker world; stay optimistic, even after a good decision goes bad.

- Get up from the table when you need to, there are no chains. Eat something healthy, stay hydrated and add health supplements to the water. Remember you can miss a hand or two and it won't be the hand that wins the tournament or triples you up, more likely if you are experiencing decision fatigue it will be the hand that felts you. Tell yourself it is OK to take the break, that the consequences of not breaking are more problematic than missing a random hand. Be optimistic about this decision and give yourself permission to put yourself in position to make the best decisions. In a cash game, get away, change tables and virtually start a new session by moving.

- If you make a mental error, move on. People say, "I should have known he had the ace, or the nuts." Really? Are you really that good?

- Making a bad decision can throw you off and can create a downward cycle. You may feel like you have to make up for that bad decision. That, in and of itself, is a bad decision. You're in a tournament and donk off half your stack on a mental error; reassess and figure out how to move on with the stack you have left and not the stack you "should" have had.

Working on combating and controlling decision fatigue is important and will help you 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

SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT FOR HOME GAMES

When **Doyle Brunson** made his living as a Texas rounder in the 1960s, it was common for him to play in private games with crooked and shady players, “outlaw games,” he often called them, where players were in constant fear of being cheated, robbed or even murdered.

How unsafe was it back then? “Once, we were playing one of those outlaw games, (when) all of the sudden the door was busted down and a guy stormed in with a gun and shot a guy sitting right next to me at the table,”

Brunson told a journalist in 2003. “I remember the guy’s head falling off and splattering against the wall!”

Think about that beat next time some fish two-outs you for 600 big blinds on fifth street.

Fifty years later poker players have more (and often safer) options available when they’re looking for a game.



BRENT WHITE

In most states, for example, casinos have sprouted up like weeds. All across the country poker players can find games at charity events, licensed establishments and there are still a few Internet sites operating.

But for players who choose to play in private games, times haven’t changed since Brunson’s early rounding days. Private games still are dangerous, and deadly. On July 25 two masked men stormed into a private home game in Raleigh, N.C., and tried to rob a handful of recreational players. A struggle ensued, and after it was over, both robbers were shot. One died from his wounds, and the other will likely spend the next 20 years playing hearts for cigarettes and gum.

Whether you play recreationally, like me, or full time, choosing the right private game can be just as important as knowing what “implied odds” means. Here are a few things to consider:

KNOW THE HOST: If you’re unfamiliar with the person who’s hosting the game in which you’re playing, ask around about his or her reputation, line of work, whom they associate with, and whether they play poker. The more information you have about them, the more likely you’ll know if the game is legitimate.

From the smallest cities in the country to the largest, people within local poker communities know most of the regulars and people who host games, and every regular has a reputation. If nobody has heard of the person whose game you’re playing in, or if he or she has a bad reputation, you should probably think twice about playing in it.

KNOW STATE LAWS: The state laws that define what constitutes gambling at an unlicensed establishment, as well as maintaining one, are complicated and differ. In nearly every state it’s illegal to maintain a gambling establishment where the house profits. In Florida, for instance, “keeping a gambling house” is a third-degree felony. Playing in a private game where the house profits in Florida is a second-degree misdemeanor. To learn what the laws are in your state, search the Internet. A good place to start is gambling-law-us.com.

IF THERE’S A RAKE, MAKE SURE IT’S FAIR: First off, a rake in a private game is illegal and not condoned by Ante Up. If there is a rake and you choose to play in that game, a standard \$1-\$2 NLHE game should



Even friendly games are subject to unsafe environments.

never be raked more than \$1 for every \$10 that goes into the pot up to \$50 (so, never more than \$5 per pot). It’s also tacky to rake pots preflop if there’s no flop. At higher stakes, the house will often charge an hourly amount and, ideally, that amount should be similar to what your local casinos charge (\$10-\$12 an hour is quite common.)

DON’T PLAY IN GAMES THAT AREN’T SECURE: There’s simply no reason to play in a private game that isn’t hosted in a secure location. These games will be in decent, well-lit and well-populated neighborhoods and in secure households or commercial spaces that are hard to get in and out of (i.e., behind multiple-locked doors). If the host has taken the time to hire a guard or two, that’s also a good indication that the game is safe.

KNOW THE PLAYERS: When a private game is robbed, there’s a good chance it was an inside job. Let’s be frank: Poker attracts some shady customers. Sometimes they’re easy to spot; sometimes they aren’t. Strike up conversations with the people around the table, and try to avoid private games that have people who you feel are untrustworthy.

KNOW THE DEALERS: If you’re playing in a private game where the dealer isn’t the host, or where the players aren’t taking turns dealing, learn all you can about the dealer. How does he or she know the host? Are they a professional dealer? If not, what do they do for a living? How many different games can they deal? Do they play the game? The answers to these questions will contribute to your overall knowledge about how well the game is run, and playing in private games in which the dealers are trustworthy significantly decreases the likelihood of being cheated.

Lastly, observe the dealer when you’re not in a hand. Are they cutting the deck properly after they shuffle? Are they covering the bottom card of the deck? If there’s a rake, are they pulling out the correct amount each time?

As poker players, we look for games that seem the most profitable, games in which our edge is clear. In the end, though, the legitimacy and security of the games we play in, as well as our safety, supersedes any dollar amount we’re likely to win. In the end, it’s just money.

— Brent White is a journalist, writer, editor and poker player who lives in Chicago. He can be reached at brentwhitechicago@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @brentwhite.

If nobody has heard of the person whose game you’re playing in, or if he or she has a bad reputation, you should probably think twice about playing in it.

TOURNAMENT POKER

TODD LAMANSKY • A look at daily events

BOOKS DON'T WORK IN REAL-WORLD EVENTS

By Todd Lamansky

Last month Ante Up Las Vegas Ambassador **Michael Hamai** highlighted the best tournaments in Sin City for less than \$100. Here are some tips for beating these low buy-in tournaments the next time you're in Vegas. And of course the concepts are applicable to any cheap daily tournament in your local cardroom.

For starters, you're not going to get nearly as much play in a low buy-in tournament as you would in a World Poker Tour or World Series of Poker event, but that's to be expected. Though the percentage may be smaller, the runners in those events are paying significantly higher rakes in terms of actual dollars, so they receive more chips and longer levels in return.

Every aspiring tournament player should read *Harrington on Hold'em* by former world champion "Action" **Dan Harrington**. It's one of the most insightful books written on tournament theory. Harrington discusses a number of concepts, including the importance of playing quality hands. In short, he advocates a fairly tight approach to tournament hold'em with strict starting hand requirements in early position.

Another good book is the *Full Tilt Poker Strategy Guide: Tournament Edition*, featuring essays from several top professionals such as **Howard Lederer**, **Chris Ferguson** and **Ted Forrest**, who illustrates the power of aggression in tournament poker. Aggression is an important aspect of success for any form of poker (even Harrington advises to be aggressive when playing a hand) but Forrest takes the idea to a new level with a hyper-aggressive style.

Harrington and Forrest represent different approaches, both of which can be effective when applied correctly. However, when it comes to cheap tournaments you'll have to strike a balance between these extremes if you hope to do well. Blinds are increasing too quickly

for you to wait for the hands Harrington recommends and you won't receive enough starting chips to make the kinds of plays Forrest describes because one failed steal attempt can leave your stack severely depleted.

Here are a few more tips:

PLAY ABC POKER: The vast majority of the players you'll face in these tournaments are unsophisticated, so you're going to have to show the best hand most of the time. Don't worry about making a ton of moves

because you can't bluff a bad player (especially one who calls all the way to the river with bottom pair), but be sure to value-bet relentlessly.

KNOW YOUR ENEMY: A lot of opponents will play any ace, any two face cards or any two suited cards for a raise regardless of position or the action in front of them, so don't be surprised if you make a 5X raise with pocket aces and get four callers. Their betting patterns also tend to be fairly straightforward, so it should be obvious when they have the goods because they'll suddenly go from passive to overbetting.

Think of it as an online tournament at the micro-stakes. Online poker is known for playing higher. For instance, if you entered a \$60 online tournament, you'd find yourself facing off against some highly seasoned pros.

Conversely, a typical casino tournament has a lot more in common with a \$2 online turbo. Granted, you generally start with only 1,500 chips and blinds go up every 5-10 minutes, but you're seeing twice as many hands per hour and, like a casino, the most of your competition is made up of casual players.

In conclusion, it takes a different kind of strategy to beat a cheap tournament than it does to win the WSOP main event. Poker pros write books on how to succeed in the kind of high-stakes, deepstack competitions you are used to watching on television, so take their advice with a grain of salt.

And if you're fortunate enough to cash in one of these tournaments, remember your dealers. Like the poker room, dealers make most of their money at the cash tables, so be sure to thank them for providing you with a few hours of no-cost entertainment and the poker gods will repay you with good card karma later on. ♠



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ARIZONA

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS/SPECIAL EVENTS	JACKPOTS/PROMOTIONS
BUCKY'S CASINO (928) 771-6779 • buckyscasino.com	Saturday-Monday with Ladies Night on Tuesdays.	Progressive Aces Cracked (Sat., 11a-11p).
CASINO ARIZONA (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.
FORT McDOWELL CASINO (480) 837-1424 • fortmcowellcasino.com	Daily (\$5-\$20 w/rebuys), including Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. (7p); Sat. (noon, 4p and 9p); Fri. (\$120, 7p); Sun. (\$120, noon).	Progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quad fives) and Omaha (quad fours); mini jackpot in hold'em (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, 7:30); 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 on Oct. 8 & 22 (\$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, Oct. 8 (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; big high hands (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, Oct. 8 (\$530, 10a); Sun. varies (call for details).	No promotions.
BICYCLE CASINO (562) 806-4646 • thebike.com	Daily (\$40-\$60); Big Poker Oktober series runs through Oct. 14 (\$65-\$150); call for details and 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, 6p); Thurs. (\$40, 6p); all tournaments have \$300 added to the prize pool.	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.).	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); Summer Slam Finals championship, Oct. 2 (\$1,000, 10a).	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); L. Flynt Fall Poker Classic, Oct. 14-Nov. 2.	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, Oct. 30 (\$250, 10a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; get paid (\$100) w/aces full; high hands (Mon.-Thurs.); royal-flush progressive jackpot.
LAKE ELSINORE CASINO (951) 674-3101 • lercasino.com	Daily (\$20, 10a); Mon., Tue., Thurs. \$2.5K guarantee (\$60, 7p); Wed. \$4K guarantee (\$50, 7p); Sun. \$5K guarantee (\$60, 2p).	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em, Omaha and stud.
CASINO 580 (925) 455-6144 • theluckybuck.com	Daily (\$40 w/\$20 rebuys, 7p); Sat & Sun. (\$25, 9:30a).	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).	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em, Omaha and stud; Aces Cracked pays up to \$300.
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	Fri. \$2.5K guarantee (\$60, 6p); Sat. \$3K guarantee (\$70, 6p); Sun. \$2K guarantee (\$10 w/rebuys, 1p).	Player rewards with 100 hours of play; Double Stack Jackpot is quads losing to quads (call for details); Aces Cracked.
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).	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 • palacasino.com	Tue. & Wed. (\$30 w/rebuys & add-on, 7p); Thurs. \$2.5K guarantee (\$70, 7p); Fri. \$2K guarantee (\$40, 7p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; splash pots; high hands; cash giveaways.
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	Monthly freerolls (qualify by playing live and collecting high-hand stamps; call for details).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em pays \$100K; Double jackpots (Mon. & Wed.); hourly high hand pays \$250 (Tue. & Thurs. noon-midnight).
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.).
TABLE MOUNTAIN CASINO (559) 822-7777 • tmcasino.com	Tuesdays have \$1K guarantee (\$35 w/\$40 rebuy, 7p); Thursdays have a \$2K guarantee (\$55 w/\$60 rebuy, 7p).	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); monthly \$20K guar., Oct. 1 (\$250, 11a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; high hands (call for 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); Colo. Showdown, Oct. 5-16 (\$175-\$1,600 w/WPT Reg. main, Oct. 14-16. See ad 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); World Poker Finals, Oct. 28-Nov. 1 (call for details or see ad on Page 17 for schedule).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quad eights) and stud (quad deuces).
MOHEGAN SUN CASINO (860) 862-8000 • mohegansun.com	Daily (\$60-\$200), including a \$10K guarantee on Wed. (\$120, 7:30p) and \$15K guarantee on Fri. (\$200, 2p); monthly \$30K guarantee, Oct. 16 (\$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	Weekend tournaments (noon & 7p) See ad on Page 24.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (aces full of jacks); Crushed Quads pays \$500.
HARRINGTON RACEWAY (888) 887-5687 • harringtonraceway.com	Tue. & Thurs. (\$60, 11a); Sat. (\$60 w/rebuy & add-on, 11a); \$5K guarantee, Oct. 21 (\$115, noon).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em is aces full of kings; Splash Pots during football season.

FLORIDA

CALDER CASINO (305) 625-1311 • calderracecourse.com/poker	Daily guarantees 11a & 7p (\$40-\$100) w/a \$10K guarantee on Saturdays (\$100, 11a). See ad on Page 5.	Flopped progressive straight flushes have five payouts per suit; high hands pay \$100 every 15 minutes (Tue., Wed., Thurs.) & \$500 every half-hour (Fri.-Sat.).
DANIA JAI-ALAI (954) 927-2841 • dania-jai-alai.com	Daily (\$40-\$105) at 12:30p & 6:30p including a \$15K guarantee Fri. (\$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 \$3K guar. (\$175, 7p); Sun. Super DeepStack \$7K guar. (\$275, 3p). SNGs (daily) See ad on Page 15.	Bad-beats in limit, no-limit, Omaha, stud; power hour high hands; early bird (Mon.-Fri., 10a-1p); Prime Time (Mon.-Fri, 6p-9p); Night Owl (Thurs.-Fri., midnight-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 31.	Daily cash and prize promotions; high hands; tournament high hands; see website for more promotions. See ad on Page 31.
EBRO GREYHOUND PARK (850) 234-3943 • ebrogreyhoundpark.com	Daily (\$20-\$220) on Sun.-Fri. (8p), Sat. (2p, 8p, midnight); Mega Stack monthly event, Oct. 30 (\$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 9 for Jeep special.
HAMILTON JAI-ALAI & POKER (800) 941-4841 • hamiltondownsjaialai.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 Isle Open (Oct. 8-31) ad Page 19.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em and Omaha; high-hand jackpots in hold'em and Omaha.
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 Page 25.	Buy a rack, get a \$20 stack (daily, 11a); high-hand jackpots; 26 progressive jackpots; \$250K given away in monthly promos (call for details).

* 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).	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); Tue. (\$50, 7p); Wed. HA (\$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, Oct. 5, 15 & 26.
OCALA POKER AND JAI-ALAI (352) 591-2345 • 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, including Sat. bounty (\$100, 1p) and Sun. PLO/8 (\$80, 1p). See ad Page 21 for WPT event information.	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; December Classic (Dec. 8-18) w/\$300K guarantee main event and WSOP Circuit (Feb. 2012). See ad Page 46.	Bad-beat jackpots in hold'em, Omaha, and stud; \$240K cash giveaway (call for details). See ad on Page 46 for more specials.
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 14.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quad deuces); progressive jackpots in all games; \$599/\$299 high hands (Fri.-Sat.). See ad on Page 14.
SEMINOLE CASINO BRIGHTON (866) 222-7466 x121 • seminolecasinobrighton.com	Mon. (\$50, 7p); Wed. (\$50 w/add-on, 6:30p); Sat. (\$100, 7p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; get paid for quad aces (\$50), straight flush (\$100) and royals (\$1K); Spin to Win (Wed.); high hand of the hour (call for details).
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	Mon.-Thurs. (\$35, 11a); Mon. (\$300, 6:30p); Tue. (\$150, 6:30p); Wed. (\$75, 6:30p); Thurs. Omaha/8 (\$120, 7p); Sun. (\$150, noon & \$100, 6:30p).	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.	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.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (Mon.-Thurs.); 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, 6:30p).	Progressive hand of the day; \$199 Hot Table, Oct. 11 (1p-6p) & Oct. 25 (6p-mid.); Money Grab Machine, Oct. 21 (2p, 4p, 6p, 8p and 10p). See ad on Page 26.
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 11.	Progressive payouts (quads or better); Mon. pot multiplier (10X, 20X, 40X); \$599/\$299 high hands (Fri.); see ad Page 11 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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FRIDAY
\$50 No Hold Limit
at 7 pm

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ILLINOIS

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS/SPECIAL EVENTS	JACKPOTS/PROMOTIONS
HARRAH'S JOLIET (815) 740-7480 • harrahsjoliet.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 • hollywoodcasinourora.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.
JUMER'S CASINO 309-756-4600 • jumerscri.com	Sun. (1p); Mon. (11a); Tue. & Wed. (7p); tournaments range in variety from hold'em to dealer's choice (call for details).	Call for promotions.
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, Oct. 9 (\$100, 1p).	Aces Cracked (Sat. & Sun.); Hot Seat (Wed.).
HOLLYWOOD CASINO LAWRENCEBURG (812) 539-8000 • www.hollywoodindiana.com	Daily (11:15a & 7:15p); Mon. (\$125 & \$80); Tue. & Thurs. (\$80 & \$100); Wed. (\$80 & \$150); Fri. (\$80 & \$125); Sat. (\$100 & \$80); Sun. (\$150 & \$80). State champ. (Aug. 11-20).	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); WSOP Circuit, Oct. 13-24 (call for schedule).	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); WSOP Circuit, Sept. 29-Oct. 10 (call for details).	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

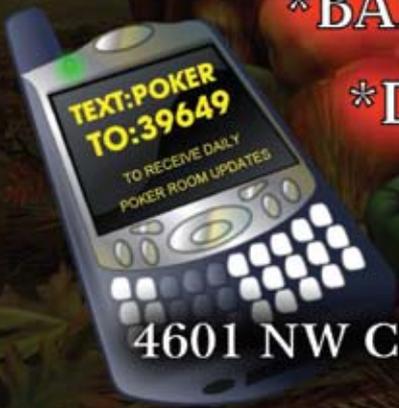
DIAMOND JO CASINO NORTHWOOD (641) 323-7777 • diamondjo.com	Mon. (\$40, 7p); Tue. & Thurs. (\$50, 7p); Fri. (\$55, 5p); Sat. (\$60, 3p); monthly event, Oct. 1 (\$115, 11a).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
GRAND FALLS CASINO (712) 777-7777 • grandfallscasinosort.com	Mon. Omaha/8 (\$30, 11a); Thurs. (\$40, 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 • bettendorf.isleofcapricasinos.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 • waterloo.isleofcapricasinos.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
MESKWKI CASINO (641) 484-2108 • meskwki.com	Tue. (\$20 w/rebuys, 7p); Wed. KO (\$45, 7p); Thurs. (\$30, 7p); Sat. & Sun. (\$30, 1p). Heartland Poker Tour series Oct. 30-Nov. 6.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; royal-flush jackpot.
MYSTIQUE GREYHOUND PARK (563) 585-2964 • mystiquebdq.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.
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 • pbpgaming.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	Saturday (\$100, 10a); 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); Thurs. \$1K guarantee (\$30 w/\$10 add-on, 7p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em (quads) and Omaha; high hands (Mon. & Wed.); Aces Cracked (Tue. & Thurs.); Super Tuesday includes four promotions (call for details).
COUSHATTA CASINO (800) 584-7263 • couchattacasinoresort.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 • harrahneworleans.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	Mon. (\$70, 6:30p); Fri. (\$60, noon & \$90, 6:30p); Sat. (\$115, noon); Sun. KO (\$60, 2p); Fall Classic series, Oct. 17-22 (\$90-\$540) call for schedule.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; minor jackpots daily; cash giveaways Mon.-Thurs.
L'AUBERGE DU LAC CASINO (337) 395-7777 • ldcasino.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); rebuys allowed in most.	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em; ask about satellites to play for a seat on the World Poker Tour.
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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); Fall Classic, Oct. 1-16 (\$120-\$1,100, see ad on Page 45).	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 HINCKLEY (320) 384-7777 • grandcasinomn.com	Mon. (\$25, 5p); Tue. KO (\$50, 7p); Wed. (\$70, 6p); Thurs. (\$50, 6p); Fri. (\$70, 8p); Sat. (\$125, 6p).	Bad beat in hold'em; royal-flush progressive jackpot for each suit pays minimum of \$200; quad deuces progressive jackpot starts at \$100; Aces Cracked (Sun.-Fri.).
GRAND CASINO MILLE LACS (800) 626-5825 • grandcasinomn.com	Daily (\$30-\$160), including a Friday DeepStack (\$160, 6:15p) and Sunday (\$110 with re-entries, 2:15p).	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).	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 Page 7.	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 • harrahstunica.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 • hollywoodtunica.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) 357-5608 • horseshoetunica.com	Daily (\$65-\$160), including a Saturday \$10K guarantee (\$150, 4p, 10K chips); Sunday super deepstack (\$100, 2p, 15K chips). See ad Page 29.	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, Oct. 8 (\$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.
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).	Multitroom Jumbo progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em starts at quad sixes and pays \$100K guaranteed. See ad Page 33.
ARIA (866) 359-7111 • arialasvegas.com	Twice daily at 1p & 7p (\$125, 8K chips, 30-minute levels).	No jackpots.
ATLANTIS CASINO RENO (800) 723-6500 • atlantiscasino.com	Mon.–Thurs. (\$45, 7p); Fri. KO (\$65, 7p); Sat. (\$90, 7p); Sun. KO (\$65, 7p).	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–\$599 to entire table when royal hits.
BELLAGIO (702) 693-7111 • bellagio.com	Daily at 2p; Mon.–Thurs. & Sun. (\$225); Fri.–Sat. (\$540); Festa al Lago Classic, Sept. 30–Oct. 14 (\$330–\$5,180) w/championship Oct. 11 (\$5,180, noon).	No jackpots.
BINION'S GAMBLING HALL (702) 382-1600 • binions.com	Daily (\$60–\$100) at 10a, 2p, 7p and 10p.	Progressive high hand (daily) pays for quads starting at \$50; straight/royal flush starts paying at \$100.
BOULDER STATION HOTEL & CASINO (702) 432-7777 • boulderstation.com	No tournaments.	Multitroom 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, Oct. 21–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 • eldoradoren.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 (3a–3p) in limit games.
GOLDEN NUGGET LAUGHLIN (702) 298-7111 • goldennugget.com	Daily at 10a, 3p, 7p and 10p (call for buy-ins).	Progressive high hands (call for details).
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); Pot of Gold series, Sept. 29–Oct. 17 (\$95–\$1,600) w/main event Oct. 15 (\$1,600).	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)	Multitroom Jumbo progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em starts at quad sixes and pays \$100K guaranteed. See ad Page 33.
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 • harrahslasvegas.com	Five tournaments daily: (\$25, 8a); (\$60, 10a, 3p, and 1a); (\$80 w/\$20 bonuses, 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 • harrahslaughlin.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 • harveyslahoe.com	Daily (\$40, 10a); Tue. & Thurs. (\$80, 6p); Fri. (\$115, 6p); Sun. (\$115, 2p).	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), including Wed. KO (\$125, 6p); Thurs. KO (\$125, 10a); Fri. & Sat. (\$75, 6p).	Progressive high hand; mini bad beat is aces full; Aces Cracked (Thurs.); Splash Pots (Sun.); Ladder of Loot Jackpot (call for details).
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; Grand Challenge Tournament Series, Oct. 13–23 (\$340–\$2,620) w/main event, Oct. 21 (\$2,620, noon).	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).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em pays \$5K/\$2.5K and \$599 to entire table; Aces Cracked pays up to \$150 (daily, 8a-1p); high hands; flopped royals pays entire table. Progressive high-hand jackpot is quads or better; Aces Cracked.
MONTE CARLO RESORT & CASINO (702) 730-7777 • montecarlo.com	Daily (\$50, 9a) & (\$60, 6p & 11p); Thurs. & Fri. (\$40, 2p); monthly freerolls (call for details).	
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.	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). Early bird promo pays \$25 every hour between 8a-1p; earn up to \$200 per day by playing live cash games.
PALMS CASINO (702) 942-7777 • palms.com	Sun.-Fri. (\$65, 10a); Wed. KO (\$75, 7p).	High hands; get paid for straight flushes and royals.
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.	
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).	Multiroom Jumbo progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em starts at quad sixes and pays \$100K guaranteed. See ad Page 33.
RIO CASINO (702) 777-7777 • riolasvegas.com	Daily (\$45, noon), (\$65, 6p) and (\$75, 9p).	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. See ad Page 47.	High hands (call for details).
SAM'S TOWN LAS VEGAS (702) 456-7777 • samstowntnlv.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). See ad on Page 35.
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; Tue., Thur. & Sat. (\$45 w/\$20 add-on, 10a); Wed. & Sun. KO (\$45 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	Sun.-Sat. (\$43, 2p); Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. (\$43, 7p) w/all tournaments allowing re-entries for the first hour.	Multiroom progressive bad beat; Splash the Pot (Tue.); Make 4 Flushes pays \$400 (Mon. & Thurs.); Aces Cracked \$100 (Sat.-Sun., 7a-11a); \$1.5K giveaway (Wed.).
TEXAS STATION (702) 631-1000 • texasstation.com	Daily (\$45, 6p, 5K chips, 20-minute levels).	Multiroom Jumbo progressive bad-beat jackpot in hold'em starts at quad sixes and pays \$100K guaranteed. See ad Page 33.
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 • tropiv.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.	No jackpots.
WENDOVER NUGGET HOTEL & CASINO (702) 770-7000 • wynnlasvegas.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 • thelodgearbelmont.com	Daily (\$5-\$50). Times vary by day (1p, 4p, 4:30p, 5p, 7p). Big-stack events on Saturdays (\$50, 7p, 15K chips).	Call for jackpots.
MANCHEVEGAS 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-\$120); Mon.-Thurs. & Sat. (1p & 7p); Fri. (1p & 8p); 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); Mon.-Thurs. (11a & 7p), Wed. (11p), Fri. (noon, 6p & 11p), Sat. (11a & 6p) and Sun. (11a & 3p).	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	Daily (\$35-\$190). Mon.-Thurs. (10a & 7p); Fri. (10a & 8p); Sat. (11a); Sun. (10a, 6p).	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).	Bad-beat jackpot is in hold'em (quad deuces); royals pay \$100.

NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA

HARRAH'S CHEROKEE (N.C.) (828) 497-7777 • harrahscharokee.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); TJ Cloutier Choctaw Poker Challenge, Sept. 29-Oct. 9 (\$100-\$1,500) w/main event on Oct. 7 (\$1,500, 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 • milliondollarml.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 SAND SPRINGS (877) 246-8777 • milliondollarml.com	Daily (\$30, 3p & 9:30p).	Bad-beat jackpot in hold'em.
OSAGE MILLION DOLLAR TULSA (877) 246-8777 • milliondollarml.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).	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).	Bad beat in hold'em (call for details).
HOLLYWOOD PENN NATIONAL (717) 469-2211 • hcpn.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 • ericcasino.com	Chris Moneymaker \$25K Final Table SNG, Oct. 15 (satellites for this will run daily). Call for details.	Bad-jackpot. Call for details.
PARX CASINO (215) 639-9000 • parxcasino.com	Tuesday (\$120, 7p); Thurs. (\$120, 7p); Saturday (\$230, 2p).	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 (\$50-\$225) 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 MARIA HO

Maria Ho has been getting a lot of attention lately, and for good reason. She recently signed as a spokesperson for WinStar Casinos; she contributed a chapter to *Winning Women of Poker*, and she scored the largest cash in World Series history for a woman. *Ante Up*'s Chris Cosenza caught up with her at a book signing to see just how she got to this point in her career.

How long have you been playing poker and how'd you get started? I've been playing for almost 10 years, professionally for six. I got started in college with some friends who had a home game. I decided to crash their home game and I was kinda beating that game on a regular basis. So I said to myself, "I don't want to keep taking money from my friends; I'm gonna go take some strangers' money." Luckily I went to college where there was an Indian casino so I could play when I was 18.

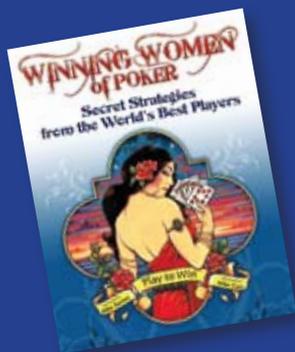
What's the best poker advice you've ever gotten? You can't win the tournament in the first hour or the first level or the first day. And I think sometimes players kinda forget that and they get panicked or desperate when they lose some chips, but I think it's always a marathon mentality, not a sprint. I've always taken that to heart.

What advice would you give to an aspiring poker pro? They have to realize there's this allure of a lifestyle associated with poker that I don't think is represented of what poker entails. It can take a lot of discipline. It can be really stressful and can be really emotional for some people. I would tell people to realize this is still a job at the end of the day. You need to put in the hours; you need to keep working at your game. You can't ever just become complacent. ... It can be fun and, of course, kind of exciting, but never get too caught up in all the rest of the stuff and just worry about playing the best game you can play.

Speaking of advice, you contributed a chapter to the new book *Winning*

Women of Poker. Tell me about the book and what that experience was like. The book is basically a poker book for women written by women. Being a woman in poker is a very different perspective. I think it's a great idea for other women to be able to gain the perspective of women poker players who have been doing this for a long time. I know when I started out I would have loved to have a book that let me know what to expect. I totally was thrust into this world and it's so different for a woman than it is for a man. That's why I was so excited about this book; it was such a great collaborative effort between so many great female poker players. ... So I'm really proud to be a part of it and the fact that all of the proceeds go to Poker Gives, so that's a great bonus.

How devastating was the online shutdown for you? It wasn't incredibly devastating. I've always been a live player to begin with. Obviously I played online, but it wasn't something that I ever ... really thought would be there forever. We all knew that there was a lot of legislation going around and a lot of questions to the legality of playing online. I just never put all of my eggs in that basket and I'm happy that I didn't. It's very unfortunate for the state of poker, but as the numbers have shown at the WSOP, the numbers have been higher actually than previous years, so it proves poker is just in a different climate right now and people will have to adapt to that. But it's not dead by any means just because online poker is gone. ♠



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Tuesdays 12:30PM & 7:30PM • \$100 + \$20
Wednesdays 10/5 & 10/19 7:30PM • 10/12 & 10/26 12:30PM • \$85 + \$15
Thursdays 12:30PM • \$85 + \$15 + \$25 Bounty • 3PM • \$40 + \$10 Turbo
7:30PM • \$100 + \$20
Fridays 12:30PM \$50 + \$10 Re-Entry
Saturdays 10AM • \$85 + \$15 Re-Entry
Sundays 12:30PM • \$100 + \$20
10/2 3:30PM • \$85 + \$15 Limit Omaha Hi/Lo

Deep Stack Multi-Table No Limit Hold'em

Wednesdays 10/5 & 10/19 12:30PM
10/12 & 10/26 7:30PM • \$200 + \$40
Fridays 10/7 & 10/21 7:30PM • \$355 + \$45
10/14 & 10/28 7:30PM • \$500 + \$50



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