

Card Player

THE POKER AUTHORITY

www.CardPlayer.com

Vol. 35/No. 6
March 9, 2022

PLUS

**PHIL HELLMUTH BEATS
TOM 'DURRRR' DWAN
IN LATEST HIGH
STAKES DUEL**

**NEW WSOP HOME
TO REBRAND AS
HORSESHOE CASINO**

**POT-LIMIT OMAHA:
WHEN IS IT CORRECT
TO FOLD THE NUTS?**



Alexander Yen Wins WPT Lucky Hearts Poker Open Main Event

36-Year-Old Defeats Massive Field Of 1,982 Entries In South Florida

**GO FOR GOLD
THIS SUNDAY!**

**MERCH PACKS
AND MILLIONS
OF GOLD COINS
TO BE WON
EACH WEEK.**

PLAY NOW!



GLOBAL POKER™

GOLDEN SCRIMMAGE

NEW WELCOME OFFER!

GET OVER 50% YOUR FIRST GOLD COIN PURCHASE.
USE PROMO CODE '**CARDPLAYER**'.

GLOBALPOKER.COM/CARDPLAYER
NO PURCHASE NECESSARY

Card Player

SUBSCRIBE



Visit www.cardplayer.com/link/subscribe

THE POKER AUTHORITY
Player

TODAY!

PRINT + DIGITAL ACCESS

- ♠ 26 ISSUES PER YEAR
- ♠ FREE DIGITAL ACCESS
- ♠ VIEW ARCHIVES OF OVER 800 ISSUES

or Call 1-866-587-6537



PUBLISHERS

Barry Shulman | Jeff Shulman

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

Julio Rodriguez

EDITORIAL

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR Julio Rodriguez
TOURNAMENT CONTENT MANAGER Erik Fast
ONLINE CONTENT MANAGER Joe Mattia

ART

ART DIRECTOR Wendy McIntosh

WEBSITE AND INTERNET SERVICES

CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER Jaran Hardman
DATA COORDINATOR Morgan Young

SALES

ADVERTISING MANAGER Mary Hurbi
NATIONAL SALES MANAGER Barbara Rogers
LAS VEGAS AND COLORADO SALES REPRESENTATIVE
Rich Korbin

CARDPLAYER MEDIA LLC

CHAIRMAN AND CEO Barry Shulman
PRESIDENT AND COO Jeff Shulman
GENERAL COUNSEL Allyn Jaffrey Shulman
VP INTL. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT Dominik Karelus
CONTROLLER Mary Hurbi
FACILITIES MANAGER Jody Ivener

CORPORATE OFFICE

6940 O'Bannon Drive
Las Vegas, Nevada 89117
(702) 871-1720
cardplayer@cardplayer.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS/RENEWALS

1-866-LVPOKER
(1-866-587-6537)
PO Box 434
Congers, NY 10920-0434
cardplayer@congerswest.com

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

sales@cardplayer.com
(702) 856-2206

DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION

distribution@cardplayer.com

RESULTS

results@cardplayer.com

SCHEDULES

schedules@cardplayer.com

FOLLOW US



www.facebook.com/cardplayer



@CardPlayerMedia

Card Player (ISSN 1089-2044) is published biweekly by Card Player Media LLC, 6940 O'Bannon Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89117. Annual subscriptions are \$39.95 U.S. (\$59.95 U.S. for two years), \$59.95 Canada, and \$75.95 International. Remit payment to CUSTOMER SERVICE, CARD PLAYER MAGAZINE, PO BOX 434, CONGERS, NY 10920-0434 or call 1-866-587-6537. Periodicals postage paid at Las Vegas, NV, and additional mailing offices USPS #022-483. POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to CARD PLAYER MAGAZINE, PO BOX 434, CONGERS, NY 10920-0434.

Card Player makes no representations as to whether online gaming is legal in your community. Please check with your local authorities.

Reproduction or use in whole or part is prohibited without prior permission from the publisher. Contributors are afforded the opportunity to express themselves to the fullest; however, statements and opinions do not necessarily represent those of the publisher. Information is gathered only from sources considered to be reliable; however, accuracy is not guaranteed.

Publisher does not endorse any of the products or services advertised in this magazine, nor is publisher responsible for the contents of any ad copy.

Published and printed in the United States.



So Much More

**— THAN NY'S #1
GAMING RESORT**



Are you ready for an award-winning gaming experience unlike any other?
Whether you like to spin the wheel, take a chance or roll the dice, Turning Stone Resort Casino
brings excitement to the table with a range of your favorite games.
Find out why Casino Player named Turning Stone #1 for overall gaming.

PLAN YOUR VISIT TODAY
TURNINGSTONE.COM • 800.771.7711

Turning Stone
RESORT | CASINO

16



Features

16

Alexander Yen Wins WPT Lucky Hearts
Poker Open Main Event
By Erik Fast

News

10

Phil Hellmuth Defeats Tom 'Durr' Dwan
In High Stakes Duel Heads-Up Match
By Erik Fast

12

News From The Gambling World
By Card Player News Team

Tournaments

20

Tournament Circuit Update
By Erik Fast

22

Circuit Results
By Morgan Young

26

Player Of The Year
Sponsored By Global Poker

27

Poker Leaderboard
By Erik Fast

Strategy

28

Pot-Limit Omaha Strategy:
When Do You Fold The Nuts?
By Craig Tapscott

31

Final Table Takedown: Andrew Moreno
Breaks Down Victory At Wynn Millions
For \$1.46 Million
By Craig Tapscott

33

WSOP Ladies Event Champion Lara
Eisenberg Talks Women's Tournament
Strategy
By Bernard Lee

36

Minimizing Losses With Decently Strong
Poker Hands
By Jonathan Little

37

Omaha Eight-Or-Better: Playable Low
Hands From Early Position
By Kevin Haney

10



31



Also In This Issue

4

About Us

40

Tournament Schedules

42

PokerCoaching Hand Quiz:
Tough Spot With A Weak Top Pair

Poker Hand Matchups

34

Josh Kay vs. Nicholas Verderamo

35

Alexander Yen vs. Anton Wigg
vs. Nicholas Verderamo

37

Anton Wigg vs. Josh Kay

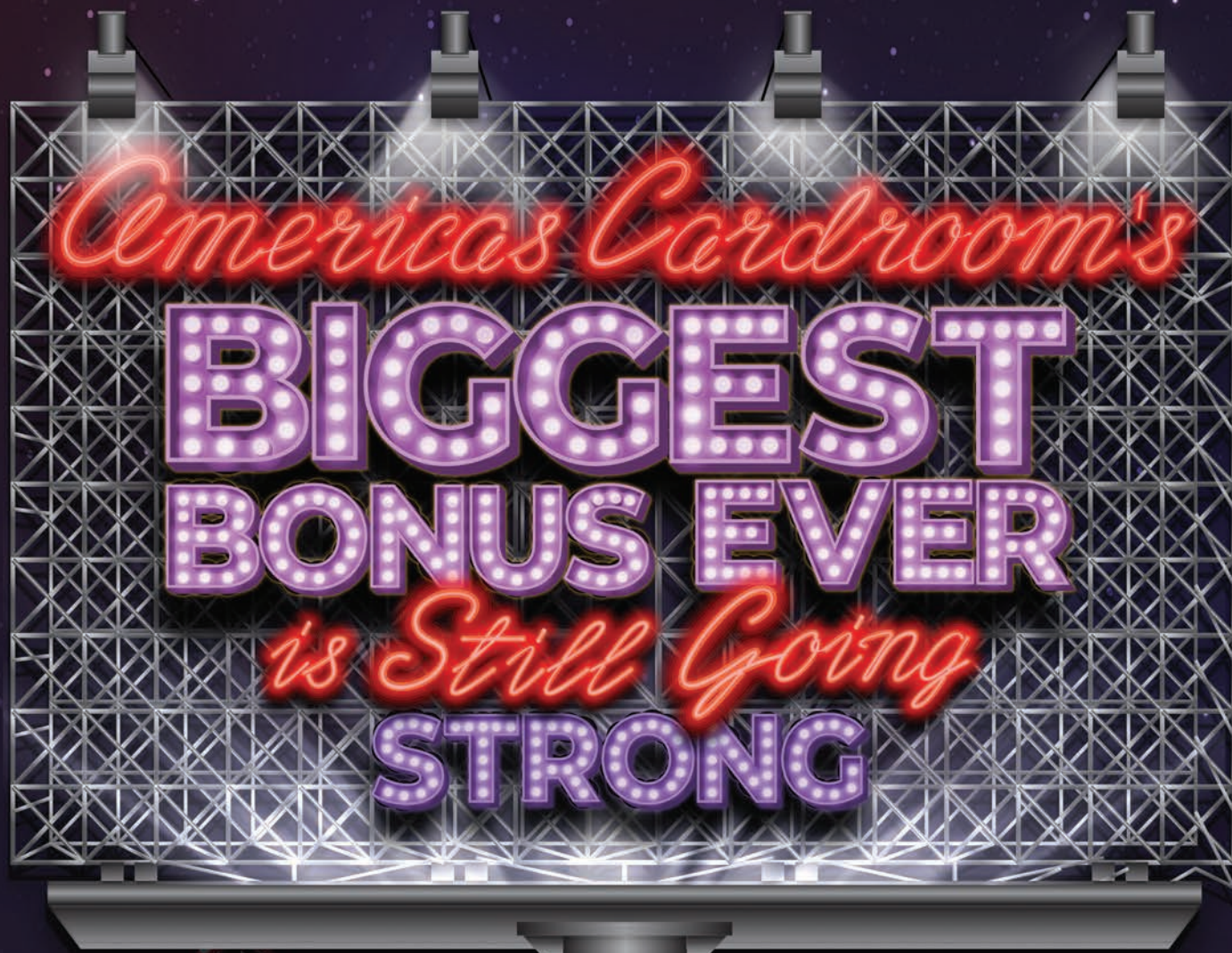
39

Daniel Lazrus vs. Anton Wigg



ACCEPTING U.S. PLAYERS

SINCE 2001



USE REFERRAL CODE **CPMAG**

GET A **100%**
WELCOME BONUS
UP TO **\$2,000**



AMERICASCARDROOM.NET



@ACR_POKER



@AMERICASCARDROOM



SUPPORT@AMERICASCARDROOM.EU

Enjoy our free games, and before playing in our real-money games, please check with your local jurisdiction regarding the legality of internet gaming.

NEWS FROM THE GAMBLING WORLD

PHIL HELLMUTH DEFEATS TOM ‘DURRRR’ DWAN IN HIGH STAKES DUEL HEADS-UP MATCH

16-Time WSOP Bracelet Winner Earns \$400,000 And Takes Record To 8-1 In The Series

By Erik Fast



Phil Hellmuth doesn't have anything left to prove. Not only is the Poker Hall of Fame member the all-time *World Series of Poker* bracelet leader with 16 titles won at the series, but he is also one of just 34 players to ever cash for more than \$20 million on the tournament circuit.

The 57-year-old poker pro is far from done adding to his already legendary résumé, though. Hellmuth's most recent addition was his eighth match win on PokerGO's popular heads-up show, *High Stakes Duel*. He defeated fan-favorite high-stakes cash game star Tom 'Durr' Dwan to earn \$400,000 at the PokerGO Studio at the Aria in Las Vegas.

"It feels good. Tom is just one of the greatest players in the world. I like to use the term 'natural-born hold'em player.' I think there are about 10 natural-born hold'em players in the world," Hellmuth told PokerGO reporters after coming out on top. "I'm one of the 10, for sure. What do I have, 13 world championships in hold'em or something? Plus, just 50 final tables in hold'em. So yeah, I'm one of them."

Hellmuth had lost the previous round against Dwan, which saw the end of his seven-match winning streak. His run began with a three-match sweep of Antonio Esfandiari. He backed that up with another clean sweep against

Daniel Negreanu. Hellmuth profited \$350,000 in each series, having just started with his initial \$50,000 buy-in.

His final win of the streak came against sports commentator Nick Wright in the first round of *High Stakes Duel III*. Wright decided against continuing, however, and Dwan was brought in as the next opponent.

Dwan won that round 2 match in August of 2021 thanks to his pocket tens cracking the pocket aces of Hellmuth with all of the chips in before the flop. The two met again for the third round of *High Stakes Duel III*, with each putting up \$200,000 to create the \$400,000

© PokerGO / Antonio Abrego



winner-take-all prize.

The two battled for roughly three hours in this latest match, with Hellmuth showing some well-timed aggression, including a huge three-bet preflop bluff with 6-3 offsuit.

"I thought that I had to play a little faster against him because he's so good. He's so good, he's always there, he's making all these good folds, so I thought to step it up a little bit and to make some big bluffs today to win just to kind of get the mojo in my favor. I was hoping with those big bluffs that once he sees that in the next match he'll adjust. I do better when someone else is making all the big bluffs and not me, but sometimes I have to do one."

They traded small leads for the first two hours of the showdown, with one key highlight being an impressive laydown from Hellmuth that helped him maintain his advantage.

Hellmuth limped in from the button for 1,200 with $Q\heartsuit 5\diamondsuit$ and Dwan checked $K\diamondsuit 6\diamondsuit$ from the big blind. The $K\spadesuit K\clubsuit 10\clubsuit$ flop gave Dwan trips and he checked. Dwan check-called a bet of 1,500 from Hellmuth. The $Q\heartsuit$ saw both players check. The $Q\spadesuit$ gave both players full houses. Dwan checked again, and Hellmuth made a small bet of 1,200 into the pot of 5,400. Dwan check-raised to 6,500. Hellmuth thought it over before laying down the underfull to send a smaller pot to Dwan.

Hellmuth extended his advantage with turned trips beating the pocket tens of Dwan in a chunky pot that saw him take a 3:1 lead. By the time the final hand of the match was dealt, he had pulled even further ahead.

Hellmuth picked up $A\clubsuit K\spadesuit$ and limped in from the button. Dwan raised from the big blind with $8\heartsuit 8\clubsuit$. Hellmuth moved all-in and Dwan made the call, setting up a coinflip situation for the chips. The dealer spread out a board of $K\diamondsuit 5\diamondsuit 2\heartsuit 6\heartsuit 6\diamondsuit$ and Hellmuth made kings and sixes to secure the pot and the win.

"They're all tough," Hellmuth said when asked to assess his opponents in the series thus far. "Antonio's tough in his way. He puts a lot of pressure on you, a lot of heat on you. He talks a lot, rubs it in when things are going bad for you. So, you really have to struggle to stay level. And then Daniel, it was super measured. (He'd say), 'here's the chart how I'm going to beat you,' all that bullshit that I was incredibly insulted by. It was kind of mean of him to attack me like that. But Daniel's f***ing tough as nails. If anyone wants to come face Antonio and Daniel, I'll bet on Antonio and Daniel. But Dwan is amazing, just like I said, he's a natural born hold'em player."

Of course, Hellmuth can't take his winnings and run, at least not yet. He won't be eligible to cash out until he plays at least one more match, meaning Dwan has a chance to get even if he'd like. Poker fans didn't have to wait long as Dwan announced the following morning that he would rematch against Hellmuth, setting up a battle for \$800,000.

"The next match is for \$800,000. If I lose, I'm pretty sure that I'm not going to pony up \$800,000 to play again, but I bet he will," said Hellmuth. "If he doesn't, then someone else will. I have to win twice more, and it could be Dwan then [Phil] Ivey, or Dwan then Dwan, if I can win the next match."

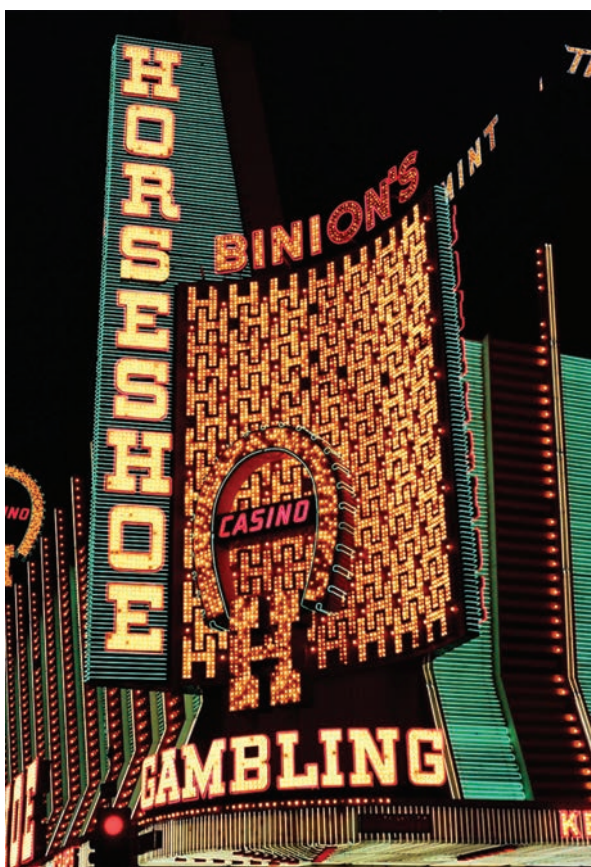
PokerGO President Mori Eskandani has said that he anticipates the third match between these two players to take place sometime in March or April of this year. Each of the *High Stakes Duel* matches is available for viewing on demand at PokerGO. ♠



CAESARS TO BRING BACK HORSESHOE TO REPLACE BALLY'S CASINO ON LAS VEGAS STRIP

New Home Of The WSOP To Have Familiar Name From The Past

By Joe Mattia



© Larry D. Moore 1986.

The *World Series of Poker* is returning home... kind of. In January, Caesars Entertainment announced that the Horseshoe brand is returning to Las Vegas, as Bally's casino in Las Vegas will undergo a rebrand.

The change will be in progress this spring with a projected completion date of inside 2022. Caesars said that the project will include a renovated exterior, new entertainment and dining options, and a "reimagined" casino floor.

The casino sits on the Las Vegas Strip, at the corner of Flamingo Rd. and Las Vegas Blvd. Caesars calls it the "50-yard line" of the Strip, the city's world-renowned casino corridor and the gambling capital of the U.S.

"Bringing the Horseshoe brand back to life in Las Vegas allows us to celebrate both our history and our future," said Regional President of Caesars Entertainment Sean McBurney. "2022 starts a new era for the Caesars Entertainment empire in Las Vegas, one being heralded by the return of Horseshoe."

Of course, it's been months since Caesars announced that the annual *World Series of Poker* was getting a new home, relocating to Bally's and Paris, even naming actor Vince Vaughn as the official celebrity Master of Ceremonies.

"As we close out this chapter at the Rio, we are excited to have the iconic Vince Vaughn usher in a new era of *WSOP* at Bally's and Paris next summer," said *WSOP* Senior Vice President Ty Stewart at the time.

The *WSOP* started in 1970 at the original Binion's Horseshoe Casino in Downtown Las Vegas when proper-

ty owner Benny Binion invited seven of the best-known poker players in the world to compete.

The series stayed there until 2005, when Harrah's Entertainment, now Caesars Entertainment, acquired the rights to the brand, moving the annual summer poker festival to the Rio Hotel & Casino, located a short drive off the Strip. Harrah's quickly sold the original property, which was renamed Binion's Gambling Hall and Hotel, while retaining the rights to the Horseshoe name.

The venue change helped accommodate the massive boom in popularity in poker at the time, with the sprawling Rio Convention Center replacing the relatively cramped confines of the Horseshoe. The new Horseshoe at what is now Bally's Las Vegas will have plenty of event space to accommodate the *WSOP*.

Bally's has its own 40,000 square-foot event center and another 39,000 square-foot ballroom. Additionally, the main convention area at Paris is almost three times the size of the Rio's Amazon Room, 85,000 square feet to 30,000 square feet, and the other four rooms at the property total just over 80,000 square feet.

There is no word yet on how the events will be divided up between the various convention spaces at the two properties. The 53rd annual *WSOP* will run May 31 to July 19, 2022, with the full schedule of events expected soon.

The series finding a new home was rumored for years and became a foregone conclusion after Caesars sold the Rio to Dreamscape Companies in 2019 for \$516 million. Caesars will continue to operate the casino until the

end of 2023. The Rio, which first opened in 1990, will then reportedly rebrand their hotel towers as the Hyatt Regency.

The name change also helps the Bally's Corporation, formerly Twin River Worldwide Holdings, which has nothing to do with the current casino property. (Not to be confused with a third company, Bally Entertainment Manufacturing, which makes slot machines.)

"We couldn't be more excited to see the *World Series of Poker* return to Horseshoe," said Senior Vice President and Executive Director Ty Stewart. "Horseshoe is where it all began for *WSOP*. It's always been a brand for gamblers and card players. As we move *WSOP* to the Las Vegas Strip for the first time, that it will happen at Horseshoe makes it incredibly special."

The initial news was welcomed by many in the poker world who had grown tired of the Rio's lack of food options, uncomfortable chairs, limited bathrooms, and frigid temperature. But the announcement also came with some trepidation over the potential parking issues that may be present on the traffic-congested Strip.

Although not present in Nevada since 2005, Caesars has been using the Horseshoe brand in other markets in the U.S. for some of their other casino properties. There are two Horseshoe Casinos in Ohio, two in Indiana, and one each in Maryland, Mississippi, Iowa, and Louisiana.

Bally's Las Vegas originally opened in 1973 as the MGM Grand Hotel and Casino. In 1980, one of the worst high-rise fires in U.S. history occurred, killing 85. Bally Manufacturing purchased the property in 1986, and its sister venue, Paris Las Vegas, opened in 1999. ♠

WOMAN FINDS \$3 MILLION LOTTERY WIN IN HER 'SPAM' FOLDER

By Joe Mattia

A woman in Michigan apparently almost missed out on a \$3 million lottery win.

According to the Michigan Lottery, 55-year-old Laura Spears played Mega Millions on Dec. 31 of last year and matched the five white balls in the drawing for a \$1 million win. Because she used a so-called "megaplier" (a play off the world multiplier) in the game, the \$1 million win was tripled to \$3 million.

According to how the lottery tells it, Spears, who bought the ticket online within Michigan, didn't consider checking her iLottery account to see if she had won.

"I saw an ad on Facebook that the Mega Millions jackpot was getting pretty high, so I got on my account and bought a ticket," Spears said. "A few days later, I was looking for a missing email from someone, so I checked the spam folder in my email account."

"That's when I saw an email from the Lottery saying I had won a prize. I couldn't believe what I was reading, so I logged in to my lottery account to confirm the message in the email."

Would Spears have eventually checked her lottery account if she never saw the email? It's totally unclear, but the implication from the Michigan Lottery is that it would



have taken her much longer to realize.

Had she not claimed the winnings within a full year, her ticket would have expired and been reduced to zero dollars. At any rate, this bad beat was averted.

Spears' win came as the Mega Millions jackpot was in the process of growing to a pot worth \$421 million before being hit by a person in California on Jan. 28. ♠

HIGH-STAKES ONLINE GAME SETS RECORD WITH \$1.4 MILLION NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM POT

By Card Player News Team



Just weeks after a reported \$1.8 million pot was split in a hand of pot-limit Omaha, the online no-limit hold'em record appears to have fallen as well.

During a high-stakes cash game on GGPoker with blinds of \$500-\$1,000, the six players at the table managed to create not one, but three hands in excess of \$1 million.

All three pots were enough to break the previous hold'em online record, set by Ali Imsirovic in 2020 for \$974,631.

The first pot, worth \$1,092,276, went to 'BIEDERMEIR,' who is rumored to be Leon Tsournik. (The Czech Republic casino owner was also involved in the previously mentioned \$1.8 million PLO pot, chopping it up with aces against Antanas 'Tony G' Guoga.)

BIEDERMEIR got the better of Belarus high roller star Mikita Badziakouski, whose overpair went down against a turned straight.

The second biggest pot of the session worth \$1,237,886 was kickstarted by two straddles to bump the action to \$500-\$1,000-\$2,000-\$4,000, before BIEDERMEIR straddled out of position to a whopping \$32,000.

This time *WSOP* bracelet winner Barak Wisbrod of Israel raised to isolate with pocket aces, and got BIEDERMEIR to punt off on the flop with a gutshot straight draw. The four-outer never came, and Wisbrod dragged the virtual chips.

Yet another blind straddle to \$32,000 by BIEDERMEIR triggered the biggest pot of the night. Once again Wisbrod raised to \$77,000 with the intent to isolate, but this time Wiktor 'Limitless' Malinowski opted to get involved, shoving all in with A♥ 9♥ for \$331,420.

BIEDERMEIR was undeterred and moved in for his last \$555,113 with 6♦ 6♣. Wisbrod had a real hand, however, and made the easy call with Q♦ Q♣ to bring the pot to the new record of \$1,447,347.

According to the *Card Player* Poker Odds Calculator, Wisbrod should win the hand nearly 55 percent of the time, with Malinowski coming out on top 27.5 percent of the time. The flop of 10♣ 9♦ 4♠ kept Wisbrod in the lead, but the A♠ on the turn left both him and BIEDERMEIR drawing to two outs each.

The river was the 9♣, giving Malinowski a full house and the majority of the pot. His more than full triple up was worth \$999,960. Wisbrod suffered a bad beat, but at least he won the side pot of \$447,387 to get some of his money back.

Malinowski is considered one of the top online players in the game today, and last summer proved his ability in the live arena by winning the \$250,000 buy-in *Super High Roller Bowl Europe* main event for \$3.69 million.

Considering the fact that the \$1.8 million PLO hand was played on a site that uses a crypto currency 'stable coin' known as Tether, many in the poker community have discredited its status at the new record holder. Given that this \$1,447,347 pot is slightly larger than the \$1,356,946 PLO pot that went to Patrik Antonius back in 2009, it may now be debated that Malinowski holds the overall pot size record as well.

Of course, the real record may never be known, as high-stakes players have also been known to play for significantly smaller stakes online, and then settle up the real wins and losses offsite. ♠

© Super High Roller Bowl

Online Sports Gambling Kicks Off In Louisiana

By Joe Mattia

Online gambling on sports is now live in Louisiana.

In late January, mobile sportsbooks launched in the Pelican State, including products from the likes of Caesars and BetMGM, among others. The online operators should immediately grow the market.

The state saw about \$67 million in wagers across November and December, per state figures. The books crushed bettors with a whopping 15 percent win percentage, however. Typical hold for sports betting is around 7 percent.

“Launching our Caesars Sportsbook app on the first day mobile sports wagering goes live in Louisiana is a big moment for our legacy in the state,” said Eric Hession, Co-President of Caesars Digital.

“Louisiana sports fans have shown us their passion for sports betting every day since the opening of our Caesars Sportsbook locations at Harrah’s New Orleans and Horseshoe Bossier City. Our mobile app is ready to bring fans closer to the sports they love while offering the very best in rewards.”

MGM, also based out of Las Vegas, echoed Caesars.



“We’re thrilled that the BetMGM Sportsbook is one of the first mobile sports betting apps to launch in Louisiana, just in time for this weekend’s NFL playoffs,” said BetMGM CEO Adam Greenblatt.

“We know that many Louisianians visit our retail sportsbooks in Mississippi, and we’re pleased to provide another betting option that rewards customers with one-of-a-kind experiences not available on any other platform.”

Louisiana legalized sports betting in 2021. The market for legal sports betting more than doubled in 2021 nationwide, and is now available in 30 states and Washington D.C., with a handful of states expected to start in 2022. ♠

SPORTSBOOK OPENS AT MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL STADIUM

By Joe Mattia

BetMGM and the Washington Nationals, as part of their exclusive sports gambling partnership, opened a retail sportsbook at Nationals Park in January.

The facility is being dubbed “the first retail sportsbook connected to a Major League Baseball stadium.” The sports bar/book is open year-round, seven days a week.

“We’re constantly pushing the boundaries to deliver sports fans unique experiences, and that’s just what we’ve done with the new BetMGM Sportsbook at Nationals Park,” said Adam Greenblatt, CEO of BetMGM, in a statement. “Whether fans are attending baseball games or looking for a place to watch any sporting event, the BetMGM Sportsbook at Nationals Park is bound to be one of the most engaging sports viewing environments in the District.”

Gamblers can place wagers directly with cashiers at six betting windows or at kiosks.

“The BetMGM Sportsbook at Nationals Park represents the newest way in which we are providing our fans with the best experiences in sports and entertainment,” said Alan Gottlieb, Chief Operating Officer of Lerner Sports, the group behind the MLB franchise.

The 4,000-square foot retail sportsbook isn’t the first to be located in a sporting venue in D.C. Caesars Sportbook



has a full-service betting kiosk located at the Capital One Arena, which is home to the NHL’s Washington Capitals, the NBA’s Washington Wizards, and the WNBA’s Washington Mystics. FanDuel has plans to open a sportsbook of their own at Audi Field, which is where the D.C. United of Major League Soccer play.

Residents can also use a mobile app powered by the D.C. Lottery, which was rolled out in the summer of 2021. The platform is limited to only those within the jurisdiction. ♠

Alexander Yen Wins WPT Lucky Hearts Poker Open Main Event

36-Year-Old Defeats Massive Field Of 1,982 Entries In South Florida

By Erik Fast



The 2022 World Poker Tour Lucky Hearts Poker Open \$3,500 buy-in no-limit hold'em main event attracted a massive field of 1,982 entries, resulting in the second-largest turnout for a WPT main tour event in Seminole Hard Rock history. Only the 2021 WPT Seminole Hard Rock Poker Showdown (2,482) drew more entries.

The huge turnout at the South Florida property resulted in the \$2 million guarantee being more than tripled, with the final prize pool surpassing \$6.3 million. Six days after cards got in the air, the largest chunk of that prize money was awarded to eventual champion Alexander Yen. The 36-year-old Chicago native earned \$975,240 and his first WPT main event title for coming out on top.

Not only was it the poker pro's first WPT title, but it was also his first major live tournament title of any kind.

"It feels absolutely incredible," said Yen in an interview with tournament reporters. "I've never won a live tournament before. I don't even think I've won [an event] online, so this is a pretty unreal feeling."

As it turns out, getting the victory helped Yen also earn some redemption, having previously made it down to heads-up in two *Mid-States Poker Tour* events back in 2014 and 2015 while coming away as the runner-up on both occasions.

"My friends make fun of me all the time, saying you must have chopped it with your opponent both times because I played so bad. I had that monkey on my back and had to get it off, really prove myself."

Yen now lives in Indianapolis, Indiana, where he also went to college. His favorite game is pot-limit Omaha and he spends most of his playing time in cash games, but admitted that he's "always liked chasing the big prize that tournaments offer."

"This was huge for me," Yen added. "I really don't know yet what I'm going to do with [the money]."

In addition to the title and the money, Yen also secured 1,620 *Card Player* Player of the Year points as the champion, the single largest amount of points awarded in any event so far in 2022. This win was his first POY-qualified score of the year, but it alone was enough to catapult him into first place in the overall standings.

He also had his name forever inscribed on the Mike Sexton WPT Champions Cup.

Getting To The Final Table

The event's \$2 million guarantee was already surpassed by more than \$850,000 by the time registration closed on day 1A with 892 entries. A total of 241 players survived the first of two starting flights, with 2021 break-

© WPT / Joe Giron



Anton Wigg



Daniel Lazrus



Jake Ferro



Nicholas Verderamo

out tournament star Jesse Lonis bagging up the chip lead.

Day 1B saw an even larger turnout, with 1,090 more entries bringing the total to 1,982. As a result, the prize pool soared to \$6,342,400. Another 351 players moved on from the second starting flight, bringing the total to 592 players taking a seat at the start of day 2. Lonis remained the overall chip leader with 685,500, but day 1B's Jordan DeGrenier was hot on his heels with 672,000.

Only the top 248 finishers in this event would make the money and unfortunately for Almog Biton, he was the last player eliminated before the payouts began. The New Yorker got all-in preflop with pocket kings leading the A-10 suited of Armando Figueroa. An ace on the turn gave Figueroa the lead, however, and a blank river sent Biton to the rail empty handed.

The remaining players all locked up at least a \$6,275 payday. Notables to hit the rail late on day 2 after the bubble burst included 2021 *WPT Venetian* champion Chad Eveslage (241st - \$6,275), reigning POY award winner Ali Imsirovic (238th - \$6,275), PokerGO commentator Jeff Platt (216th - \$6,275), start-of-day chip leader Jesse Lonis (192nd - \$6,405), two-time bracelet winner and 2014 *WPT L.A. Poker Classic* champion Chris Moorman (183rd - \$6,615), 2008 *WPT World Poker Challenge* champion Lee Markholt (134th - \$7,815), nine-time bracelet winner and 2008 *WPT Foxwoods Poker Classic* champion Erik Seidel (128 for \$7,815), 2019 *WPT Gardens Poker Championships* winner Frank Stepuchin (113th - \$8,450), four-time bracelet winner Jeff Madsen (106th - \$8,450), and three-time *WPT* champion Eric Afriat (103rd - \$8,450).

Reigning *WPT* Player of the Year award winner Jacob Ferro entered with the largest stack among the 87 remaining contenders with 2,235,000 on day 3. A total of 71 players busted before the day concluded, with plenty of big names among those to fall.

2022 POY race contender Scott Baumstein, fresh off of a pair of *LHPO* preliminary event wins, finished 83rd for \$10,215. Two-time bracelet winner Athanasios Polychronopoulos' run ended in 69th place (\$12,900), while four-time bracelet winner Michael Gathy bowed out in 50th place (\$17,000). Bracelet winner and 2011 *PokerStars Caribbean Adventure* main event winner Galen Hall finished 36th (\$23,360). Shannon Shorr (35th - \$23,360), two-time *WPT* champion James Carroll (28th - \$27,810), and bracelet winner Loni Hui (26th - \$27,810) also fell before the final 16 players bagged up for the night with Josh Kay sitting atop the chip counts.

Yen came into day 4 with the second-largest stack, and quickly added to his pile by winning a preflop race with pocket nines facing A-K to send Jose Montes home in 16th place (\$49,825). Yen scored another key knockout when his A-10 bested the pocket eights of Ferro, who had slid down the leaderboard during the day. Ferro was unable to win the coinflip and finished ninth for \$97,525. The *WPT* Season XIX POY cashed for \$669,540 last year, and is off to a strong start in his quest to go back-to-back in that points race.

Jake Daniels got the last of his stack in preflop with pocket jacks, only to run into the pocket kings of Anton Wigg. The superior pair held up and Daniels was eliminated in eighth place (\$124,365).



The day concluded when three-time bracelet winner Jeremy Ausmus was knocked out in seventh place. He got the last of his short stack in preflop with $A\heartsuit 6\spadesuit$ from the small blind and was unable to overcome the $5\heartsuit 3\heartsuit$ of Kay, who had opened from the hijack. Kay rivered a straight to send Ausmus packing (\$160,095) and bring play to a conclusion for the night.

Crowning The Newest WPT Champion

Yen entered the final day as the chip leader with six players remaining, with each of them looking for their first WPT main tour title. On the 27th hand of the day, short stack Omar Lakhdari got all-in with K-Q suited racing against the pocket nines of two-time WSOP bracelet winner Daniel Lazrus. The flop gave Lazrus top set and Lakhdari a flush draw. The turn made things even more interesting, as Lakhdari picked up outs to a gutshot as well. The river was of no help, though, and Lakhdari was knocked out in sixth place (\$208,025).

Despite starting the final table in second chip position, Josh Kay lost two all-ins against shorter stacks to fall to the bottom of the leaderboard during five-handed action. He ended up calling an all-in from Anton Wigg with $A\clubsuit J\clubsuit$. Wigg's $K\heartsuit Q\heartsuit$ improved to three of a kind on the flop to secure the pot and narrow the field to four. Kay took home \$272,830 as the fifth-place finisher, the second-largest live tournament score of his career behind only a win in a \$3,000 side event at the 2015 PCA.

Just a few hands later another big showdown took place. Nicholas Verderamo three-bet shoved over the top of Yen's button raise with $A\heartsuit 8\spadesuit$ out of the big blind. Yen called with pocket queens and held through a jack-high runout. Verderamo earned \$361,130 and 810 POY points for his fourth final-table finish of 2022.

Verderamo had secured a seventh-place finish in a Maryland State Poker Championships preliminary event before finishing second in that series' marquee \$2,200 buy-in event for \$106,471 and 400 points a handful of days later. He then turned around and won a \$600 buy-in six-max side event at the Lucky Hearts Poker Open for \$38,600 and 300 more points. The six-figure payday he earned as the fourth-place finisher in this event was the

largest score of his career. It brought his year-to-date POY earnings to \$511,333 and his point total to 1,594, which is good enough for second place in the overall standings.

You can read more about the 2022 POY race on pg. 26.

Lazrus was the clear short stack entering three-handed play. Despite earning two double-ups through Yen, he was ultimately eliminated when his pocket sixes were unable to outrun Yen's K-J offsuit. A jack on the flop gave Yen the lead, which he maintained through the turn and river. Lazrus was awarded \$482,380 for his third-place showing.

This was the second-largest payday of his career, behind only the \$1 million he earned for taking down his second career WSOP bracelet as the winner of the 2021 Millionaire Maker event. The 1,080 points he secured were enough on their own to move him into seventh place on the POY leaderboard.

Heads-up play began with Yen holding 57.7 million to Anton Wigg's 22.6 million. The accomplished Swedish poker pro had more than \$3.2 million in prior earnings coming into this event, including a win in the 2010 European Poker Tour Copenhagen main event for \$670,713. Wigg was looking for his first title on the WPT, and got off to a strong start. After sliding a bit initially, he earned a crucial double up to pull within 20 big blinds of Yen. He then battled his way into the chip lead briefly.

Yen was soon able to right the ship, though, taking down a hefty pot with jacks up to re-establish a healthy lead. In the final hand of the event, Yen limped in from the button with $9\clubsuit 7\clubsuit$ and Wigg raised with $Q\heartsuit Q\clubsuit$. Yen called and the $10\heartsuit 8\clubsuit 6\clubsuit$ flop gave him a straight with a straight-flush redraw.

Wigg bet as the first to act and Yen called. The $6\heartsuit$ on the turn paired the board. Wigg went into the tank before announcing that he was all-in. Yen made the quick call and avoided a queen or six on the river. The $4\heartsuit$ on the end officially locked up the pot and the title for Yen and sent Wigg home with \$650,180 for his runner-up showing. The 1,350 POY points he earned as the second-place finisher were sufficient to propel him up the rankings and into third place in the 2022 POY race.

Yen's \$975,240 top prize saw him increase his lifetime live tournament earnings to just shy of \$1.4 million. This was by far his largest recorded payday, blowing away the \$74,239 he earned as the third-place finisher in the 2021 WSOP \$1,000 buy-in pot-limit Omaha eight-max event.

The World Poker Tour will return to the Seminole Hard Rock Hollywood in April for the \$3,500 buy-in Hard Rock Poker Showdown before a \$3,500 WPT event at Choctaw Casino Resort in May.

Final Table Results

Place	Player	Payout	POY
1	Alexander Yen	\$975,240	1,620
2	Anton Wigg	\$650,180	1,350
3	Daniel Lazrus	\$482,380	1,080
4	Nicholas Verderamo	\$361,130	810
5	Josh Kay	\$272,830	675
6	Omar Lakhdari	\$208,025	540

© WPT / Joe Giron



Celebrating **10** *Years!*

Join us March 18th - 20th as we celebrate our 10 year anniversary at bestbet Jacksonville! The weekend will be full of big giveaways and over \$100,000 in cash promotions. Don't miss the \$140 NLH tournament on Saturday, March 19th with \$10,000 added! Learn more at bestbetjax.com.



201 Monument Road | Jacksonville FL 32225
www.bestbetjax.com | 904.646.0001

QUARTET OF WSOP CIRCUIT EVENTS MAKE BIG IMPACT ON POY STANDINGS

The *World Series of Poker Circuit* and *WSOP International Circuit* are both going full steam ahead already this year. The tours saw four major events conclude in recent weeks that brought about big changes to the top of the POY standings.

The first to conclude was the *WSOP Circuit Deerfoot Inn & Casino* in Calgary, Canada. The \$1,700 CAD buy-in tournament drew a massive field of 1,179 total entries, creating a prize pool equivalent to more than \$1.4 million USD. The top 177 finishers made the money, with the lion's share ultimately going to Daysland, Alberta resident Cody McKay.

He earned \$232,567 and his first gold ring as the champion. It was by far the biggest score of his tournament career, having previously won \$33,462 in a 2016 *WPT DeepStacks* event. McKay also locked up 960 POY points for the win, enough to catapult him into a tie for 10th place in the overall standings with recent *WSOPC Choctaw* main event winner

This was the Modesto, California native's first-ever six-figure score, and it increased his lifetime live tournament earnings to just under \$500,000. The cash eclipsed Paredes' previous best of \$78,604 that he earned for finishing runner-up in the \$600 buy-in NLH/PLO event at the 2021 *WSOP*.

The 840 POY points he secured for the win saw him climb into the previously mentioned multi-way tie for 15th place, joining Gallegos and a few other winners of mid-major events.

2007 *WSOP* main event champion Jerry Yang held the chip lead coming into the final table of the *WSOPC Thunder Valley* main event, but ultimately finished fourth for \$57,772. This was only his second live tournament cash since 2015. It was also his third-largest payday ever, behind the \$8.25 million he secured as the main event winner and the \$75,000 he locked up as a quarterfinalist in the 2010 *NBC National Heads-Up Championship*.

Check out future issues of *Card Player* for more *WSOP Circuit* results from stops at the *Isle Casino Pompano Park* in Florida, *Harrah's Cherokee* in North Carolina, *Bally's Casino* in Las Vegas, the *Bicycle Casino* in Los Angeles, *Turning Stone Resort* in New York, and the *Sonesta Maho Beach Resort* in Saint Maarten.

Quan Tran.

McKay overcame *WSOPC* ring winner Jason Su heads-up for the title. Su took home \$143,737 and 800 points as the runner-up, enough to move him into 22nd place on the POY leaderboard.

The next *WSOPC* main event to wrap up took place at *Thunder Valley Casino Resort*, near Sacramento. Victor Paredes defeated a field of 587 total entries, earning his first gold ring and the top prize of \$169,294 as the champion.

The circuit then made its way from the west coast to the south, heading to Horseshoe Tunica in Mississippi for another \$1,700 buy-in event. With 674 entries, the prize pool for the event surpassed \$1 million.

After two starting flights and two more days of action, San Diego's Randy Paguio emerged victorious with the largest chunk of that money with \$193,764.

This was Paguio's second career *WSOPC* gold ring, having won the first in a \$345 buy-in event at Harrah's



Rincon back in 2012 for \$21,844. In addition to the money and the hardware, he also earned 840 points to join Paredes in the five-way tie for 15th place.

Paguio knocked out every opponent from seven-handed play down to the title, concluding with his elimination of Kenneth Mason in second place (\$119,755). This was Mason's second final-table finish of the series, having previously placed sixth in a \$400 buy-in gold ring event for \$6,843 and 112 points. As a result, he now sits in 20th place on the POY leaderboard.

The *World Series of Poker International Circuit Rozvadov* main event took place at King's Resort in the Czech Republic. The €1,700 buy-in tournament drew a healthy field of 808 entries, which resulted in a prize pool of more than \$1.3 million when converted to USD. As a result of the sizable prize pool, the top three finishers all earned six-figure paydays, with the top prize of \$244,419 going to eventual champion Feyzullah Karaarslan.

This was by far the largest recorded score in the Turkish player's career, blowing away the previous top payday of \$2,576 he earned with a 36th-place finish just over a week earlier in a €550 buy-in monster stack event at the same series.

Karaarslan also earned his first gold ring and 912 POY points as the champion. He now sits in 12th place in the overall standings thanks to his run to the title in this event.

Runner-up Aleksandar Tomovic was awarded \$156,598 USD and 760 points for his deep run. That was sufficient to see him climb into 26th place for the time being.

TOURNAMENTS

© Deerfoot Casino Poker



Place	Player	Payout	POY
1	Cody McKay	\$232,567	960
2	Jason Su	\$143,737	800
3	Arvhin Malinab	\$108,608	640
4	Pamela MacNaughton	\$82,775	480
5	Malcolm Bolger	\$63,637	400
6	Robert Buckingham	\$49,356	320
7	Roman Brar	\$38,620	240
8	Jimi Olais	\$28,120	160
9	Sijie Ye	\$24,290	80



Place	Player	Payout	POY
1	Randy Paguio	\$193,764	840
2	Kenneth Mason	\$119,755	700
3	Brandon Butler	\$88,163	560
4	Sean Maurer	\$65,658	420
5	Adam Ross	\$49,472	350
6	Donovan Dean	\$37,719	280
7	Michael Esquivel	\$29,104	210
8	John Gallaher	\$22,730	140
9	B.J. McBrayer	\$17,970	70

© WSOP

© WSOP



Place	Player	Payout	POY
1	Victor Paredes	\$169,294	840
2	Garrett Anaya	\$104,629	700
3	Feiyue Wu	\$77,294	560
4	Jerry Yang	\$57,772	420
5	Lian Liu	\$43,469	350
6	Salas Alam	\$33,445	280
7	Vishnu Chada	\$25,912	210
8	Dong Meng	\$20,324	140
9	Brian Foley	\$16,140	70



Place	Player	Payout	POY
1	Feyzullah Karaarslan	\$244,419	912
2	Aleksandar Tomovic	\$156,598	760
3	Roman Chochola	\$115,418	608
4	Ronnie Lemmens	\$91,973	456
5	Claudio Di Giacomo	\$74,966	380
6	Anonymous	N/A	N/A
7	Sharon Sade	\$48,363	228
8	Simone Andrian	\$36,945	152
9	Michael Ugucctoni	\$31,600	76

© King's Resort

JONATHAN JAFFE, JOSEPH CHEONG, AND FARID JATTIN MAKE MOVES DURING FINAL DAYS OF LUCKY HEARTS POKER OPEN



Jonathan Jaffe



Farid Jattin

Jonathan Jaffe defeated a field of 93 entries in the massive 2022 *Lucky Hearts Poker Open* \$25,500 buy-in no-limit hold'em high roller event, securing his second victory in this event after having come out on top back in 2020. In a way, Jaffe went back-to-back, as this event was not included in the schedule for the 2021 *LHPO*.

This time around Jaffe earned \$574,085 as the champion, the second-largest payday of the 34-year-old professional poker player's career behind only his runner-up showing in the 2008 *WPT World Poker Finals* main event for \$670,635. The 2014 *WPT Montreal* main event champion now has just shy of \$5.5 million in live tournament earnings to his name.

In addition to the title and the money, Jaffe also secured 756 points, enough to move him into 27th place in the 2022 POY race. Runner-up finisher Joseph Cheong was awarded \$540,000 and 630 POY points for his third POY-qualified final table of the year. He made two top-three finishes during the inaugural *Stairway To Millions* series in January for a collective \$72,320 and 464 points. With 1,094 total points and \$612,320 in year-to-date POY earnings, he now sits in sixth place in the overall standings.

The final table also featured Vikenty Shegal, who also final tabled two events at the *Stairway To Millions*. Shegal is coming off of an incredible finish to close out 2021 where he won an Aria high roller in November and followed it up with two more high roller final tables before finishing runner-up in the *WPT Five Diamond World Poker Classic* at Bellagio for \$827,620.

Jaffe and Cheong were not the only players to make moves inside the top 30 thanks to success during the final days of the *LHPO*. Farid Jattin, who won the \$600 buy-in kickoff event for \$306,832 and 660 points reported on last issue, bookended the festival by taking down the final tournament, a \$2,200 pot-limit Omaha event.

Jattin beat out a field of 107 entries, earning \$58,410 and 240 POY points. As a result, he now sits in 13th place in the overall standings. The Colombian poker pro now has more than \$6.2 million in career tournament earnings, having also final tabled the 2019 \$25,000 buy-in PCA high roller and won the 2020 AUD\$25,000 Aussie Millions high roller.

Read the recap of the *LHPO* main event and its impact on the POY standings on pg 16.

Place	Player	Payout	POY
1	Jonathan Jaffe	\$574,085	756
2	Joseph Cheong	\$540,000	630
3	Tim Capretta	\$291,730	504
4	Daniel Colpoys	\$202,145	378
5	Eli Berg	\$130,935	315
6	Caleb Piderit	\$98,775	252
7	Sameer Batra	\$80,400	189
8	Vikenty Shegal	\$68,915	126
9	Jerry Wong	\$66,615	63

Place	Player	Payout	POY
1	Farid Jattin	\$58,410	240
2	Mark Wahba	\$39,105	200
3	Ayed Shweihat	\$26,500	160
4	Eric Salazar	\$18,670	120
5	Greg Nerenberg	\$13,650	100
6	Richard Kellett	\$10,375	80
7	Shay Mahaih	\$8,215	60
8	Kyle Bowker	\$6,785	40

NIKOLAY FAL WINS MERIT WESTERN POKER SERIES MAIN EVENT

The Merit Crystal Cove Hotel and Casino in Kyrenia, Cyprus played host to a 21-event tournament series in January, dubbed the *Merit Western Poker Series*. The centerpiece of the whole affair was the \$3,300 buy-in no-limit hold'em main event, which ran from Jan. 19-24.

A total of 644 entries were made across four starting flights, crushing the guarantee to create a prize pool worth more than \$1.7 million. Six days after cards first got in the air the event came down to the final four players, who agreed to a deal with \$80,000 set aside to play for. The final two players then opted to chop up that cash, and the tournament concluded with Nikolay Fal named the champion. The Russian player earned \$326,153 and 1,260 POY points for the win, along with entries and accommodations for a future series main event and high roller.

This was his first POY-qualified score of the year, but it alone was enough to see him climb into fifth place on the overall leaderboard.

This was also Fal's largest career score, topping the \$230,000 he earned as the champion of a 2017 *partypoker LIVE Millions Russia* \$2,700 buy-in event. He now has more than \$1.15 million in career tournament earnings.

Cyprus native Andreas Christoforou earned \$240,700 and 1,050 points as the runner-up, which is good for eighth place in the overall rankings. The Cyprus native had previously finished seventh in an *EPT Online* main event in 2020 for \$136,147.



Place	Player	Payout	POY
1	Nikolay Fal	\$326,153	1,260
2	Andreas Christoforou	\$240,700	1,050
3	Kaspars Butans	\$159,250	840
4	Anton Markov	\$110,245	630
5	Anonymous	NA	NA
6	Alex Kulev	\$66,215	420
7	Orhan Ates	\$55,210	315
8	Koray Korkmaz	\$44,030	210
9	Stelios Orphanides	\$32,600	105

BILLYRAY GALLEGOS WINS MID-STATES POKER TOUR BALLY'S BLACKHAWK MAIN EVENT

The 2022 *Mid-States Poker Tour* Bally's Black Hawk \$1,100 buy-in no-limit hold'em main event attracted a strong turnout of 683 total entries, more than doubling the \$300,000 guarantee in the process. In the end, it was a resident of nearby Denver, Colorado who emerged with the title.

Billyray Gallegos walked away with \$104,890 for his first major live tournament win. He also earned 840 POY points, which propelled him up the standings and into a five-way tie for 15th place.

After three starting flights running from Jan. 27-29, a total of 80 players returned on Sunday, Jan. 30 to play down to a champion. The top 72 finishers made the money, earning at least \$2,181 for cashing in this event. By the time the final table of nine was set, players had locked up \$11,898.

Gallegos' first elimination at the final table came when he picked up pocket kings facing the all-in of Chris Gfull, who held A-10 suited. The big pair held up and Gfull was knocked out in fourth place for \$45,610.

The final three players negotiated a deal that brought the tournament to its conclusion. Brady Bullard was awarded \$81,347 as the third-place finisher, while Ronald Scott took home \$93,369 as the runner-up thanks to sitting on the second-largest stack at the time. Gallegos' healthy chip lead was enough to earn him the title and a six-figure top prize.



Place	Player	Payout	POY
1	Billyray Gallegos	\$104,890	840
2	Ronald Scott	\$93,369	700
3	Brady Bullard	\$81,347	560
4	Chris Gfull	\$45,610	420
5	Jared Ingles	\$34,373	350
6	Samuel Husar	\$25,779	280
7	Vincent Moscati	\$19,830	210
8	Colin Gordon	\$15,864	140
9	Devin Garcia	\$11,898	70

CIRCUIT RESULTS

Event	Player	Payout (POY)
WPT Lucky Hearts Seminole Hard Rock Hollywood, FL \$1,700 NLHE KO Jan. 23-24 \$100,000 GTD Entries: 241 Prizepool: \$241,000	1. Nikita Kalinin	\$55,235 (408)
	2. Scott Drobos	\$38,145 (340)
	3. Peter Lockwood	\$24,715 (272)
	4. Rambo Halpern	\$15,125 (204)
	5. Gintautas Putinas	\$11,605 (170)
	6. Kenneth Stacy	\$9,615 (136)
	7. Aaron Massey	\$8,195 (136)
	8. Daniel Sepiol	\$6,990 (68)
	9. Sean Dunleavy	\$5,785 (34)

Event	Player	Payout (POY)
WPT Lucky Hearts Seminole Hard Rock Hollywood, FL \$600 NLHE Jan. 24 \$50,000 GTD Entries: 337 Prizepool: \$176,925	1. Kharlin Sued	\$36,990 (240)
	2. Adam Zeltser	\$26,490 (200)
	3. Miles Reinhard	\$17,035 (160)
	4. Peter Shapiro	\$10,970 (120)
	5. Ankit Ahuja	\$8,460 (100)
	6. Frank Lagodich	\$7,000 (80)
	7. Kevin Blewitt	\$5,875 (60)
	8. David McGowan	\$4,820 (40)
	9. Sebastian De Jonge	\$3,780 (20)



Event	Player	Payout (POY)
WPT Lucky Hearts Seminole Hard Rock Hollywood, FL \$5,000 NLHE Jan. 25 \$200,000 GTD Entries: 182 Prizepool: \$864,500	1. Taylor von Kriegenbergh	\$220,495 (672)
	2. Brian Hastings	\$150,230 (560)
	3. Cherish Andrews	\$88,615 (448)
	4. Mike Chiappetta	\$53,900 (336)
	5. Filipp Khavin	\$41,625 (280)
	6. Justin Saliba	\$34,500 (224)
	7. David Coleman	\$29,395 (168)
	8. Martin Zamani	\$25,850 (112)
	9. Andrew Ostapchenko	\$22,400 (56)

Event	Player	Payout (POY)
WSOP Circuit Thunder Valley Lincoln, CA \$3,250 NLHE Jan. 20-21 Entries: 69 Prizepool: \$207,000	1. Scott Stewart	\$65,733 (216)
	2. Mike Hanson	\$40,627 (180)
	3. Bradley Miller	\$26,916 (144)
	4. Brian Foley	\$18,585 (108)
	5. Matthew Wantman	\$13,399 (90)
	6. Taylor Pollard	\$10,106 (72)
	7. Christopher Ewing	\$7,991 (54)
	8. Vijay Ramani	\$6,640 (36)
	9. Noel Rodriguez	\$5,813 (18)



Event	Player	Payout (POY)
Signature Series Wynn Las Vegas, NV \$1,100 NLHE Jan. 20-23 \$500,000 GTD Entries: 545 Prizepool: \$531,375	1. Philip Chun	\$88,193 (840)
	2. Christopher Corso	\$83,935 (700)
	3. Diana Abaryan	\$46,414 (560)
	4. William Firebaugh	\$33,462 (420)
	5. Branden Bertelli	\$24,881 (350)
	6. Yaniv Peretz	\$19,154 (280)
	7. Ky Nguyen	\$15,360 (210)
	8. Qing Liu	\$12,726 (140)
	9. Richard Hasnip	\$10,757 (70)

Event	Player	Payout (POY)
WSOP Circuit Horseshoe Tunica Robinsonville, MS \$400 NLHE Jan. 21-23 \$100,000 GTD Entries: 1,585 Prizepool: \$523,050	1. Michael Zuro	\$77,895 (432)
	2. Joshua Blankenship	\$48,141 (360)
	3. Hamid Izadi	\$35,545 (288)
	4. Brandon Johnson	\$26,572 (216)
	5. John McNeil	\$20,721 (180)
	6. Thomas Daugherty	\$15,421 (144)
	7. Gerald Kuchenmeister	\$11,975 (108)
	8. Daniel Marcus	\$9,422 (72)
	9. Jeremy Eyer	\$7,511 (36)

TOURNAMENTS

Event	Player	Payout (POV)
DeepStack Showdown	1. Michael Bailey	\$34,750 (365)
	2. Tomasz Trelski	\$26,340 (304)
Venetian Las Vegas, NV	3. Nathan McLallin	\$19,850 (243)
	4. Brendan Shiller	\$14,500 (182)
\$365 NLHE Jan. 18-23 \$200,000 GTD Entries: 728 Prizepool: \$218,400	5. Roberto Marin	\$10,500 (152)
	6. Charbel Kanterjian	\$7,500 (122)
	7. Keith Fournier	\$6,000 (91)
	8. Isaiah Gonzales	\$4,800 (61)
	9. Veerab Zakarian	\$3,700 (30)

Event	Player	Payout (POV)
DeepStack Showdown	1. Peter Hengsakul	\$26,765 (288)
	2. Patrick Gunraj	\$21,224 (240)
Venetian Las Vegas, NV	3. Petro Zakusilov	\$19,276 (192)
	4. Derek Gomez	\$10,599 (144)
\$400 NLHE Jan. 24-26 \$100,000 GTD Entries: 443 Prizepool: \$146,190	5. Steven Richards	\$7,967 (120)
	6. Grant Geyer	\$5,994 (96)
	7. Tuan Mai	\$4,605 (72)
	8. Andrew Cooper	\$3,611 (48)
	9. Kenneth Chikamura	\$2,865 (24)



Event	Player	Payout (POV)
DeepStack Showdown	1. Andrew Cooper	\$52,999 (420)
	2. Terry Fleischer	\$48,000 (350)
Venetian Las Vegas, NV	3. Thu Nguyen	\$28,216 (280)
	4. Carlos Loving	\$20,768 (210)
\$600 NLHE Jan. 27-30 \$200,000 GTD Entries: 565 Prizepool: \$286,455	5. Elvis Toomas	\$15,612 (175)
	6. Dustin Goff	\$11,745 (140)
	7. Michael Trivett	\$8,880 (105)
	8. Adam Viator	\$6,732 (70)
	9. Patrick Ronan	\$5,156 (35)

Event	Player	Payout (POV)
DeepStack Tournament	1. D.J. Buckley	\$30,000 (300)
	2. Victor Peppe	\$18,036 (250)
Canterbury Park Shakopee, MN	3. Pao Khamlatthanom	\$18,036 (250)
	4. Thai Dinh	\$18,035 (150)
\$500 NLHE Jan. 21-23 Entries: 355 Prizepool: \$152,650	5. Matthew Dahl	\$8,701 (125)
	6. Derek Palmer	\$6,717 (100)
	7. Paul Eidem	\$5,190 (75)
	8. Shek Wong	\$4,122 (50)
	9. Bruce Swart	\$3,190 (25)



Event	Player	Payout (POV)
Winter Open	1. Daniel Kusnerak	\$63,223 (456)
	2. Dennis Bergeron	\$42,148 (380)
bestbet Jacksonville, FL	3. Steve Zhang	\$31,085 (304)
	4. James Brown	\$23,178 (228)
\$560 NLHE Jan. 27-30 Entries: 740 Prizepool: \$355,200	5. Jonathan Strange	\$17,475 (190)
	6. Richard Malone	\$13,323 (152)
	7. Tammer Ilcaffas	\$10,273 (114)
	8. Kobzyev Kyrylo	\$8,012 (76)
	9. Raminder Singh	\$6,322 (38)

Event	Player	Payout (POV)
WSOP Circuit	1. Fernando Rodriguez-Vazquez	\$94,947 (480)
	2. Rafael Rodriguez	\$58,682 (400)
Isle Casino Pompano Beach, FL	3. Steve Blackmon	\$43,273 (320)
	4. Jason Wandling	\$32,313 (240)
\$600 NLHE Feb. 3-6 \$250,000 GTD Entries: 1,162 Prizepool: \$598,430	5. Phillip Drigant	\$24,438 (200)
	6. James Basi	\$18,722 (160)
	7. Elias Nassif	\$14,531 (120)
	8. Michael Tait	\$11,428 (80)
	9. Mike Chiappetta	\$9,109 (40)

© bestbet Jacksonville

© Venetian

2022 Card Player Player of the Year

Sponsored by Global Poker



Place	Player	Points	Titles	Final Tables	POY Earnings
1	Alexander Yen	1,620	1	1	\$975,240
2	Nicholas Verderamo	1,594	1	4	\$511,333
3	Anton Wigg	1,350	0	1	\$650,180
4	Scott Baumstein	1,320	2	2	\$156,801
5	Nikolay Fal	1,260	1	1	\$326,153
6	Joseph Cheong	1,094	0	3	\$612,320
7	Daniel Lazrus	1,080	0	1	\$482,380
8	Andreas Christoforou	1,050	0	1	\$240,700
9	Jeremy Ausmus	1,013	0	4	\$361,795
10	Cody McKay	960	1	1	\$232,567
10	Quan Tran	960	1	1	\$336,412
12	Feyzullah Karaarslan	912	1	1	\$244,419
13	Farid Jattin	900	2	2	\$365,242
14	Nick Petrangelo	856	2	4	\$1,803,840
15	Randy Paguio	840	1	1	\$193,764
15	Artur Martirosian	840	1	1	\$190,652
15	Victor Paredes	840	1	1	\$169,294
15	Philip Chun	840	1	1	\$88,193
15	Billyray Gallegos	840	1	1	\$104,890
20	Kenneth Mason	812	0	2	\$126,598
21	Raul Garza	800	0	1	\$207,925
21	Jason Su	800	0	1	\$143,737
23	Daniel Colpoys	798	1	2	\$402,345
24	D.J. Buckley	780	1	2	\$88,631
25	Hamid Izadi	773	0	4	\$117,947
26	Aleksandar Tomovic	760	0	1	\$156,598
27	Jonathan Jaffe	756	1	1	\$574,085
28	Jake Daniels	750	1	2	\$324,365
29	Gianluca Pace	720	1	1	\$74,562
29	James Romero	720	1	1	\$167,285



SWEDEN ALL-TIME TOURNAMENT EARNINGS LIST

Rank	Player	Earnings
1	Martin Jacobson	\$17,162,667
2	Chris Bjorin	\$5,276,279
3	Michael Tureniec	\$4,670,325
4	Anton Wigg	\$3,897,908
5	Martin DeKnijff	\$3,608,925
6	Johan Storakers	\$3,315,593
7	Viktor Blom	\$3,258,880
8	William Thorson	\$3,180,513
9	Erik Friberg	\$2,786,960
10	Simon Brandstrom	\$2,654,205

Anton Wigg's \$650,180 payday as the runner-up in the 2022 *WPT Lucky Hearts Poker Open* \$3,500 buy-in main event moved him into fourth place on Sweden's all-time money list, with just shy of \$3.9 million in recorded tournament earnings.

It might be a long time before Wigg or any other Swedish player unseats **Martin Jacobson** from the top spot on this leaderboard, however, as the 2014 *WSOP* main event champion's \$17.1 million in career cashes puts him nearly \$12 million ahead of the nearest competitor. Jacobson currently sits in 44th place on the worldwide all-time money list, thanks in large part to the \$10 million he secured after defeating a field of 6,683 entries in the big dance. Even without that eight-figure score, the 34-year-old's \$7.1 million in additional earnings would be enough for first place.

Chris Bjorin is the next-highest earning Swedish player on this list, with nearly \$5.3 million in career cashes. The 75-year-old two-time bracelet winner has results dating back to the late '80s, with his largest score coming when he won the 2000 *WSOP* \$3,000 buy-in no-limit hold'em event for \$334,110. He also won the 1997 \$1,500 pot-limit Omaha event.

Rounding out the top three is **Michael Tureniec** with nearly \$4.7 million in career earnings. The 36-year-old finished as the runner-up in the 2008 *EPT London* championship event for \$708,411. Three years later he won the *EPT Copenhagen* for \$679,244. He secured his first *WSOP* bracelet by winning the 2016 \$1,111 *Little One For One Drop* event, taking home \$525,520 alongside the golden hardware.

Of course, this list would look quite different if it included cash game results, like that of seventh-place Viktor 'Isildurl' Blom. Or if it included online tournament players such as Niklas 'Iena900' Astedt. Astedt has a reported \$23.3 million in earnings online, and is one of seven Swedes on PocketFives' top 25 all-time money list. ♠

POT-LIMIT OMAHA STRATEGY: WHEN DO YOU FOLD THE NUTS?

By Craig Tapscott



The Pros: Patrik Antonius, John Beauprez, and ‘Suited Superman’

Craig Tapscott: What are some flops where you may consider folding the nuts in pot-limit Omaha? Can you share some examples and explain why?

Patrik Antonius: It is true that sometimes the right play is to throw your hand away, even if you are currently holding the nuts. It is a basic situation where you have flopped the nut straight and you have no redraw with it. One requirement I consider to fold the nut straight on the flop is that the stacks are deep enough and there is action which strongly indicates that at least one of the players is holding the same nut straight.

Let me go over an example to explain. You have called a raise with a hand like A-10-9-5 from the button and the flop comes 6-7-8 with two hearts. You don't have a heart draw or the A♥. Four players are seeing the flop and the player from the big blind bets and the preflop aggressor raises the pot. Let's say there is \$1,000 in the middle and BB bets \$500 and the preflop aggressor raises the full pot and makes it \$3,000. If you are playing with less than \$10,000 it will be difficult to let this go. But what if you

and your opponents all have \$20,000 or more?

You need to understand a few things in this situation. If you have the same nut straight with your opponent, then chopping the pot is the best you can do. That's because you can't improve your hand. The profit will be extremely small if you are splitting the pot. And if your opponent has a draw with his hand, then he/she is freerolling you for scooping the full pot. Risking for example 100 big blinds to chop the pot while making two to three big blinds profit is definitely not worth it. Your opponents can have a bigger straight draw with his straight if he has 9-10-J-X, or he/she can have a flush draw with his straight, or a set with his straight.

Even if you are leading now, you can still be a pretty big underdog if your opponent has a set and a flush draw with it. Going all-in on the flop here would be a poor decision if you are a 40-60 dog putting your full stack in when you have almost nothing invested in the pot.

If you don't agree on the fold on the flop, then you should only call the raise on the flop. The best-case scenario is you can bluff this pot yourself

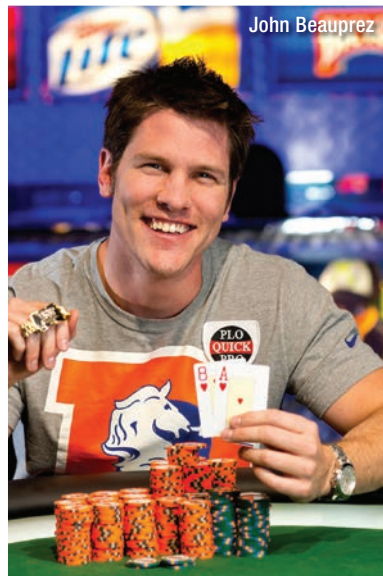
with a flush card or if the board pairs, and make your opponent lay down the same straight as you. This play works well from position, and you don't need any key blockers to make this kind of bluff.

John Beauprez: Folding the nuts correctly on the flop occurs most frequently when:

1. The nut hand is a straight
2. The board is two-tone
3. The pot is multi-way
4. The SPR (stack to pot ratio) is >10
5. There is heavy betting-action

Imagine the following scenario: At a nine-handed table, you open under-the-gun with A♣ A♥ 8♣ 7♥ and receive a call from the middle position, the cutoff, the button, and the big blind. The flop comes 10♠ 9♠ 6♦. In no-limit hold'em, flopping the nuts on this board texture is very strong, and even in a multi-way pot we are happy to shove as much into the pot as we can, but in PLO there are many reasons to proceed with caution and under the right circumstances consider folding:

A. If we continuation bet and get called, our hand will have low visibil-



ity on later streets. There are few run-outs where 8-7 will still be the nuts, so our ability to continue aggression on later streets is diminished.

B. If we continuation bet and get raised, our opponent is repping a range of hands that is either freerolling us (8-7 with a flush draw or move-ups to a better straight, such as Q-J-8-7) or is actually a favorite against our hand even though we hold the current nuts. For example, hands such as a set plus flush draw, or K-Q-J-x with a flush draw are both favorites against our current holding.

Of course, if we were in a tournament situation where we only had 20 bb or less we could never fold, but in a cash game where stacks are typically deeper, it's normal to pot control on very dynamic board textures with the nuts, particularly when out of position.

Suited Superman: In PLO, with four cards, you're going to flop the nuts way more often than in no-limit hold'em. You will often be facing a situation where two or more players flop the nut straight. If the stacks are shallow compared to the pot, it is never wrong to put the money in. However, big mistakes I often see PLO beginners do is to stack off many big blinds in a pot where they flop a straight without redraw versus multiple opponents.

For example: if you are holding A♣ A♦ 10♣ 9♦ on 8♥ 7♥ 6♠ flop, facing a bet and a raise, you can just fold the hand deep stacked with not a lot of money invested in the pot. The reason being is that your opponents can have a straight already with flush draw or a

set to redraw to a better hand. Against those hands, you are drawing dead to chopping the pot.

A hand that I played recently online: I open with A♥ 10♥ J♣ J♠ from early position to \$100 in \$5-\$10-\$20 (\$10 ante) game and got three callers to a flop of K♥ Q♥ J♦. I checked, the player on the button bet \$300, and everyone else folded. I check raised to \$1,100, he three-bet to \$4,000, and I jammed all in for \$11,000.

He made the call and had A♠ 10♠ 7♥ 7♦ for a naked flopped nuts. In this instance, he could only chop the pot, and could lose if the flush came or the board paired. Sure enough, I river a queen to make jacks full and took down a big pot thanks to my opponent's mistake.

(Editor's Note: It's interesting that all three players came up with nearly identical scenarios.)

Craig Tapscott: If someone could only study PLO for 20 minutes a day, which area or situation would you recommend they devote their time to?

Patrik Antonius: If someone who is not very experienced with PLO wants to have the best improvement to his game with only 20 minutes a day, I would recommend studying the pre-flop hand values to get a better understanding how to play more optimally.

If your preflop game has lots of leaks, it's much more difficult to overcome those leaks after the flop in PLO compared to no-limit where you need more blockers in order to execute profitable bluffs. Playing poor starting hands will get you in many tough situations where you are more likely to

make poor decisions.

John Beauprez: For beginning players, dedicating your study time to mastering preflop strategy will pay the largest dividends. Preflop is unique because it's the only street you're forced to play each hand. Moreover, preflop mistakes compound on later streets, so even small adjustments preflop can dramatically increase your winrate.

In terms of specific preflop areas to focus on, I suggest focusing on the most common scenarios, such as defending the BB when facing opening ranges from each position, or which ranges are profitable to open on the button facing a variety of stack depths in the blinds.

A runner-up area is post-flop bet sizing. A player with sound bet sizing fundamentals is naturally keen on how different ranges interact with various board textures, as well as multi-street planning and polarity advantages. In other words, if you understand the *why* behind the EV of different bet sizes, then you will have an easier time adjusting quickly to whatever scenario the PLO gods throw your way.

Suited Superman: I think preflop ranges should be every beginner player's most important area to study. Because in PLO, there are many more combinations of starting hands: 270,725 compared to 1,326 in hold'em. Knowing which hands to VPIP (voluntarily put chips in pot) from which position is crucial to applying correct strategies post flop down the game tree.

Often times, I see players enter a pot with a loose range, thinking that

“If your preflop game has lots of leaks, it’s much more difficult to overcome those leaks after the flop in PLO compared to no-limit where you need more blockers in order to execute profitable bluffs. Playing poor starting hands will get you in many tough situations where you are more likely to make poor decisions.”

they will hit the flop in many ways with four cards. Although it is true, when playing in a full ring game, they will often hit the board, but not strong enough to commit more chips compared to someone who plays tighter ranges with bigger cards, bigger suits, and more connectivity.

My tips for beginners in PLO would be, try a flash card or an online random hand generator, or simply get a deck of cards and deal yourself four random cards to determine if the hand is a raise, call, or fold preflop. Once you master this area, post-flop Omaha will be easier to study. There are some training sites that provide a matrix solution for how preflop ranges should be in PLO to make you feel more confident on entering the pot. Remember,

tight is always right.

(Editor’s Note: Again, all three players deliver similar advice!) ♠

Patrik Antonius is one of the most successful and respected professional players in the world. He is a regular high-stakes cash player online and live. He has career live tournament cashes totaling more than \$12 million and is one of the winningest cash game players ever both live and online. Antonius is the founder of the innovative GTO and social media application – First Land of Poker (FLOP) found on Google Play and Apple Store. He is also the creator of the Patrik Antonius Poker Challenge (PAPC) live events.

John Beauprez is a WSOP bracelet winner, having won the 2013 \$1,500 six-max no-limit hold’em event for \$324,764. He has been

playing PLO professionally since 2008, and has personally coached more than 400 players ranging from small-stakes grinders to high-stakes crushers. He is also the author of the best-selling PLO QuickPro Manual, and is the founder and lead instructor at PLOQuickPro.com.

‘Suited Superman’ has been an avid poker player for ten years and prefers to be anonymous. He plays Pot Limit Omaha with his trademark Clark Kent card protector at games in Las Vegas, the Hustler Casino, and on the Live At The Bike’s stream. He started posting pictures and videos from the game on his popular Instagram account @suitedsuperman. He hopes more players will dip their feet in the water and give PLO a shot, as you might never want to see just two cards again.



WE BRING A LOT MORE TO THE TABLE.

We’ve taken extra precautions to ensure your physical well-being during these times, so you can play with confidence. Enjoy all your favorite games, like No Limit Hold’em, in a sanitized and clean environment.

Be sure to check out our Bad Beat Jackpot at ChumashCasino.com/casino/poker.

Management reserves the right to change or cancel promotions and events at any time without notice. Must be 21 years of age or older. Chumash Casino Resort supports responsible gaming. For information about problem gambling, call the Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-522-4700.



Welcome to Freedom

CHUMASH
CASINO RESORT

FINAL TABLE TAKEDOWN

With Andrew Moreno

Moreno Breaks Down Victory At Wynn Millions For \$1.46 Million

By Craig Tapscott



Andrew Moreno has been playing poker for two decades. He started just because it was a fun game to play with friends, and he never would have guessed that the game would introduce him to his wife, former poker journalist Kristy Arnett, and take him all over the world, provide him opportunities to mentor others, and make him a millionaire.

Moreno started off grinding small-stakes cash games in Las Vegas, and now regularly plays up to \$25-\$50 no-limit hold'em when he's not battling it out on the tournament tables. Last summer, Moreno navigated his way through a field of 1,328 at the \$10,000 buy-in *Wynn Millions* main event, earning a \$1.46 million payday after making a three-handed deal. Additionally, he also has final table appearances at the 2016 *WSOP Monster Stack* event and the 2019 *WSOP Circuit* main event at the Bike.

Moreno has coached poker and run a successful stable for the past five years. Coaching has been one of the most rewarding aspects of his career. Andrew can be found at amo4sho.com/coaching and on Twitter @Amo4sho.

Event: 2021 Wynn Millions Main Event

Buy-In: \$10,000 • Entrants: 1,328 • Prize Pool: \$12,483,200 • First Place Prize: \$1,460,000

HAND
NO. 1

Stacks: Andrew Moreno – 2,000,000 (25 BB)
Villain – 3,000,000 (38 BB)

Blinds: 40,000-80,000 with an 80,000 big blind ante

Players Remaining: 16

Action: Eight-handed, it folded to Moreno in the small blind holding Q♥ 10♥.

Craig Tapscott: So, what is your mindset when dealing with this blind-on-blind action holding a pretty decent starting hand?

Andrew Moreno: I need to be a bit careful with my stack given I am getting a little short and I can't raise, and then call a three-bet from the BB who covers me. It would be a disaster for me to raise and let the BB jam all-in with ace high and whatever random bluffs he may choose.

CT: What kind of read did you have on the Villain?

AM: I hadn't played too much with him the whole tournament. He appeared to be a professional poker

player.

CT: So, you chose to...

AM: For the reasons I stated regarding my stack size, I opted to limp to ensure that I could see the flop in the event the BB does decide to raise.

Moreno completed from the small blind, and the Villain raised to 240,000. Moreno called.

FLOP: 8♣ 7♠ 2♠ (pot: 580,000)

AM: This was a pretty decent flop for my limp calling range, but a pretty bad one for my actual hand.

Moreno checked, and the Villain checked behind.

TURN: J♦ (pot: 580,000)

CT: He checked the flop. What range of hands can you put him on?

AM: Once he checks back on the flop, his hands look like a lot of weak showdown value and some total give ups. Sure, he could have some traps, but you don't see that too often on a board like this. I decided to bet out.

Moreno bet 390,000 and the Villain called.

AM: He didn't take too long before

calling.

CT: Did that send up any red flags? The timing of his call?

AM: I didn't take too much from the timing. I could tell that he never considered folding, though. Which made me think he may have a pair.

RIVER: 10♠ (pot: 1,360,000)

CT: It seems like this could be a good card for you.

AM: Yes. The 10♠ completed the front door flush and put a four-card straight on the board. Now, I beat a lot of hands that he would take the check-back on the flop, and just call turn line that he took. However, my hand is too weak to value bet and is too strong to bluff.

Moreno checked.

AM: I was really hoping he would check back an inferior value hand, but my opponent had other plans.

The Villain moved all-in.

AM: I was in a very difficult spot for my tournament life. Now I had to try to put the puzzle together for what would be the biggest decision of my nearly 20-year career. I had to



decide how thin he would jam the river for value.

CT: So, he probably doesn't have a flush.

AM: Nope. You don't often see players check back flush draws in position on a board like this. I mostly ruled out flushes for that reason. I also ruled out most of the two-pair combinations because those combos would usually come from him betting a pair or a straight draw on the flop. I determined the most likely value hand he had was a straight. Now I just needed to work out how many combinations of 9-X he would have. Any hand with a nine in it would want to either bet for protection, or semi bluff as straight draw on the flop.

CT: What did your gut say to do?

AM: Well during the last minute of my nearly five-minute river tank, I was telling myself, "You have to put the money in. I know it's scary and you'll look like an idiot if you're wrong, but you have to go with your read."

That was the reason this hand was so important to me. I said to myself, "I trust you, and if you're wrong, you did what you thought was right." It really is quite hard to put the money after five grueling days on a nearly \$20,000 pay jump as well.

Moreno called, and the Villain showed K♠ 7♣. Moreno won the pot of 4,100,000.

CT: That call must have been a huge boost for your momentum going into the final table.

AM: It was. It also gave me the confidence to trust myself once I had reached the final table. I felt like it sent a message to the rest of the players that I go with my reads and I'm not afraid to stick all the money in with a weak hand on such a big stage.



Stacks: Andrew Moreno – 1,800,000 (12 BB)
Villain – 13,000,000 (87 BB)

Blinds: 75,000-150,000 with a 150,000 big blind ante

Players Remaining: 9

Action: Villain raised to 300,000 from the button. Moreno looked down at K♠ K♠ in the big blind.

AM: The action folded over to the chip leader who min raised. After the small blind folded I am elated to look down and see two kings in the big blind as the shortest stack at the table.

CT: You're sitting on 12 BBs. Easy shove. Right?

AM: Yes. The standard play here is to three-bet all-in given how short I am. I would certainly get called by any pair as well as a lot of his ace high hands. However, I felt the most attractive option was to play my hand as a trap and just call preflop.

I knew that as the chip leader, he would be raising with the widest range at the table. Given that, I also knew he would then have quite a lot of hands that would raise and then fold to my shove. By playing my hand as a flat, I trap in the weakest parts of his range and I'm able to

check-jam many flops very comfortably.

CT: When you do that, what kind of range will he put you on?

AM: He knows I am calling with a ton of weak hands in the BB, so it also balances out quite nicely to protect my range.

Moreno called.

FLOP: 7♣ 6♠ 6♦ (pot: 675,000)

Moreno checked and the Villain bet 275,000.

CT: What's the best option now? And more importantly, what did he expect you to do?

AM: I had to decide if I should call or raise. If I called, it was going to look very suspicious. I was so short at this point that if I flopped any piece of the board, he would expect me to jam all-in. If I had 4-5 suited or 8-5 suited, 8-9 suited, perhaps even 9-10 suited I would check-raise all in. All my pocket pairs (except A-A and K-K) as well as most of my ace highs would have been all in preflop. So really, my all in will look like 7-X, a very occasional 6-X, or a straight draw.

CT: The suspense is killing me. (laughs)

AM: Well, I decided to raise all-in and was delighted to see my opponent had...

Moreno moved all-in. The Villain called and tabled Q♠ 7♠.

CT: Nice play.

TURN: J♥ (pot: 3,675,000)

RIVER: 3♣ (pot: 3,675,000)

AM: Thanks. The Q-7 is a hand that he would have folded to my jam

preflop. That hand had very poor equity versus my trap. I believe this was the key hand at the final table that gave me a chance to do well.

CT: It's not the standard play most players would adopt with 12 big blinds.

AM: Most people will jam all-in when they have 12 bigs in the BB when facing a raise. Slow playing

preflop is very scary on such a big stage playing for so much money. I believe this was the correct play, even if I would have busted because of it.

CT: This had to create a huge momentum for you at the final table.

AM: I was riding the confidence from the big hero call on the eve of the final table in the previous hand. I was able to win and take down the

Wynn Millions final table playing as the shortest stack nine-handed. The thing I am most proud of was believing in myself that I could do it and playing courageously.

CT: Having watched your career for many years and your professionalism in all aspects on and off the table, congratulations. So well deserved.

AM: Thank you, Craig. ♠

WSOP LADIES EVENT CHAMPION LARA EISENBERG TALKS WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT STRATEGY

By Bernard Lee



During this series of strategy columns, I will be interviewing 2021 *World Series of Poker* bracelet winners. These champions will provide observations, tips, and strategies for you, the readers of *Card Player*, about the specific poker game in which they captured their bracelet.

The Event: \$1,000 Ladies No-Limit Hold'em Championship

The Winner: Lara Eisenberg

Since March is National Women's History Month, I thought it would be fitting to interview the *WSOP Ladies Championship* winner, Lara Eisenberg.

The reigning *WSOP Ladies Championship* winner is a unique individual who doesn't just play poker, but also has an eclectic array of interests and talents. Since 1999, the Maryland native's day job is as a radiologist. Additionally, she was an active PC gamer and is also a world

record holder in skydiving.

"During my medical residency, I actually went skydiving on a blind date and just loved it. Since then, I have made 4,500 jumps. I competed in four- or eight-person group formation events. Also, I am part of a 400-person world record jump held in Thailand in 2006."

As for poker, she was not a rookie entering the 2021 event. Lara had over \$200,000 in career earnings, including her first piece of poker jewelry – a *WSOP Circuit* ring. In 2019, she captured the \$1,125 no-limit event at Horseshoe Council Bluffs Iowa.

"Council Bluffs will always have a special place in my heart. Up until that point, I had always wanted to win a *WSOP Circuit* ring and I'm proud to have done it in an event with a tough field."

Over the past several years, Lara

has dedicated much of her free time learning poker via online training sites. She credits poker champions Jonathan Little and Jon Van Fleet for helping improve her game, which resulted in her capturing her first *WSOP* bracelet.

I recently spoke with Lara for my radio show (You can watch my interview on my YouTube channel *BernardLeePoker* or listen on iTunes) and some thoughts about playing in ladies tournaments.

Bernard: Congratulations on your first *WSOP* bracelet!

Lara: Thank you, I appreciate it. Bernard, you and I had previously met in Council Bluffs, Iowa during a *WSOP Circuit Series*.

Bernard: Yes, I remember. And that was the series in which you won your first ring!

Lara: That's right.

Bernard: Well, what an exciting 2021 *WSOP* you had as you captured your first bracelet in the ladies event. Had you played in many ladies events prior to this?

Lara: Actually, I had only played in one ladies event before the *WSOP*. I played in one at the *WSOP Circuit* stop in Baltimore. Obviously, I'm glad I played in this most recent one.

Bernard: Do you think that a ladies tournament is a good starting place for any woman who might be a little uncomfortable playing poker?

Lara: Absolutely. It's a fantastic tournament to play. It was so much more fun than I expected. Everyone wanted to play well, but they also wanted to have fun and enjoy them-



selves. It wasn't an atmosphere where players want to stare you down and intimidate you. Everyone was very respectful and very collegial, even at the final table.

I would definitely recommend giving the ladies event a shot. It really is a great place for someone to have a first event. If you feel nervous, the overall atmosphere makes you feel more comfortable to play.

Bernard: I think one of the biggest growth potentials for poker is women. Currently, women make up a very small percentage of poker players. What advice or insight would you give women who are hesitant to give poker, especially live poker, a try?

Lara: I think some women think that it will be an intimidating experience. Don't be intimidated by your opponents. Come into the event knowing that there are going to be players who are super nice and others who might be super jerks. But that is true whether you are a man or a woman. And remember not only men can act this way, but women can be mean as well.

To get more experience, I would recommend watching poker programs on television and on PokerGO. When you are able to see the hole cards, the game is more understandable. You can become more familiar with the action at the table. Then, to take their game to the next level, there are lots of training sites online since there is so much to learn at all levels.

Bernard: As for women who play poker recreationally, do you have any tournament advice for them?

Lara: With recreational poker players, you are going to see less women who are very aggressive, which I think is inherent in our nature. Players are playing too

TOURNAMENT HAND MATCHUP

2022 Lucky Hearts Poker Open
\$3,500 WPT NLH Main Event



Josh Kay
16,925,000 Chips

Winning Percentage
Before Flop: 64%
After Flop: 23%
After Turn: 14%



Nicholas Verderamo
5,225,000 Chips

Winning Percentage
Before Flop: 35%
After Flop: 77%
After Turn: 86%



PREFLOP

With six players remaining and blinds of 100,000-200,000 and a big blind ante of 200,000, Josh Kay raised to 425,000 from under the gun. Nicholas Verderamo called from the big blind.

FLOP



Verderamo checked, and Kay bet 500,000. Verderamo called.

TURN



Verderamo checked, and Kay bet 1,100,000. Verderamo called.

RIVER



Verderamo checked, and Kay bet 2,500,000. Verderamo folded.

COMMENTARY:

'If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.' Josh Kay took that adage to heart in this hand, and in the end, it paid off. The hand kicked off with Kay raising as the first to act with A-Q suited. It folded around to Nicholas Verderamo in the big blind, who had a straightforward defend with J-10 suited. Verderamo was the second shortest stack when the cards were dealt, with just a handful of big blinds more than Omar Lakdhari. The flop gave Verderamo top pair, and he went into pot-control mode with a check. Kay wasted little time in making a continuation bet for around 44 percent of the pot with his unimproved ace. Verderamo check-called and the turn put a third heart on the board while also making a 6-5 straight possible. Verderamo checked again and Kay decided to keep his foot on the gas. As the big blind defender, Verderamo is probably the likelier candidate to have connected with this board, but Kay kept the pressure on with a bet of just over half the size of the pot. Verderamo was likely less than thrilled about the way the board was developing but was not yet ready to check-fold top pair. The river brought a fourth heart and another card towards a low straight. The pot had now grown to more than 4.3 million, which was more than Verderamo had remaining in his stack. He checked again and was likely silently pleading for Kay to check behind. If that was the case, Kay did not oblige. Given how the board had evolved, he saw an opportunity to target folds from just the type of hand Verderamo had, which was a flopped pair. He fired a bet of 2.5 million and Verderamo folded his pair of tens.

passively when they are not as experienced. They are just waiting for the nuts and that doesn't happen very often.

Also, people underestimate the physical tell aspect of the game, which is prevalent with inexperienced players. Since the ladies event often has a good number of inexperienced players, you can spot some pretty reliable tells on your opponents. This is why everyone should be paying close attention and be off of their phones while playing.

Now, let's combine those two thoughts. If you are up against an amateur woman who is aggressively playing a hand and seems like they are not getting out of the hand, be wary. If she seems very excited, she usually will have the goods. So unless you have the nuts, I would just get out of the way. There will always be another hand and better spots.

Bernard: That is a great advice, not just for the ladies, but the men as well. Anything else you have seen that women players specifically tend to do?

Lara: I have seen that women tend to be hard on themselves. If they make a mistake, they can beat themselves up about it and this feeling makes them not want to play anymore. They may feel embarrassed or even mad at themselves, taking away the joy of playing poker.

I would tell them to remember there is a lot to learn about poker and poker can be hard. We all make mistakes, even the top pros make mistakes from time to time. Hall of Famer Linda Johnson once told me that she wants three things every time she sits down at the table:

Have a good time

Let your opponents have a good time

Play well

Bernard: I love that quote from Linda. Do you have any final words of advice?

Lara: The one thing that I would say not just to women, but for all players is to try to have little-to-no expectations, especially when entering a final table. If you do, these expectations tend to change how you play. The focus should be on making the best possible decisions so that you can feel good when you walk away from the table.

Coming into the ladies event final table as the short stack, I had very little expectations. To be honest, I was just so happy to achieve my goal of final tabling a major WSOP event. So, winning the bracelet was such a dream come true. ♠



Bernard Lee broke into the poker world after a deep run in the 2005 WSOP main event. He has two WSOP Circuit rings, and is an author, having written for Card Player, the Boston Herald, Metrowest Daily News, and ESPN, where he was a host of the show *The Inside Deal*. His radio show and podcast, *The Bernard Lee Poker Show*, recently celebrated its 14th anniversary, and his latest book, *Poker Satellite Success: Turn Affordable Buy-Ins Into Shots At Winning Millions*, is now available on Amazon as well as D&B Publishing. Follow him on Twitter @BernardLeePoker or visit his website at BernardLeePoker.com or YouTube channel at Youtube.com/BernardLeePoker.

TOURNAMENT HAND MATCHUP

2022 Lucky Hearts Poker Open
\$3,500 WPT NLH Main Event



Alexander Yen
31,000,000 Chips

Winning Percentage
Before Flop: 19%
After Flop: 22%
After Turn: 9%



Anton Wigg
15,800,000 Chips

Winning Percentage
Before Flop: 49%
After Flop: 76%
After Turn: 91%



Nicholas Verderamo
2,800,000 Chips

Winning Percentage
Before Flop: 30%
After Flop: 3%
FLOP



PREFLOP

With five players remaining and blinds of 100,000-200,000 and a big blind ante of 200,000, Alexander Yen raised to 400,000 from the button. Anton Wigg called from the small blind, and Nicholas Verderamo called from the big blind.

FLOP



Wigg and Verderamo checked. Yen bet 400,000, and Wigg called. Verderamo folded.

TURN



Wigg and Yen both checked.

RIVER



Wigg bet 600,000. Yen raised to 1,700,000. Wigg folded.

COMMENTARY:

This hand took place with Alexander Yen way out in front with nearly 157 big blinds, while Nicholas Verderamo sat at the bottom of the chip counts with just 14 big blinds. Swedish poker pro Anton Wigg was stuck in the middle of the pack, with the next \$88,300 pay jump incentivizing him to play things close to the vest. The stack dynamics were favorable for Yen to really ramp up the aggression, which he decided to do even with 9-7 offsuit when it folded to him on the button. Wigg made the call with A-9 and Verderamo defended his short stack with J-9 suited from the big blind. Wigg flopped top pair and checked, likely figuring to be either way ahead or way behind in this three-way pot. Verderamo checked as well. Yen made a small continuation bet of two big blinds with his gutshot straight draw, a solid candidate for semi-bluffing, and only Wigg came along. The turn put a second flush draw on the board and Wigg checked again. Yen checked behind, likely figuring that Wigg would often have something with showdown value after check-calling the flop. The river completed Yen's straight. Wigg elected to go for a value bet, probably targeting calls from weaker aces or perhaps good kings like K-Q. Yen raised for value with his straight, making it just 1.1 million more to go. Despite having top pair, Wigg could really only beat a bluff in this situation. He opted to make a disciplined laydown, saving 5.5 big blinds that would have gone to Yen were he to call. Yen extended his lead while Wigg slid closer to the lower stacks on the leaderboard.

© WPT Joe Giron

NOTE: WINNING PERCENTAGES DO NOT INCLUDE TIES. ODDS PROVIDED BY CARDPLAYER.COM/POKER-TOOLS/ODDS-CALCULATOR/TEXAS-HOLDEM

MINIMIZING LOSSES WITH DECENTLY STRONG POKER HANDS

By Jonathan Little



I recently played an interesting poker hand in a tough \$10,000 buy-in event that demonstrates how to play a strong, but non-premium hand from out of position.

At 1,000-2,000 with a 300 ante, everyone folded around to a loose, aggressive young player in the cutoff, who raised to 4,000 out of his 150,000 stack. A 50-year-old player in the small blind called, investing 3,000 more out of his 21,000 short stack.

I picked up A♥7♦ in the big blind with a 300,000 stack. While I was concerned that the small blind could easily be trapping with a premium hand, I decided to invest 2,000 more to see a flop.

When calling with hands that are easily dominated, such as A-7 offsuit or even K-8 offsuit, you must be careful to not put too much money in the pot after the flop, even when you improve to a normally strong hand like top pair.

The flop came A♠ K♠ 5♣, giving me top pair with a weak kicker. The small blind checked.

On boards that should be good for the preflop raiser and bad for the players in the blinds, you should check with your entire range because on average, you will be at a disadvantage. If the cutoff bet and the small blind called or raised, I would make an easy fold with my weak top pair.

I checked, the cutoff bet 6,800, and the small blind folded.

While I am not in love with my hand, it is simply too strong to fold at this point. If you find yourself folding top pair to only one continuation bet, you are playing far too tightly.

I called. The turn was the A♦, improving me to trips with a bad kicker.

While it may appear that betting both for value and protection is a good idea, you will find that when your opponent has you beat, he will almost certainly double up, which would be a disaster. By checking, you force the cutoff to stay in the pot with his entire range, which should result in him bluffing some portion of the time.

I checked and the cutoff bet 15,300 into the 28,300 pot.

This situation is similar to the flop where if you raise,



Join more than 120,000 players who have used PokerCoaching to increase their win rate through active learning from elite coaches. Start your FREE membership today at PokerCoaching.com/CardPlayer

your opponent will almost certainly play perfectly, calling when he has you beat and folding when he doesn't. While the kid usually has some number of outs, it is worth it to let him draw to them in exchange for not opening yourself up to doubling him up when he has the nuts.

I called. The river was the 6♦.

I again checked for the same reasons as on the flop and turn.

The cutoff bet 43,800 into the 58,900 pot.

At this point, even though I have trips, my hand is a bluff catcher. If my opponent was a tight, passive player, folding is a reasonable option. However, since my opponent is loose and aggressive, I have to make the hero call. Having an ace blocker is powerful because it takes many of the value betting combinations out of my opponent's range. If I had a slightly worse bluff catcher, such as K-Q, I would probably fold because then it would be too likely that my opponent has an ace.

I made the call and was pleased to see my opponent muck his cards, awarding me the pot. I have no clue if he was bluffing with a flush draw or if he had something much worse, such as Q-10 or 8-7. Either way, if I raised at any point throughout this hand, I would have won less money while opening myself up to losing a huge amount of chips if my opponent happened to have me beat. ♠



Jonathan Little is a two-time WPT champion with more than \$7 million in live tournament earnings, best-selling author of 15 educational poker books, and 2019 GPI Poker Personality of the Year. If you want to increase your poker skills and learn to crush the games, check out his training site at PokerCoaching.com/cardplayer.

OMAHA EIGHT-OR-BETTER: PLAYABLE LOW HANDS FROM EARLY POSITION

By Kevin Haney

In earlier installments on Omaha Eight-or-Better (O8), we introduced a framework for thinking about starting hands and the development of detailed standards by position. Our end goal is to figure out what hands fit into the strategy of playing the following percentage of hands by position in a six-handed game:

	Opening Frequencies
Lojack	15-20%
Hijack	20-25%
Cutoff	30%
Button	40-50% or more

These frequencies are based upon stats shared from successful online players who have logged an enormous number of hands. The focus will be on six-handed games as most online games and live mixes seat six or seven players. If you are in a game with more opponents, you would simply tighten up a little in the earlier positions.

In a six-handed (or less) game, my preference is to come in for a raise with any hand that I choose to play. Some

players have advocated a limping strategy with mostly one-way holdings such as A♠ 2♥ 4♦ 5♣ and A♦ K♦ J♣ 10♥; a strategy that has merit as it pulls in more players and also reduces your investment when you whiff the flop.

While there are pros and cons, I choose to open-raise because with so few players at the table our limp won't often create a large multi-way pot and keeping the pot short-handed with any hand has merit. Against one opponent we can make a continuation bet with relatively little and/or escape with a weak holding for one side of the pot, but against two or more we are more or less forced to make a hand.

In addition, when I'm in the big blind, I enjoy playing against opponents who limp and give me free expectation with hands that would have folded to a raise. With mediocre hands that can defend profitably, I still prefer getting infinite odds to see the flop for free as opposed to calling getting decent odds. So my preference is to open-raise, deny the happiness of free equity to the big blind, and make whoever may want to contest the pot put in extra money to do so.

In this issue, we will focus on the playable low hands

TOURNAMENT HAND MATCHUP

2022 Lucky Hearts Poker Open
\$3,500 WPT NLH Main Event



Anton Wigg
14,400,000 Chips

Winning Percentage
Before Flop: 65%
After Flop: 28%
After Turn: 14%



Josh Kay
17,900,000 Chips

Winning Percentage
Before Flop: 35%
After Flop: 71%
After Turn: 86%



PREFLOP

With five players remaining and blinds of 100,000-200,000 and a big blind ante of 200,000, Anton Wigg raised to 400,000 from the button. Josh Kay called from the big blind.



Both players checked.



Kay bet 650,000, and Wigg called.



Kay bet 1,500,000, and Wigg called.

COMMENTARY:

Josh Kay made a tricky check with top pair on the flop after defending his big blind with 10-7 offsuit. The sneaky move might have helped him earn two healthy value bets on later streets from an opponent with just ace-high. Just a hand removed from correctly bet-folding top pair, accomplished tournament professional Anton Wigg picked up A-Q and raised from the button. He received a call from Kay, who checked from out of position with his top pair on a seven-high board. Wigg checked behind with his two overcards. "[This is] kind of a natural hand to check with. It's sort of a connected board, you aren't really going to fold out any better hands," noted *World Series of Poker* bracelet winner Andrew Lichtenberger, who was doing analysis for the WPT final table live stream. The turn paired the middle card from the flop and Kay sprung into action, firing a bet of 650,000 into the pot of 1.1 million. Wigg made the call and the river brought yet another wheel card. Kay felt comfortable firing another healthy bet, this time for 62.5 percent of the size of the pot. From Wigg's perspective, Kay might very well have been looking to fold out the specific type of holding that he in fact had in this instance: a strong preflop hand consisting of two big cards that had missed this board entirely. Kay had shown himself more than capable of running a multi-street bluff at this final table. (See hand matchup on pg. 34 for an example.) Perhaps with this in mind, Wigg made the call. Kay took down the nice pot. Not too long after this, Wigg won a preflop coinflip with A-K suited facing Kay's pocket queens to surge back into second place. Kay had doubled up another short stack just prior to that and was left on the bottom of the leaderboard as a result.

© WPT Joe Giron

NOTE: WINNING PERCENTAGES DO NOT INCLUDE TIES. ODDS PROVIDED BY CARDPLAYER.COM/POKER-TOOLS/ODDS-CALCULATOR/TEXAS-HOLDEM

from early position; the first two players to act otherwise known as the “lojack” and “hijack.” And for this discussion we will make the distinction that any low holding must contain at least two wheel cards (aces through fives). While $A\clubsuit 6\clubsuit K\heartsuit Q\heartsuit$ is a fairly strong hand and can make lows, it's more of a high hand accompanied by an emergency low.

The following opinions on playable holdings are based upon analyzing the features of the starting hands, playing experience, consultation with other players, and rankings produced by ProPokerTools (PPT). As discussed in the last O8 article, the PPT rankings are more useful than others you may find in that they are based upon performance against good starting hands, not just a table full of random hands.

Throughout our discussions, the PPT rankings will be shown in parentheses; however, they are meant to simply act as a guide. While these rankings are better than most they are still based upon “hot/cold” simulations assuming all good hands contesting the pot get to showdown. Therefore, with all of the holdings under consideration, we must also consider playability factors such as the ability to effectively realize your equity and reverse/implicit odds.

Two Aces With Any Wheel Card

When accompanied with another premium low card and a suit, e.g. $A\spadesuit A\heartsuit 3\heartsuit 10\clubsuit$ [r 1], you have one of the strongest hands you can be dealt. The worst possible aces hand with a wheel card is $A\spadesuit A\heartsuit 5\heartsuit 9\clubsuit$ [r 3], and although this hand is much weaker, it is still too good to fold in a six-handed game. While it's true that we will sometimes end up in a few difficult post-flop spots, this hand just has too much value six-handed or less and also effectively blocks our

opponents from picking up strong hands.

A-2

The A-2 is powerful not just because it will often make the best low but also because it plays quite well after the flop. You will often be able to pressure a single opponent with a made low or simply just a low draw in order to deny him his equity, and in a multi-way pot you can raise a lead and knock out slightly better highs.

Having an A-2 also allows you to remain in the hand and realize your equity with more marginal high hands. When you are drawing to or have the nut low you will often make it to showdown and see if a pair of sevens is good for high, something you may not be able to do with non nut low draws.

Therefore, when examining rankings based upon “hot/cold” equities, it's appropriate to give the A-2 holdings extra consideration and play them even when they fall slightly outside of our criteria. For example, according to PPT $A\clubsuit 2\heartsuit 4\heartsuit 6\clubsuit$ [r 21] is not a top 20% holding but is worthy of an initial open in virtually any game and situation.

In a full ring nine-handed “berry patch” you can limp from under-the-gun, and in these soft games virtually any holding with an A-2 can be profitable. However, from the first two positions in a tight aggressive six-max game there are some dry A-2 hands that we can fold. These would be holdings that have very weak high potential such as $A\spadesuit 2\heartsuit 7\heartsuit 9\clubsuit$ [r 26] and $A\spadesuit 2\heartsuit 2\heartsuit 8\clubsuit$ [r 38] where the lack of flush potential and the presence of a nine or small pair put a serious dent in their value.

Right now, there are probably people falling out of their chairs at the prospect of open-folding an A-2 in a six-handed game, and perhaps they are correct that even the worst of these hands can book a profit. It's probably impossible to prove one way or another but both $A\spadesuit 2\heartsuit 7\heartsuit 9\clubsuit$ and $A\spadesuit 2\heartsuit 2\heartsuit 8\clubsuit$ are equity underdogs against just simply a top 50% holding and the power of A-2 can only do so much.

A-3

A-3 is also a very good start on the low side, however, it's always possible that an A-2 may be out that has your potential lows notched. When holding an A-3 there is around a 5.7% chance that each player left to act is holding either A-2-3 or A-2. When you are dealt an A-3 in the lojack, this translates to an approximate 25% probability that one of the five players left to act has your low draw dominated.

Since there may be an A-2 lurking, we must be a little more selective in the A-3 holdings that we choose to play. For example, while $A\spadesuit 3\heartsuit 5\heartsuit 8\clubsuit$ [r 34] has three wheel cards, it's not even within the top 30% of holdings and should be folded from the first two positions.

However, if we give ourselves a small flush draw and change the eight to a seven (e.g. $A\spadesuit 3\heartsuit 5\heartsuit 7\clubsuit$ [r 18]), we now have a hand with enough value and playability that is worthy of an open. From early position, A-3 holdings require at a minimum at least a small flush, a big pair (tens or greater), or two broad-way cards such as $A\heartsuit 3\heartsuit Q\heartsuit 10\heartsuit$ [r 15].

This may not be enough if our hand is relatively weak and contains either a nine and/or a small pair. While we can always play any A-3 hand with a suited ace, hands such as $A\spadesuit 3\heartsuit 7\heartsuit 9\heartsuit$ [r 21] or $A\spadesuit 3\heartsuit 3\heartsuit 7\heartsuit$ [r 23] have their limitations and can be losing early position opens in tough games.

A-4 and A-5

There's quite a big drop-off when your best low cards are

SIGN UP AND LEARN FOR FREE

Graduate your game with the
CP POKER SCHOOL



Ten Comprehensive Poker Courses On Beginner and Advanced Topics

Hundreds of Free Articles and Videos On Winning Poker Strategy

Learn At Your Own Pace

Exclusive Partner Offer

Enroll Now **IT'S FREE!**

www.cardplayerpokerschool.com



Card Player Poker School

either an A-4 or A-5 as opposed to an A-3. When holding A-4, each player left to act has around a 17% chance of holding one of the following combinations: A-2-3, A-2-4, A-2, A-3-4, A-3, or 2-3. This means that when you are dealt A-4 in first position, there's a greater than 60% probability that one of the other five players left to act is holding a better low draw.

While some opponents are capable of folding weaker holdings containing a 2-3 or even A-3, it's not often they do, and it's a problem to be dominated on the low side so frequently. We therefore won't fully realize the low equity of A-4 or A-5, and all things considered the rest of the hand must be strong in order to open from early position.

It's very important to be suited to the ace and having another big card helps as well. For example, A♠ 4♣ 6♥ Q♦ [r 10] is probably strong enough to play but the A♠ 4♣ 6♥ 9♦ [r 21] where the queen is replaced with a nine, should be mucked..

Also, since A-5 is an even weaker low start, A♠ 5♣ 6♥ Q♦ [r 12] may be a fold but A♠ 5♣ 6♥ K♦ [r 8] is more playable due to the king. So why would we suggest folding A♠ 5♣ 6♥ Q♦ [r 12] when our target frequency is 15-20% and it is ranked so highly by PPT?

Once again, the rationale is that the A-5 component of the holding may not effectively realize its equity and/or experience some reverse implied odds and we need to consider these playability aspects. However, in the aggregate we can still expect to play approximately 15-20% of our total hands from the lojack because we are playing hands such as the aforementioned A♠ 2♥ 4♦ 6♣ [r 21] and good high hands like A♠ K♦ 10♠ 10♥ [r 24].

Other Low Hands Without An Ace

There aren't many holdings that we want to play from early position without an ace, however, we can feel relatively good playing hands like 2♣ 3♠ Q♠ Q♥ [r 12], 2♣ 3♠ 4♥ 6♥ [r 19], 2♠ 3♦ Q♠ K♦ [r 16] or 2♦ 3♦ 4♣ K♣ [r 14] from any position. Notice that all of these holdings are suited at least once and when an ace flops often have both high and low possibilities.

From early position, it's relatively important to specifically hold 2-3 as opposed to 2-4 because when an ace flops you want to have the nut low draw, however, it's not a deal breaker if the remainder of the hand is otherwise quite strong.

None of this is an exact science and most assuredly opinions amongst players will vary. Lines have to be drawn somewhere and having a set of default openings is useful in any form of poker. In the next installment on O8, we will discuss late position opening standards with the low hands. ♠

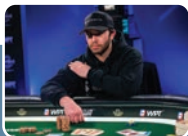


Kevin Haney is a former actuary of MetLife but left the corporate job to focus on his passions for poker and fitness. He is co-owner of Elite Fitness Club in Oceanport, NJ and is a certified personal trainer. With regards to poker he got his start way back

in 2003 and particularly enjoys taking new players interested in mixed games under his wing and quickly making them proficient in all variants. If interested in learning more, playing mixed games online, or just saying hello he can be reached at haneyk612@gmail.com.

TOURNAMENT HAND MATCHUP

2022 Lucky Hearts Poker Open
\$3,500 WPT NLH Main Event



Daniel Lazrus
12,400,000 Chips

Winning Percentage
Before Flop: 49.0%
After Flop: 0.8%
After Turn: 0%



Anton Wigg
23,000,000 Chips

Winning Percentage
Before Flop: 51.0%
After Flop: 99.2%
After Turn: 100%



PREFLOP

With five players remaining and blinds of 125,000-250,000 and a big blind ante of 250,000, Daniel Lazrus raised to 550,000 from the hijack. Anton Wigg called from the button.

FLOP



Lazrus checked, and Wigg bet 500,000. Lazrus called.

TURN



Lazrus checked, and Wigg bet 2,000,000. Lazrus called.

RIVER



Lazrus checked for a third time, and Wigg moved all-in. Lazrus folded.

COMMENTARY:

Daniel Lazrus is already a two-time WSOP bracelet winner despite only securing his first recorded tournament cash back in 2019. In this hand he found himself in a tough spot, but managed to make a correct fold of top pair. Lazrus picked up the nut flush draw on the flop in the single-raised pot and checked. Anton Wigg, who had called Lazrus' hijack open with pocket fives from the button, had flopped the overfull. Wigg didn't want to wait for the later streets to start building the pot. He made a bet which was called by Lazrus, who was nearly drawing dead despite his big draw and two overcards. The turn made it official. Wigg could not lose the pot if it went to showdown. Lazrus checked-called again after the turn changed nothing for him. Wigg sized up to 2,000,000 on the turn, which represented a bet of nearly three-quarters of the size of the pot. As a result of the larger sizing, the pot swelled to 6,725,000 by the time the river brought the A♣ to give Lazrus aces and threes with a jack kicker. He checked a third time and Wigg moved all-in. Lazrus had 9,350,000 remaining in his stack. Despite improving to a reasonably strong hand, in terms of showdown value in a vacuum, he could likely only beat a bluff in this situation based on the betting action. Wigg would be very unlikely to bet three streets, ending with a shove, with a lower pair or a worse kicker alongside an ace. Lazrus ultimately made the correct laydown, preserving the rest of his stack to maintain his third-place spot on the chip count leaderboard. He was able to outlast two opponents to finish third for \$482,380. Wigg ultimately finished second to Alexander Yen, securing \$650,180 for his strong showing in this event.

SCHEDULES

FOR COMPLETE TOURNAMENT RESULTS AND LISTINGS, VISIT CARDPLAYER.COM

FEBRUARY	Feb. 28-March 27	March DeepStack Showdown	Venetian Hotel & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV
	Feb. 28-April 17	WSOP Circuit - Winnin' O' the Green	Bicycle Casino ■ Bell Gardens, CA
MARCH	March 9-20	Palm Beach Spring Classic	Palm Beach Kennel Club ■ West Palm Beach, FL
	March 10-21	WSOP Circuit - Oklahoma	Hard Rock Casino Tulsa ■ Catoosa, OK
	March 10-29	Texas Poker Championship	Prime Social Club ■ Houston, TX
	March 16-27	U.S. Poker Open	Aria Resort & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV
	March 16-28	Spring Series of Poker	Live! Casino & Hotel ■ Hanover, MD
	March 17-28	WSOP Circuit - New York	Turning Stone Casino & Resort ■ Verona, NY
	March 17-April 3	WSOP Circuit - Las Vegas	Bally's Hotel & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV
	March 19	Anniversary Tournament	bestbet Jacksonville ■ Jacksonville, FL
	March 24-April 12	World Poker Tour Showdown	Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino ■ Hollywood, FL
	March 28-May 1	DeepStack Extravaganza II	Venetian Hotel & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV
	April 7-17	Poker Round Up	Wildhorse Resort Casino ■ Pendleton, OR
	April 7-18	WSOP Circuit - North Carolina	Harrah's Casino ■ Cherokee, NC
APRIL	April 19-24	Nevada State Ladies Poker Championship	South Point Hotel & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV
	April 21-23	PGT Heads-Up Championship	Aria Resort & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV
	April 21-May 2	WSOP Circuit - Mississippi	Horseshoe Casino Tunica ■ Robinsonville, MS
	April 28-May 16	World Poker Tour Chotaw	Choctaw Casino Resort ■ Durant, OK
	May 2-July 31	DeepStack Championship	Venetian Hotel & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV
	May 27	Super High Roller Bowl VII	Aria Resort & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV
MAY	May 31-July 19	World Series of Poker	Bally's & Paris Casinos ■ Las Vegas, NV

AO-Add On **B**-Bonus **CP**-Crazy Pineapple **H.O.R.S.E.**-Hold'em, Omaha Eight-or-Better, Razz, Seven-Card Stud, Seven-Card Stud Eight-or-Better **R.O.S.E.**-Razz, Omaha Eight-or-Better, Seven-Card Stud, Seven-Card Stud Eight-or-Better **KO**-Knock Out or Bounty **LH**-Limit Hold'em **MP**-Mexican Poker **NLH**-No-Limit Hold'em **O H/L**-Omaha Eight-or-Better **PLO**-Pot-Limit Omaha **RB**-Rebuy **SH/L**-Seven-Card Stud Eight-or-Better **SLH**-Spread-Limit Hold'em

CALIFORNIA

12:00 p.m. NLH, \$160

MARYLAND

OCEAN'S ELEVEN - OCEANSIDE

MONDAY-THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. NLH, \$75 AO \$5

MONDAY-FRIDAY

10:00 a.m. NLH, \$75 AO \$5

SATURDAY-SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. NLH, \$230 AO \$10

FLORIDA

BESTBET - JACKSONVILLE

MONDAY

7:00 p.m. NLH, \$60

WEDNESDAY

12:00 p.m. NLH, \$60

FRIDAY

12:00 p.m. NLH, \$160

SUNDAY

LIVE! CASINO & HOTEL - HANOVER

MONDAY

11:15 a.m. NLH, \$120 KO \$25

7:15 p.m. NLH, \$150

TUESDAY

11:15 a.m. NLH, \$130

7:15 p.m. NLH, \$200 KO \$50 (\$10K Guarantee)

WEDNESDAY

11:15 a.m. NLH, \$160

7:15 p.m. NLH, \$130

THURSDAY

11:15 a.m. NLH, \$140

7:15 p.m. NLH, \$160 KO \$25

FRIDAY

11:15 a.m. NLH, \$220

7:15 p.m. NLH, \$320 KO \$75

SUNDAY

6:15 p.m. NLH, \$130

NEVADA

SOUTH POINT CASINO - LAS VEGAS

MONDAY

10:05 a.m. NLH, \$80 (\$4K Guarantee)
 2:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$2K Guarantee)
 6:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$4K Guarantee)
 10:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$2K Guarantee)

TUESDAY

10:05 a.m. NLH, \$80 (\$4K Guarantee)
 2:05 p.m. O H/L, \$80 (\$2K Guarantee)
 6:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$4K Guarantee)
 10:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$2K Guarantee)

WEDNESDAY

10:05 a.m. NLH, \$80 (\$4K Guarantee)
 2:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$2K Guarantee)
 6:05 p.m. NLH, \$150 (\$15K Guarantee)
 10:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$2K Guarantee)

THURSDAY

10:05 a.m. NLH, \$80 (\$4K Guarantee)
 2:05 p.m. O H/L, \$80 (\$2K Guarantee)
 6:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$4K Guarantee)
 10:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$2K Guarantee)

FRIDAY

10:05 a.m. NLH, \$80 (\$4K Guarantee)
 2:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$2K Guarantee)
 6:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$4K Guarantee)
 10:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$2K Guarantee)

SATURDAY

10:05 a.m. NLH, \$150 (\$10K Guarantee)
 6:05 p.m. NLH, \$150 (\$15K Guarantee)
 10:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$2K Guarantee)

SUNDAY

10:05 a.m. NLH, \$80 (\$4K Guarantee)
 6:05 p.m. NLH, \$150 (\$15K Guarantee)
 10:05 p.m. NLH, \$80 (\$2K Guarantee)

HARRAH'S - CHEROKEE

MONDAY-THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. NLH, \$140
 10:00 p.m. NLH, \$80

FRIDAY

8:00 p.m. NLH, \$250

SUNDAY

2:00 p.m. NLH, \$250

NORTH CAROLINA

OREGON

WILDHORSE - PENDLETON

TUESDAY

6:30 p.m. NLH, \$35 AO \$5

THURSDAY

6:30 p.m. NLH, \$55 AO \$5

FRIDAY

6:30 p.m. NLH, \$80 AO \$5

SATURDAY

1:00 p.m. NLH, \$115 AO \$5

SUNDAY

1:00 p.m. NLH, \$35 AO \$5

TEXAS

PRIME SOCIAL CLUB - HOUSTON

MONDAY-FRIDAY

12:00 p.m. NLH, \$140 (\$5K Guarantee)

SATURDAY

2:00 p.m. NLH, \$300 (\$20K Guarantee)

SUNDAY

2:00 p.m. NLH, \$250 (\$5K Guarantee)

Card Player

POKER STORIES PODCAST

Poker Stories is a long-form audio podcast series that features casual interviews with some of the game's best players and personalities. Each episode highlights a well-known member of the poker world and dives deep into their favorite tales both on and off the felt.

Download it directly to your device from any number of mobile apps, such as Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, Google Play, or Spotify. Catch up on past episodes featuring notables such as Doyle Brunson, Antonio Esfandiari, Daniel Negreanu, Jennifer Harman, Justin Bonomo, Nick Schulman, Barry Greenstein, Michael Mizrachi, Bryn Kenney, Mike Sexton, Maria Ho, and many more.

www.CardPlayer.com/poker-podcasts



POKERCOACHING – HAND QUIZ

Join more than 120,000 players worldwide who have taken their game to the next level. To develop your poker skills and learn how to crush games, check out PokerCoaching.com/CardPlayer.

Tough Spot With A Weak Top Pair



You are eight-handed in a \$1,000 buy-in live tournament. You have 15,000 chips with the blinds at 75-150 when a tight, aggressive player UTG+1 raises to 350. It folds to you in the cutoff with A♣ 2♣.

Question 1: Should you fold, call, three-bet to 900, or three-bet to 1,200?

Answer: If you think you have a lot of preflop or post-flop fold equity (meaning you expect your opponent to fold to sheer aggression too often), three-betting is a strong play. However, given your opponent is tight and aggressive, indicating their range should be decently strong, it is best to call and try to flop well.

You elect to call and the big blind calls as well. The flop comes A♠ Q♥ 3♣. Your opponents check to you.

Question 2: Should you check, bet 450, bet 875, or bet 1,375?

Answer: It is important to figure out if the initial raiser has many aces in their range. If they do, you should definitely check behind. If they do not, it is fine to make a small or medium bet. You do not want to bet too large because then most worse hands except a queen will fold, resulting in you often putting in a decent amount of money poorly.

Checking behind is also nice because you will never face a check-raise. In general, when you have a decently strong hand that cannot confidently continue against a check-raise, you should often check behind (assuming your opponents are capable of check-raising).

You check and the turn card is the J♠. The big blind checks and the UTG+1 player bets 500.

Question 3: Should you fold, call, raise to 1,200, or raise to 2,000?

Answer: There is no point in raising because your opponent will usually call all better hands and fold most worse ones. Once the UTG+1 player bets, it is easy for them to have a better hand, like K-10, A-J, and Q-J. However, they could also be betting K-Q, K-J, or Q-10, which you beat, as well as sporadic bluffs.

Usually, when players bet small on the turn, they are holding a wide range of marginal made hands, many of which you beat. Calling is the only play that makes sense.

You call and the big blind folds. The river is the 7♠ and your opponent checks.

Question 4: Do you check, bet 600, bet 1,200, or bet 2,400?

Answer: You now have the option to value bet or check behind. It is reasonable for your opponent to have some better A-x, but they may play almost all of them differently earlier in the hand, usually by betting the flop. Most likely, your opponent has a queen or jack.

Unless your opponent is either overly tricky such that they will have a lot of traps or overly tight such that they will fold a queen to a river bet, you should bet for value. Do not bet using a large size because that will often result in most opponents folding their Q-x and J-x. Bet using a small size of roughly half pot in order to extract a call.

You bet 1,200 and your opponent calls with Q♦ 10♦. Good bet!

For access to more than 1,200 interactive poker hand quizzes just like this, but in video format, visit PokerCoaching.com/CardPlayer.



RACING FOR DOLLARS

PLAY LIVE POKER

20 HOURS = \$40

100 HOURS = \$400

GET CASH BACK

NO LIMIT HOLD'EM TOURNAMENTS

MONDAY - FRIDAY 10:00AM

\$60 BUY-IN / \$15 ENTRY FEE / \$5 OPTIONAL STAFF ADD-ON

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10:00AM

\$200 BUY-IN / \$30 ENTRY FEE / \$10 OPTIONAL STAFF ADD-ON



MONDAY - THURSDAY 7:00PM

\$60 BUY-IN / \$15 ENTRY FEE / \$5 OPTIONAL STAFF ADD-ON

760-439-6988 121 BROOKS STREET OCEANSIDE CA 92054 WWW.OCEANS11.COM

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY ON ALL PROMOTIONS. MANAGEMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MODIFY OR CANCEL ANY PROMOTION AT ITS SOLE DISCRETION.

PLEASE GAMBLE RESPONSIBLY. 1-800-GAMBLER. GEGA-004119, 000542



WINNIN' O' THE GREEN

OVER \$3 MILLION IN GUARANTEES



#	DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	GUARANTEED	BUY-IN
				NIGHTLY 7PM NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM TURBO		\$150
1	Mon	2/28	10am	NLHE SURVIVOR 40K CHIPS (Top 10% gets \$10k cash)		\$1,100
2	Mon	2/28	2pm	NLHE SURVIVOR (Top 10% gets \$5k cash)		\$560
3	Tue	3/1	10am & 4pm	NLHE DAY 1A (15k, 10% Adv)	\$200,000	\$300
	Wed	3/2	10am & 4pm	DAY 1B		\$300
	Thu	3/3	10am & 4pm	DAY 1C	Advance to Day 2 get paid \$500. If you qualify more than once, you will receive \$2,500 cash.	\$300
	Thu	3/3	8pm	Mega Satellite	3 (\$2,000) Seats	\$300
	Fri	3/4	12pm	DAY 2 - Single re-entry 1st 2 levels (150k chips, blinds 1k-2.5k)		\$2,000
4	Fri	3/4	10am	NLHE (1 day event)	\$30,000	\$250
5	Fri	3/4	3pm	NLHE (1 day event, 1 opt \$100 add-on)	\$20,000	\$150
6	Sat	3/5	10am	NLHE (1 day event)	\$60,000	\$400
7	Sat	3/5	4pm	NLHE SURVIVOR (Top 10% gets \$5k cash)		\$560
8	Sun	3/6	10am & 4pm	NLHE MONSTER STACK DAY 1A (Big Blind Ante) 3 day event, 2 starting times (30k, 15% Adv)	\$200,000	\$400
	Mon	3/7	10am & 4pm	DAY 1B		\$400
	Mon	3/7	8pm	Mega Satellite for Day 2	3 (\$2,400) Seats	\$300
	Tue	3/8	12pm	DAY 2 - Single re-entry 1st 2 levels (200k chips, blinds 3k-1.5k-3k)		\$2,400
9	Tue	3/8	10am	NLHE DOUBLE STACK		\$400
10	Tue	3/8	2pm	POT LIMIT (OMAHA 8 / BIG "O" 8)		\$600
11	Wed	3/9	10am	NLHE (1 day event)	\$30,000	\$300
12	Wed	3/9	2pm	OMAHA 8 OR BETTER	\$25,000	\$400
13	Wed	3/9	5pm	NLHE SURVIVOR (Top 10% gets \$5k cash)		\$560
	Wed	3/9	8pm	Mega Satellite	3 (\$1,100) Seats	\$200
14	Thu	3/10	10am	NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM		\$1,100
15	Thu	3/10	2pm	NLHE (1 day event)		\$250
	Thu	3/10	8pm	Mega Satellite	3 ME Seats	\$300
16	Fri	3/11	10am	NLHE TURBO (1 day event)	\$30,000	\$400
17	Fri	3/11	2pm	NLHE BOUNTY (\$100 included)		\$400
	Fri	3/11	4pm & 8pm	Mega Satellite	8pm - 3 ME Seats	\$300
18	Sat	3/12	10am	NLHE (1 day event)	\$75,000	\$600
19	Sat	3/12	2pm	LADIES NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM		\$250
	Sat	3/12	4pm & 8pm	Mega Satellite	5 ME Seats	\$300
20a	Sun	3/13	12pm	WSOPC MAIN EVENT DAY 1A*		\$1,700
	Sun	3/13	4pm & 8pm	Mega Satellite	3 ME Seats	\$300
20b	Mon	3/14	12pm	WSOPC MAIN EVENT DAY 1B*		\$1,700
21	Mon	3/14	4pm	NLHE SURVIVOR (Top 10% gets \$4k cash)		\$450
	Tue	3/15	1pm	WSOPC MAIN EVENT DAY 2		\$0
22a	Tue	3/15	2pm	NLHE HIGH ROLLER		\$2,200
23	Tue	3/15	3pm	NLHE TURBO TRIPLE STACK (30k chips)		\$400
24	Wed	3/16	10am	NLHE TURBO (1 day event)	\$30,000	\$250
22b	Wed	3/16	12pm	NLHE HIGH ROLLER DAY 2 (No late reg. Start w/ same chips as Day 1)		\$2,200
	Wed	3/16	1pm	WSOPC MAIN EVENT @LIVEATTHEBIKE		\$0
25	Wed	3/16	3pm	NLHE DAY 1A (15k, 10% Adv)	\$500,000	\$300
	Thu	3/17	11am & 4pm	NLHE DAY 1B		\$300
	Fri	3/18	11am & 4pm	NLHE DAY 1C		\$300
	Sat	3/19	11am & 4pm	NLHE DAY 1D (30k, 20% Adv)	Advance to Day 2 get paid \$500. If you qualify more than once, get \$2,500 cash.	\$560
	Sun	3/20	11am & 4pm	NLHE DAY 1E (30k, 20% Adv)		\$560
	Mon	3/21	11am & 4pm	NLHE DAY 1F (30k, 20% Adv)		\$560
	Mon	3/21	8pm	Mega Satellite	3 (\$2,000) Day 2 Seats	\$300
	Tue	3/22	12pm	DAY 2 - Single re-entry 1st 2 levels (150k chips, blinds 1k-2.5k)		\$2,000
26	Tue	3/22	3pm	NLHE SURVIVOR TURBO (Top 10% gets \$10k cash)		\$1,100

#	DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	GUARANTEED	BUY-IN
27	Wed	3/23	11am & 4pm	NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM**	\$50,000	\$400
28	Wed	3/23	2pm	LIMIT OMAHA 8/8		\$1,100
29	Thu	3/24	11am & 4pm	NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM**	\$50,000	\$400
30	Thu	3/24	2pm	LIMIT E/O 8 OR BETTER		\$1,100
31	Fri	3/25	11am & 4pm	NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM**	\$50,000	\$400
32	Sat	3/26	11am & 4pm	NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM**	\$100,000	\$560
33	Sun	3/27	11am	NLHE TURBO TRIPLE STACK (30k chips)	\$50,000	\$400
34	Sun	3/27	3pm	NLHE BOUNTY (\$100 included)		\$500
35	Mon	3/28	11am & 4pm	NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM**	\$30,000	\$250
36	Mon	3/28	2pm	LIMIT OMAHA 8 / LIMIT BIG 'O' 8		\$400
37	Tue	3/29	11am & 4pm	NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM**	\$30,000	\$250
38	Tue	3/29	2pm	H.O.R.S.E.		\$400
39	Wed	3/30	11am & 4pm	NLHE DAY 1A (15k, 10% Adv)	\$200,000	\$300
	Thu	3/31	11am & 4pm	NLHE DAY 1B		\$300
	Fri	4/1	11am & 4pm	NLHE DAY 1C	Advance to Day 2 get paid \$500. If you qualify more than once, you will receive \$2,500 cash.	\$300
	Fri	4/1	8pm	Mega Satellite	3 (\$2,000) Seats	\$300
	Sat	4/2	12pm	DAY 2 - Single re-entry 1st 2 levels (150k chips, blinds 1k-2.5k)		\$2,000
40	Sat	4/2	1pm	NLHE TURBO DOUBLE STACK	\$40,000	\$400
41	Sat	4/2	4pm	NLHE SURVIVOR TURBO (Top 10% gets \$10k cash)		\$1,100
42	Sun	4/3	11am	NLHE MEGA STACK (\$40k chips, 1 day event)	\$50,000	\$400
43	Sun	4/3	3pm	NLHE TURBO		\$400
44	Mon	4/4	11am & 4pm	NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM**	\$40,000	\$400
45	Mon	4/4	2pm	POT LIMIT (OMAHA 8) WITH \$100 BOUNTY		\$400
46	Tue	4/5	11am	NLHE MEGA STACK (\$40k chips, 1 day event)	\$30,000	\$250
47	Tue	4/5	3pm	6 MAX NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM		\$400
MEGA MILLIONS XXII						
48	Wed	4/6	11am & 4pm	DAY 1A (12k, 12% ITM, 6% Adv)		\$260
	Thu	4/7	11am & 4pm	DAY 1B		\$260
	Thu	4/7	2pm	DAY 1B (25k, 12% ITM, 12% Adv)		\$560
	Fri	4/8	11am & 4pm	DAY 1C		\$260
	Fri	4/8	2pm	DAY 1C		\$560
	Sat	4/9	11am & 4pm	DAY 1D		\$260
	Sat	4/9	2pm	DAY 1D		\$560
	Sun	4/10	11am & 4pm	DAY 1E	Advance to Day 2 get paid \$700.	\$260
	Sun	4/10	2pm	DAY 1E	If you qualify more than once, get \$3,500 cash.	\$560
	Mon	4/11	11am & 4pm	DAY 1F		\$260
	Mon	4/11	2pm	SURVIVOR (Top 10% gets \$5k cash)		\$560
	Tue	4/12	11am & 4pm	DAY 1G		\$260
	Tue	4/12	2pm	SURVIVOR (Top 10% gets \$5k cash)		\$560
	Wed	4/13	11am & 4pm	DAY 1H		\$260
	Wed	4/13	2pm	SURVIVOR (Top 10% gets \$5k cash)		\$560
	Thu	4/14	11am & 4pm	DAY 1I		\$260
	Thu	4/14	2pm	DAY 1I		\$560
	Fri	4/15	11am & 4pm	DAY 1J		\$260
	Fri	4/15	2pm	DAY 1J		\$560
	Sat	4/16	11am & 4pm	DAY 1K		\$260
	Sat	4/16	2pm	DAY 1K		\$560
	Sat	4/16	7pm	Mega Satellite	5 (\$3,500) Day 2 Seats	\$400
	Sun	4/17	12pm	DAY 2 - Single re-entry 1st 2 levels (200k chips, blinds 2k-3k)		\$3,500
Mega Millions Day 3 is on Monday at 1pm and final on Tuesday at 1pm will stream @Liveatthebike						

* Players are allowed one re-entry per flight | ** Top 12% ITM & Adv to Day 2 @ 6pm Next Day.



710 FWY - FLORENCE EXIT | 888 BICYCLE CASINO DR., BELL GARDENS, CA 90201 | (562) 806-4646 | THEBIKE.COM

The Bicycle Hotel & Casino reserves the right to revise, suspend, cancel, or modify tournament events at its sole discretion and without prior notice within the parameters of GEGA-000451. All tournament guaranteed prize pools will be funded by tournament fees. Any short fall will be funded by the casino. PLEASE GAMBLE RESPONSIBLY. 1-800-GAMBLER. WWW.PROBLEMGAMBLING.CA.GOV | RD20220112

