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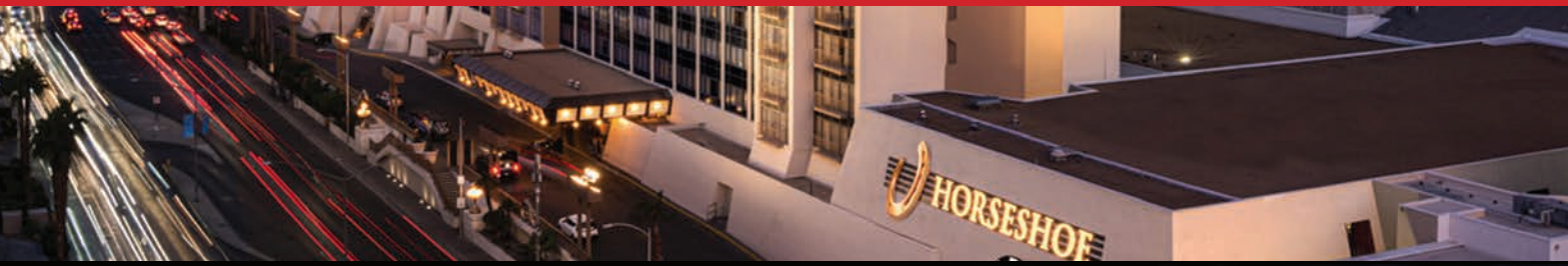
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Vol. 36/No. 12  
May 31, 2023



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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.

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# Card Player

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| Thu        | Aug. 10        | 12pm        | Event #1 NLH Flight 1                     | \$400            | 25,000           |
| Thu        | Aug. 10        | 6pm         | Event #1 NLH Flight 2                     | \$400            | 25,000           |
| Fri        | Aug. 11        | 12pm        | Event #1 NLH Flight 3                     | \$400            | 25,000           |
| Fri        | Aug. 11        | 6pm         | Event #1 NLH Flight 4                     | \$400            | 25,000           |
| Sat        | Aug. 12        | 12pm        | Event #1 NLH Flight 5                     | \$400            | 25,000           |
| Sat        | Aug. 12        | 6pm         | Event #1 NLH Flight 6                     | \$400            | 25,000           |
| <b>Sun</b> | <b>Aug. 13</b> | <b>12pm</b> | <b>Event #1 Final Day bestbetLIVE</b>     | <b>\$100,000</b> | <b>Guarantee</b> |
| Sun        | Aug. 13        | 1pm         | Event #2 NLH w/\$100 Bounties             | \$400            | 15,000           |
| Mon        | Aug. 14        | 12pm        | Event #3 NLH                              | \$300            | 15,000           |
| Tue        | Aug. 15        | 12pm        | Event #4 NLH                              | \$400            | 15,000           |
| Tue        | Aug. 15        | 3pm         | Event #5 Big O/8 or Better                | \$300            | 15,000           |
| Wed        | Aug. 16        | 12pm        | Event #6 NLH 6 Max                        | \$880            | 25,000           |
| Wed        | Aug. 16        | 3pm         | Event #7 NLH Ladies Only bestbetLIVE      | \$300            | 15,000           |
| <b>Thu</b> | <b>Aug. 17</b> | <b>12pm</b> | <b>Main Event Mystery Bounty Day 1A</b>   | <b>\$1,700</b>   | <b>30,000</b>    |
| <b>Fri</b> | <b>Aug. 18</b> | <b>12pm</b> | <b>Main Event Mystery Bounty Day 1B</b>   | <b>\$1,700</b>   | <b>30,000</b>    |
| <b>Sat</b> | <b>Aug. 19</b> | <b>12pm</b> | <b>Main Event Mystery Bounty Day 1C</b>   | <b>\$1,700</b>   | <b>30,000</b>    |
| <b>Sun</b> | <b>Aug. 20</b> | <b>12pm</b> | <b>Main Event Day 2 bestbetLIVE</b>       |                  |                  |
| Sun        | Aug. 20        | 1pm         | Event #8 The bestbet 500                  | \$500            | 20,000           |
| <b>Mon</b> | <b>Aug. 21</b> | <b>2pm</b>  | <b>Main Event Final Table bestbetLIVE</b> | <b>\$300,000</b> | <b>Guarantee</b> |

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## WORLD SERIES OF POKER



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47 CONSECUTIVE  
DAYS OF COVERAGE



## PokerGO To Stream 47 Consecutive Days Of WSOP Action

By Card Player News Team

While every die-hard poker fan hopes to participate in or visit the *WSOP*, that isn't always in the cards thanks to work, family, and other responsibilities. But even if you can't make it out to Las Vegas this summer, you can always stay up to date on all the action from the series thanks to PokerGO's comprehensive live-streaming coverage.

PokerGO has announced 47 consecutive days of coverage of the 2023 *WSOP* starting on June 1. The slate of tournament poker action will feature 30 unique events, including daily live broadcasts of the main event from July 3-17.

"PokerGO is delighted to offer live broadcast coverage of the *WSOP* for another year and do so with our largest livestream offering ever," said President of PokerGO Mori Eskandani. "We know how much the poker audience around the world loves our game and, specifically, the *WSOP*."

The coverage kicks off with two days of the *WSOP* Tournament of Champions. Other early highlights include the \$25,000 no-limit hold'em six-max high roller, the \$25,000 heads-up no-limit hold'em championship, the \$100,000 no-limit hold'em high roller, and multiple \$10,000 championship limit mixed-game events.

The middle weeks of the series include exciting events like the \$50,000 *Poker Players Championship*, the \$250,000 no-limit hold'em high roller, the \$1,500 no-limit hold'em *Monster Stack*, and the \$1,000 *Ladies Championship* no-limit hold'em event.

In July, the focus shifts to the big dance, with streaming coverage of poker's world championship for Day 1A (July 3) through the conclusion of the main event (July 17). Check out the full streaming schedule on the next page.

According to a press release, the bulk of the *WSOP* livestream broadcasts will take place on the PokerGO platform, but select broadcasts will also be available on PokerGO's YouTube channel.

PokerGO is available worldwide on Android phones and tablets, iPhone, iPad, Apple TV, Roku, Amazon Fire TV, and any web or mobile browser via [PokerGO.com](http://PokerGO.com). Subscribers get access to the archives, as well as new episodes of *High Stakes Poker*, *No Gamble, No Future*, numerous high roller series, and of course, the *WSOP*.

PokerGO annual subscribers already save over monthly and quarterly subscribers, but they will also be eligible for three random drawings that will each award one free seat in the 2023 *PGT Championship* \$1 million freeroll event, which sports a \$500,000 top prize. These drawings will take place on June 6, July 17, and a third date that has yet to be determined.

This is one of several Dream Seat promotions that PokerGO is holding throughout the year, including the recently announced Social Media Dream Seat Giveaway taking place on Sept. 30.

Sign up for PokerGO using the code 'CARDPLAYER' for \$20 off your first year of an annual subscription. ♠



|           |         |   |
|-----------|---------|---|
| THURSDAY  | JUNE 1  | EVENT #4 TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS (DAY 2)                    |
| THURSDAY  | JUNE 1  | EVENT #2 \$25K NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM HIGH ROLLER 6-HANDED        |
| FRIDAY    | JUNE 2  | EVENT #4 TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS                            |
| SATURDAY  | JUNE 3  | EVENT #7 \$1.5K LIMIT HOLD'EM                               |
| SATURDAY  | JUNE 3  | EVENT #6 \$5K NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM                              |
| SUNDAY    | JUNE 4  | EVENT #9 \$1.5K SEVEN CARD STUD                             |
| SUNDAY    | JUNE 4  | EVENT #8 \$25K HEADS-UP CHAMPIONSHIP                        |
| MONDAY    | JUNE 5  | EVENT #3 \$1K MYSTERY MILLIONS                              |
| TUESDAY   | JUNE 6  | EVENT #12 \$5K NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM FREEZEOUT                   |
| WEDNESDAY | JUNE 7  | EVENT #16 \$25K NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM HIGH ROLLER (DAY 2)        |
| WEDNESDAY | JUNE 7  | EVENT #14 \$10K SEVEN CARD STUD                             |
| THURSDAY  | JUNE 8  | EVENT #16 \$25K NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM HIGH ROLLER                |
| FRIDAY    | JUNE 9  | EVENT #19 \$2.5K NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM FREEZEOUT                 |
| SATURDAY  | JUNE 10 | EVENT #22 \$10K LIMIT HOLD'EM CHAMPIONSHIP                  |
| SUNDAY    | JUNE 11 | EVENT #23 \$50K NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM HIGH ROLLER                |
| MONDAY    | JUNE 12 | EVENT #18 \$300 GLADIATORS OF POKER                         |
| TUESDAY   | JUNE 13 | EVENT #25 \$10K OMAHA HI-LO CHAMPIONSHIP                    |
| WEDNESDAY | JUNE 14 | EVENT #29 \$100K NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM HIGH ROLLER               |
| THURSDAY  | JUNE 15 | EVENT #33 \$10K RAZZ CHAMPIONSHIP                           |
| FRIDAY    | JUNE 16 | EVENT #35 \$10K NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM SECRET BOUNTY              |
| SATURDAY  | JUNE 17 | EVENT #40 \$250K NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM SUPER HIGH ROLLER (DAY 2) |
| SUNDAY    | JUNE 18 | EVENT #40 \$250K NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM SUPER HIGH ROLLER         |
| MONDAY    | JUNE 19 | EVENT #42 \$800 NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM DEEPSTACK                  |
| TUESDAY   | JUNE 20 | EVENT #43 \$50K POKER PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP (DAY 3)          |
| TUESDAY   | JUNE 20 | EVENT #39 \$1.5K MONSTER STACK                              |
| WEDNESDAY | JUNE 21 | EVENT #43 \$50K POKER PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP (DAY 4)          |
| THURSDAY  | JUNE 22 | EVENT #43 \$50K POKER PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP                  |
| FRIDAY    | JUNE 23 | EVENT #50 \$10K POT-LIMIT OMAHA CHAMPIONSHIP (DAY 3)        |
| SATURDAY  | JUNE 24 | EVENT #50 \$10K POT-LIMIT OMAHA CHAMPIONSHIP                |
| SUNDAY    | JUNE 25 | EVENT #54 \$10K H.O.R.S.E. CHAMPIONSHIP (DAY 3)             |
| MONDAY    | JUNE 26 | EVENT #54 \$10K H.O.R.S.E. CHAMPIONSHIP                     |
| TUESDAY   | JUNE 27 | EVENT #57 \$25K POT-LIMIT OMAHA HIGH ROLLER (DAY 3)         |
| WEDNESDAY | JUNE 28 | EVENT #57 \$25K POT-LIMIT OMAHA HIGH ROLLER                 |
| THURSDAY  | JUNE 29 | EVENT #63 \$10K SEVEN CARD STUD HI-LO CHAMPIONSHIP          |
| FRIDAY    | JUNE 30 | EVENT #61 \$1K SUPER SENIORS                                |
| SATURDAY  | JULY 1  | EVENT #69 \$10K NO-LIMIT 2-7 SINGLE DRAW CHAMPIONSHIP       |
| SUNDAY    | JULY 2  | EVENT #67 \$1K LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP                          |

**JULY 3-17**

## **EVENT #76: \$10,000 MAIN EVENT**

**SUNDAY**

**JULY 16**

**FINAL TABLE (DAY 1) - PLAY DOWN TO 4**

**MONDAY**

**JULY 17**

**FIANL TABLE (DAY 2) - PLAY TO A WINNER**

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# HORSESHOE CASINO RESORT MAKES DEBUT ON THE LAS VEGAS STRIP

By Card Player News Team



© Caesars Entertainment

The Horseshoe has officially returned to Sin City. Only this time the property isn't downtown, it's right in the heart of the Las Vegas Strip.

It's been nearly 20 years since the Horseshoe had a presence in Las Vegas, originally opening downtown in 1951. The brand, along with the *World Series of Poker*, was sold to Harrah's in 2004, which was ultimately renamed Caesars Entertainment.

Caesars now operates 10 Horseshoe properties throughout North America, but none were located in Las Vegas until rebranding the Strip casino previously known as Bally's.

"The arrival of Horseshoe on The Strip marks a significant moment for Caesars Entertainment, the Horseshoe name, and the entire destination," said SVP and General Manager Jason Gregorec. "Not only are we excited for guests to experience the redesigned resort and its latest offerings, but we are also proud to reintroduce the historic gaming brand to Las Vegas."

The Horseshoe underwent a year-long transformation that included new exterior signage, a refresh of the casino floor, and new dining options.

The casino is also home to the *WSOP* Hall of Fame Poker Room, a 4,900 sq. ft. space which has 18 tables. The property will serve as half of the home for the *WSOP* from May 30 to July 18, along with neighbor Paris Las Vegas.

The March grand opening ceremony featured a panel of industry experts, including *WSOP* Vice President Jack Effel, 10-time bracelet winner Doyle Brunson, and high-stakes sports bettor Jim "Mattress Mack" McIngvale, as well as



© Denise Truscillo - Getty Images

showgirls in original *Jubilee!* costumes.

Jack Binion, whose father Benny opened the original Horseshoe downtown in 1951, was also on hand. Binion was celebrating his new steakhouse at the resort, which comes with the family's iconic glass case of \$1 million in cash.

The newly rebranded Horseshoe originally opened in 1973 as the MGM Grand Hotel and Casino. At the time its 26 stories and 2,100 rooms made it one of the world's largest hotels. A major fire closed the resort in 1980, and it reopened a year later with an additional 700 rooms and the long-running *Jubilee!* theatrical show, which operated until 2016. In 1986 it was purchased by Bally Manufacturing. Caesars, then-Harrah's, acquired the 44-acre resort in 2005. ♠

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Catch up with the latest poker news, event recaps, player interviews, and strategy columns, as well as up-to-date reports from all over the gambling industry.

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# THE 2023 WORLD SERIES OF POKER IS HERE, AND IT'S READY TO BREAK RECORDS

By Erik Fast

The *World Series of Poker* started as a seven-player cash game in 1970, with eventual champion Johnny Moss decided by a vote among the participants.

In the more than five decades since then, the annual *WSOP* has grown into the largest poker tournament festival in the world, with a record \$342 million paid out across the 102 total bracelet events that comprised last year's summer series.

The \$10,000 main event attracted its second-largest field ever with its 8,663 players, falling just 110 entries short of tying the record set in 2006, when Jamie Gold earned a payout of \$12 million as the champion.

The inaugural *WSOP*, and the 34 that followed it, were held at Binion's Horseshoe in downtown Las Vegas. After Caesars Entertainment bought the rights to the *WSOP*, the series moved to the Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino from 2005 to 2021. In 2022, the proceedings were moved for the first time to the Las Vegas Strip, with Bally's and Paris Las Vegas Hotel & Casino hosting. And finally, this year the series officially returns home after Bally's was rebranded as

Horseshoe Las Vegas.

"With the momentum generated from the *WSOP*'s debut on the Las Vegas Strip last year, we expect a record-breaking *WSOP* and world championship at Paris and Horseshoe Las Vegas in 2023," said Ty Stewart, SVP & Executive Director of the *WSOP*.

The summer series will feature the biggest capacity in history with 608 tables spread across more than 200,000 square feet of convention space. There will be 95 in-person bracelet events, up from 89 in 2022, with another 34 bracelet events held online at *WSOP.com*, for a total of 129.

The increase in tournaments, combined with a special emphasis being placed on breaking the record for main event turnout (more on that later) seems like the perfect recipe for yet another new high-water mark when it comes to key metrics like prize money and total entries.

In this special issue of *Card Player*, we will cover what's new for the 54th-annual *WSOP*, take a closer look at the main event, and highlight the current leaders in key *WSOP* statistical categories.



### What You Need To Know About The 54th Annual WSOP

Numerous additions and changes have been announced for the 2023 *WSOP*.

One notable schedule shift will see the \$1 million freeroll *Tournament of Champions* moving to the opening week, after being the last bracelet event offered in 2022.

According to the *WSOP*'s press release, "the 2023 field will be limited to those winning a *WSOP Circuit* ring at a live event or during an online circuit from July 20, 2022 to May 22, 2023, as well as all winners from *WSOP Online 2022*... and *WSOP Europe 2022*. Registration for the 2023 *Tournament of Champions* will open on Tuesday, May 30 at 9 a.m. 2023 bracelet winners will be eligible for the 2024 tournament."

This year will also see the popular *Million Dollar Bounty* event from last summer become the \$1,000 buy-in *Mystery Millions*, with a seven-figure payday guaranteed to the tournament winner in addition to the \$1 million guaranteed top bounty prize.

Last year, Minnesota's Quincy Borland took home \$750,120 and his first gold bracelet as the champion, while Pennsylvania poker pro Matt Glantz was the lucky winner of the \$1 million bounty.

The 2023 event kicks off with the first of four starting flights on May 31, making it the centerpiece of the typically-packed opening weekend of the festival.

2023 will be the first year that the *WSOP* will not play host to a dedicated area offering single-table satellites. In fact, there will be no single-table satellites held outside of those that will directly qualify players for the main event (which will start on July 2), and the 'Flip and Go' (starting July 13 and concluding when registration ends for the event on the following day) which last just a single hand. Players



will be dealt three cards and then be taken directly to the flop, at which point they will all be forced to discard one before the turn and river are dealt and a single winner is decided.

As a result, there will be no more tournament 'lammers,' which were chips that were awarded in past single-table satellites that could only be redeemed for tournament buy-ins, not cash. Instead, winners of the limited offering of single-table satellites will be escorted to registration and entered directly into the event that they qualified for.

While round-the-clock single-table satellites are now a thing of the past, in its place will be a wide variety of satellite options, with mega satellites running daily throughout the festival. For the most part, satellites into events with a seat value of \$5,000 or lower will pay out casino chips that players can use to buy into their desired tournament. The two notable exceptions to this guideline are the \$1,000 *Mystery*

Alex Foxen



Dan Cates



Millions and the \$300 *Gladiators of Poker* event, which will see qualifiers directly entered.

Satellites into \$10,000 buy-in events will allow those that qualify to choose between direct entry or casino chips. Finally, satellites for events with buy-ins of \$25,000 and higher will only award direct entry into the target tournament. (Note: Any cash payouts over \$5,000 above the satellite buy-in will be subject to tax reporting.)

#### Big Value Throughout The Summer

For those looking for big action at a lower price point, fear not! A whopping 50 of the 95 live events on offer this summer feature a buy-in of \$1,500 or less.

A notable new addition to the affordable slate of tournaments is the \$300 buy-in *Gladiators of Poker*. The no-limit hold'em tournament has a \$3 million guaranteed prize pool, with four starting flights to choose from June 7-10.

Other new lower-buy-in tournaments include the first-ever \$1,500 buy-in short deck event, which kicks off on July 12, the inaugural stand-alone Badugi bracelet event, which begins June 7, and the debut of the \$1,500 Big O (five-card pot-limit Omaha eight-or-better) bracelet event that gets underway on June 17.

Returning classics for the weekend

warriors include several popular no-limit hold'em events like the \$1,500 buy-in *Monster Stack* (June 16-23), the \$1,500 buy-in *Millionaire Maker* (June 23-28) with its \$1,000,000 guaranteed top payout, and the \$400 buy-in *Colossus* (June 30 - July 3). These contests are among the most popular of the summer, last year drawing a combined 28,027 entries.

While it falls in the middle of the final week of June, the \$600 *DeepStack Championship* (June 28- July 1) is also likely to be popular with tournament grinders looking to battle their way through a big field for the chance at a huge top prize and the gold.

Another new addition is the \$600 *Ultra Stack* that runs from July 11-14. Then, as the series wraps up, the \$1,500 buy-in tournament known as *The Closer* finishes things off July 14-16, with two starting flights to choose from.

For those looking to get in and out quickly without committing several consecutive days to a single event, there are a number of live two-day deep-stacked events at affordable prices.

#### High Rollers Only

There are 27 total live bracelet events that feature a buy-in of five figures or higher during this year's *WSOP*, including 11 events with buy-ins of \$25,000 or more.

There will be a few new high-stakes

tournaments offered at the series, including the \$25,000 six-max no-limit hold'em event (May 30 - June 1), the \$10,000 *Secret Bounty* (June 14-16), and the \$25,000 H.O.R.S.E. (July 10-12).

The highest buy-in tournament on the schedule is a massive \$250,000 no-limit hold'em event (June 16-18), which first debuted in 2021. The event has awarded two massive top prizes, with inaugural champion Adrian Mateos taking home \$3,265,362 for topping a 33-entry field, and Alex Foxen earning \$4,563,700 after outlasting 56 entries in 2022.

The only other six-figure buy-in event planned for this year is the \$100,000 buy-in that will run June 12-14. These two events falling within a few days of each other makes for an unofficial 'super high roller' week at the series.

There are also four \$50,000 events, two no-limit hold'em offerings, a pot-limit Omaha tournament, and of course, the nine-game *Poker Players Championship*, which will feature two-time defending champion Daniel 'Jungleman' Cates going for a three-peat.

Check out the full schedule on pgs. 16-19 for more details on these tournaments and everything else the 2023 *WSOP* has to offer. ♠



# 2023 WORLD SERIES OF POKER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

| Date              | Event #  | Event Description  | Start Time | Total No. of Days | Buy-In   |
|-------------------|----------|--|------------|-------------------|----------|
| Tuesday, May 30   | 1        | \$500 No-Limit Hold'em Casino Employees                    | 10:00 AM   | 2                 | \$500    |
| Tuesday, May 30   | 2        | \$25,000 No-Limit Hold'em Six Max                          | 2:00 PM    | 3                 | \$25,000 |
| Wednesday, May 31 | 3A       | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Mystery Millions Bounty           | 10:00 AM   | 6                 | \$1,000  |
| Wednesday, May 31 | 4        | WSOP Circuit Tournament of Champions Invitational          | 12:00 PM   | 3                 | \$0      |
| Wednesday, May 31 | 5        | \$1,500 Dealers Choice Six Max                             | 2:00 PM    | 3                 | \$1,500  |
| Thursday, June 1  | 3B       | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Mystery Millions Bounty           | 10:00 AM   | 6                 | \$1,000  |
| Thursday, June 1  | 6        | \$5,000 No-Limit Hold'em / Pot-Limit Omaha Eight Max       | 12:00 PM   | 2                 | \$5,000  |
| Thursday, June 1  | 7        | \$1,500 Limit Hold'em Eight Max                            | 2:00 PM    | 3                 | \$1,500  |
| Thursday, June 1  | Online 1 | \$333 No-Limit Hold'em (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                    | 3:30 PM    | 1                 | \$333    |
| Friday, June 2    | 3C       | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Mystery Millions Bounty           | 10:00 AM   | 6                 | \$1,000  |
| Friday, June 2    | 8        | \$25,000 No-Limit Hold'em Heads Up (64 max)                | 12:00 PM   | 3                 | \$25,000 |
| Friday, June 2    | 9        | \$1,500 Seven Card Stud                                    | 2:00 PM    | 3                 | \$1,500  |
| Saturday, June 3  | 3D       | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Mystery Millions Bounty           | 10:00 AM   | 6                 | \$1,000  |
| Saturday, June 3  | 10       | \$10,000 Dealers Choice Six Max                            | 2:00 PM    | 3                 | \$10,000 |
| Sunday, June 4    | 11       | \$600 No-Limit Hold'em Deepstack                           | 10:00 AM   | 2                 | \$600    |
| Sunday, June 4    | 12       | \$5,000 No-Limit Hold'em Freezeout Eight Max               | 2:00 PM    | 3                 | \$5,000  |
| Sunday, June 4    | Online 2 | \$500 No-Limit Hold'em (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                    | 3:30 PM    | 1                 | \$500    |
| Sunday, June 4    | Online 3 | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Deepstack (WSOP.com NV/NJ)        | 4:30 PM    | 1                 | \$1,000  |
| Monday, June 5    | 13       | \$600 Pot-Limit Omaha Deepstack Eight Max                  | 10:00 AM   | 2                 | \$600    |
| Monday, June 5    | 14       | \$10,000 Seven Card Stud                                   | 2:00 PM    | 3                 | \$10,000 |
| Tuesday, June 6   | 15       | \$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em Six Max                           | 10:00 AM   | 3                 | \$1,500  |
| Tuesday, June 6   | 16       | \$25,000 No-Limit Hold'em Eight Max                        | 12:00 PM   | 3                 | \$25,000 |
| Tuesday, June 6   | 17       | \$1,500 Omaha Hi/Lo 8/OB                                   | 2:00 PM    | 3                 | \$1,500  |
| Tuesday, June 6   | Online 4 | \$600 No-Limit Hold'em Ultra Deepstack (WSOP.com NV/NJ)    | 3:30 PM    | 1                 | \$600    |
| Wednesday, June 7 | 18A      | \$300 No-Limit Hold'em Gladiators of Poker \$3 Million GTD | 10:00 AM   | 6                 | \$300    |
| Wednesday, June 7 | 19       | \$2,500 No-Limit Hold'em Freezeout                         | 12:00 PM   | 3                 | \$2,500  |
| Wednesday, June 7 | 20       | \$1,500 Badugi   | 2:00 PM    | 3                 | \$1,500  |
| Thursday, June 8  | 18B      | \$300 No-Limit Hold'em Gladiators of Poker \$3 Million GTD | 10:00 AM   | 6                 | \$300    |
| Thursday, June 8  | 21       | \$1,000 Pot-Limit Omaha Eight Max                          | 12:00 PM   | 3                 | \$1,000  |
| Thursday, June 8  | 22       | \$10,000 Limit Hold'em                                     | 2:00 PM    | 3                 | \$10,000 |

|                    |          |   |          |   |           |
|--------------------|----------|---|----------|---|-----------|
| Friday, June 9     | 18C      | \$300 No-Limit Hold'em Gladiators of Poker \$3 Million GTD              | 10:00 AM | 6 | \$300     |
| Friday, June 9     | 23       | \$50,000 No-Limit Hold'em Eight Max                                     | 12:00 PM | 3 | \$50,000  |
| Friday, June 9     | 24       | \$1,500 Razz  | 2:00 PM  | 3 | \$1,500   |
| Saturday, June 10  | 18D      | \$300 No-Limit Hold'em Gladiators of Poker \$3 Million GTD              | 10:00 AM | 6 | \$300     |
| Saturday, June 10  | 25       | \$10,000 Omaha Hi/Lo 8/OB   | 2:00 PM  | 4 | \$10,000  |
| Sunday, June 11    | 26       | \$800 No-Limit Hold'em Deepstack  | 10:00 AM | 2 | \$800     |
| Sunday, June 11    | 27       | \$1,500 Eight Game Mix Six Max  | 2:00 PM  | 3 | \$1,500   |
| Sunday, June 11    | Online 5 | \$400 No-Limit Hold'em Eight Max (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                       | 3:30 PM  | 1 | \$500     |
| Monday, June 12    | 28       | \$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em Freezeout                                      | 10:00 AM | 3 | \$1,500   |
| Monday, June 12    | 29       | \$100,000 No-Limit Hold'em  | 12:00 PM | 3 | \$100,000 |
| Monday, June 12    | 30       | \$1,500 Limit 2-7 Lowball Triple Draw Six Max                           | 2:00 PM  | 3 | \$1,500   |
| Tuesday, June 13   | 31       | \$600 No-Limit Hold'em / Pot-Limit Omaha Deepstack Eight Max            | 10:00 AM | 2 | \$600     |
| Tuesday, June 13   | 32       | \$3,000 No-Limit Hold'em Six Max  | 12:00 PM | 2 | \$3,000   |
| Tuesday, June 13   | 33       | \$10,000 Razz   | 2:00 PM  | 3 | \$10,000  |
| Wednesday, June 14 | 34       | \$1,500 Pot-Limit Omaha Eight Max                                       | 10:00 AM | 3 | \$1,500   |
| Wednesday, June 14 | 35       | \$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Secret Bounty Eight Max                       | 12:00 PM | 3 | \$10,000  |
| Wednesday, June 14 | 36       | \$3,000 Nine Game Mix Seven Max   | 2:00 PM  | 3 | \$3,000   |
| Thursday, June 15  | 37       | \$2,000 No-Limit Hold'em  | 10:00 AM | 3 | \$2,000   |
| Thursday, June 15  | 38       | \$10,000 Limit 2-7 Lowball Triple Draw Six Max                          | 2:00 PM  | 3 | \$10,000  |
| Friday, June 16    | 39A      | \$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em Monster Stack                                  | 10:00 AM | 5 | \$1,500   |
| Friday, June 16    | 40       | \$250,000 No-Limit Hold'em  | 2:00 PM  | 3 | \$250,000 |
| Saturday, June 17  | 39B      | \$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em Monster Stack                                  | 10:00 AM | 5 | \$1,500   |
| Saturday, June 17  | 41       | \$1,500 Big O   | 2:00 PM  | 3 | \$1,500   |
| Sunday, June 18    | 42       | \$800 No-Limit Hold'em Deepstack Eight Max                              | 10:00 AM | 2 | \$800     |
| Sunday, June 18    | 43       | \$50,000 Poker Players Championship Seven Max                           | 2:00 PM  | 5 | \$50,000  |
| Sunday, June 18    | Online 6 | \$500 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                           | 3:30 PM  | 1 | \$500     |
| Sunday, June 18    | Online 7 | \$500 Pot-Limit Omaha Eight Max (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                        | 4:30 PM  | 1 | \$500     |
| Monday, June 19    | 44       | \$3,000 No-Limit Hold'em  | 10:00 AM | 4 | \$3,000   |
| Monday, June 19    | 45       | \$1,500 Pot-Limit Omaha Hi/Lo 8/OB / Omaha Hi/Lo 8/OB / Big O Seven Max | 2:00 PM  | 3 | \$1,500   |
| Tuesday, June 20   | 46       | \$500 No-Limit Hold'em Freezeout  | 10:00 AM | 2 | \$500     |
| Tuesday, June 20   | 47       | \$1,500 H.O.R.S.E. Eight Max  | 2:00 PM  | 3 | \$1,500   |
| Tuesday, June 20   | Online 8 | \$3,200 No-Limit Hold'em (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                               | 3:30 PM  | 1 | \$3,200   |
| Wednesday, June 21 | 48A      | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Seniors  | 10:00 AM | 6 | \$1,000   |

|                    |           |  |          |    |          |
|--------------------|-----------|--|----------|----|----------|
| Wednesday, June 21 | 49        | \$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em Bounty Super Turbo Freezeout            | 12:00 PM | 1  | \$1,500  |
| Wednesday, June 21 | 50        | \$10,000 Pot-Limit Omaha Eight Max                               | 2:00 PM  | 4  | \$10,000 |
| Thursday, June 22  | 48B       | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Seniors                                 | 10:00 AM | 6  | \$1,000  |
| Thursday, June 22  | 51        | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Tag Team                                | 12:00 PM | 3  | \$1,000  |
| Thursday, June 22  | 52        | \$2,500 Mixed Triple Draw Lowball                                | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$2,500  |
| Thursday, June 22  | Online 9  | \$1,000 Pot-Limit Omaha (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                         | 3:30 PM  | 1  | \$1,000  |
| Friday, June 23    | 53A       | \$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em Millionaire Maker                       | 10:00 AM | 6  | \$1,500  |
| Friday, June 23    | 54        | \$10,000 H.O.R.S.E. Eight Max                                    | 2:00 PM  | 4  | \$10,000 |
| Saturday, June 24  | 53B       | \$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em Millionaire Maker                       | 10:00 AM | 6  | \$1,500  |
| Saturday, June 24  | 55        | \$1,500 Seven Card Stud Hi/Lo 8/OB                               | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$1,500  |
| Sunday, June 25    | 56        | \$500 No-Limit Hold'em Salute to Warriors                        | 10:00 AM | 3  | \$500    |
| Sunday, June 25    | 57        | \$25,000 Pot-Limit Omaha Eight Max                               | 12:00 PM | 4  | \$25,000 |
| Sunday, June 25    | 58        | \$3,000 Limit Hold'em Six Max                                    | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$3,000  |
| Sunday, June 25    | Online 10 | \$400 No-Limit Hold'em Ultra Deepstack (WSOP.com NV/NJ)          | 3:30 PM  | 1  | \$400    |
| Monday, June 26    | 59        | \$3,000 No-Limit Hold'em Freezeout                               | 10:00 AM | 3  | \$3,000  |
| Monday, June 26    | 60        | \$1,500 No-Limit 2-7 Lowball Draw Seven Max                      | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$1,500  |
| Tuesday, June 27   | 61        | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Super Seniors                           | 10:00 AM | 4  | \$1,000  |
| Tuesday, June 27   | 62        | \$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em / Pot-Limit Omaha Eight Max             | 12:00 PM | 3  | \$1,500  |
| Tuesday, June 27   | 63        | \$10,000 Seven Card Stud Hi/Lo 8/OB                              | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$10,000 |
| Tuesday, June 27   | Online 11 | \$888 No-Limit Hold'em (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                          | 4:30 PM  | 1  | \$888    |
| Wednesday, June 28 | 64        | \$600 No-Limit Hold'em Deepstack                                 | 10:00 AM | 4  | \$600    |
| Wednesday, June 28 | 65        | \$5,000 No-Limit Hold'em Six Max                                 | 12:00 PM | 4  | \$5,000  |
| Wednesday, June 28 | 66        | \$1,500 Pot-Limit Omaha Hi/Lo 8/OB Eight Max                     | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$1,500  |
| Thursday, June 29  | 67        | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Ladies                                  | 10:00 AM | 4  | \$1,000  |
| Thursday, June 29  | 68        | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Bounty Super Turbo Freezeout            | 12:00 PM | 1  | \$1,000  |
| Thursday, June 29  | 69        | \$10,000 No-Limit 2-7 Lowball Draw Seven Max                     | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$10,000 |
| Friday, June 30    | 70A       | \$400 No-Limit Hold'em Colossus                                  | 10:00 AM | 4  | \$400    |
| Friday, June 30    | 71        | \$50,000 Pot-Limit Omaha   | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$50,000 |
| Saturday, July 1   | 70B       | \$400 No-Limit Hold'em Colossus                                  | 10:00 AM | 4  | \$400    |
| Saturday, July 1   | 72        | \$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Super Turbo Bounty Freezeout Eight Max | 12:00 PM | 1  | \$10,000 |
| Saturday, July 1   | 73        | \$2,500 Mixed Big Bet Event Six Max                              | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$2,500  |
| Sunday, July 2     | 74        | \$1,000 Mini Main Event No-Limit Hold'em Freezeout               | 10:00 AM | 3  | \$1,000  |
| Sunday, July 2     | 75        | \$10,000 Pot-Limit Omaha Hi/Lo 8/OB Eight Max                    | 2:00 PM  | 4  | \$10,000 |
| Sunday, July 2     | Online 12 | \$500 No-Limit Hold'em Deepstack (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                | 3:30 PM  | 1  | \$500    |
| Monday, July 3     | 76A       | \$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Main Event                             | 12:00 PM | 15 | \$10,000 |

|                    |           |  |          |    |          |
|--------------------|-----------|--|----------|----|----------|
| Monday, July 3     | Online 13 | \$5,300 No-Limit Hold'em *Final 8 play live FT* (WSOP.com NV/NJ) | 3:30 PM  | 2  | \$5,300  |
| Tuesday, July 4    | 76B       | \$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Main Event                             | 12:00 PM | 15 | \$10,000 |
| Wednesday, July 5  | 76C       | \$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Main Event                             | 12:00 PM | 15 | \$10,000 |
| Thursday, July 6   | 76D       | \$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Main Event                             | 12:00 PM | 15 | \$10,000 |
| Thursday, July 6   | Online 14 | \$400 No-Limit Hold'em Turbo (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                    | 3:30 PM  | 1  | \$400    |
| Friday, July 7     | 77A       | \$777 No-Limit Hold'em \$777,777 1st Place GTD                   | 10:00 AM | 5  | \$777    |
| Friday, July 7     | 78        | \$1,500 Pot-Limit Omaha Bounty Eight Max                         | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$1,500  |
| Saturday, July 8   | 77B       | \$777 No-Limit Hold'em \$777,777 1st Place GTD                   | 10:00 AM | 5  | \$777    |
| Saturday, July 8   | Online 15 | \$1,000 Online Championship No-Limit Hold'em (WSOP.com NV/NJ)    | 3:30 PM  | 1  | \$1,000  |
| Sunday, July 9     | 77C       | \$777 No-Limit Hold'em \$777,777 1st Place GTD                   | 10:00 AM | 5  | \$777    |
| Sunday, July 9     | Online 16 | \$600 No-Limit Hold'em Deepstack (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                | 4:30 PM  | 1  | \$600    |
| Monday, July 10    | 79        | \$2,500 No-Limit Hold'em   | 10:00 AM | 3  | \$2,500  |
| Monday, July 10    | 80        | \$25,000 H.O.R.S.E. Eight Max                                    | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$25,000 |
| Tuesday, July 11   | 81A       | \$600 No-Limit Hold'em Ultra Stack                               | 10:00 AM | 4  | \$600    |
| Tuesday, July 11   | 82        | \$3,000 Pot-Limit Omaha Six Max                                  | 2:00 PM  | 4  | \$3,000  |
| Tuesday, July 11   | Online 17 | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Six Max (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                | 3:30 PM  | 1  | \$1,000  |
| Wednesday, July 12 | 81B       | \$600 No-Limit Hold'em Ultra Stack                               | 10:00 AM | 4  | \$600    |
| Wednesday, July 12 | 83        | \$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em Short Deck                              | 12:00 PM | 3  | \$1,500  |
| Wednesday, July 12 | 84        | \$50,000 No-Limit Hold'em  | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$50,000 |
| Thursday, July 13  | 85        | \$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em Shootout (2,000 max)                    | 10:00 AM | 3  | \$1,500  |
| Thursday, July 13  | 86        | \$1,979 No-Limit Hold'em Poker Hall of Fame Bounty               | 12:00 PM | 2  | \$1,979  |
| Thursday, July 13  | 87        | \$2,500 Omaha Hi/Lo 8/OB / Seven Card Stud Hi/Lo 8/OB Eight Max  | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$2,500  |
| Friday, July 14    | 88A       | \$1,500 'The Closer' No-Limit Hold'em                            | 10:00 AM | 3  | \$1,500  |
| Friday, July 14    | 89        | \$1,000 Flip & Go  | 12:00 PM | 2  | \$1,000  |
| Friday, July 14    | 90        | \$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Six Max                                | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$10,000 |
| Saturday, July 15  | 88B       | \$1,500 'The Closer' No-Limit Hold'em                            | 10:00 AM | 3  | \$1,500  |
| Saturday, July 15  | 91        | \$3,000 H.O.R.S.E. Eight Max                                     | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$3,000  |
| Saturday, July 15  | Online 18 | \$2,000 No-Limit Hold'em Freezeout (WSOP.com NV/NJ)              | 3:30 PM  | 1  | \$2,000  |
| Sunday, July 16    | 92        | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Freezeout                               | 10:00 AM | 2  | \$1,000  |
| Sunday, July 16    | 93        | \$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Short Deck                             | 2:00 PM  | 3  | \$10,000 |
| Sunday, July 16    | Online 19 | \$500 No-Limit Hold'em (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                          | 3:30 PM  | 1  | \$500    |
| Sunday, July 16    | Online 20 | \$777 No-Limit Hold'em (WSOP.com NV/NJ)                          | 4:30 PM  | 1  | \$777    |
| Monday, July 17    | 94        | \$5,000 No-Limit Hold'em Eight Max                               | 12:00 PM | 2  | \$5,000  |
| Tuesday, July 18   | 95        | \$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em Super Turbo                             | 10:00 AM | 1  | \$1,000  |

# WILL THE 2023 MAIN EVENT BE THE LARGEST EVER?

While there are more events than ever, the centerpiece of the *WSOP* will always be the \$10,000 buy-in no-limit hold'em main event.

And this year's world championship, which runs from July 3-17, is shaping up to be particularly noteworthy as organizers are putting a special emphasis on setting a new turnout record.

"If the main event is on your bucket list, this is the year to get to Vegas," said *WSOP* Executive Director Ty Stewart.

The push for a record field is already off to a strong start as there are set to be at least 600 seats awarded to players by *WSOP* online partner GGPoker. Another 112 guaranteed seats will be awarded on *WSOP.com* from June 25 to July 8, with 10 guaranteed seats per day.

If the record is broken, a drawing will be held for all players that will award one lucky participant a main event buy-in for the next 30 years. This 'main event for life' drawing is scheduled for Saturday, July 8.

There are four starting flights to choose from for this year's main event, each beginning at noon on July 3-6. The tournament will feature 120-minute levels and 60,000 in starting chips, or 300 big blinds to start.

The official final table of nine will be set on July 14. The remaining nine will then have one day off before resuming



play on July 16, with the plan being to narrow the field from nine to four, crowning a champion on July 17.

In 2022, it was online streamer Espen Jorstad who topped the second-largest field in *WSOP* main event history for the top prize of \$10 million. Jorstad, who had won his first bracelet earlier in the series in the \$1,000 tag team event alongside Patrick Leonard, beat out 8,662 other players to become the first player from Norway to win the main event.

"It means a lot, it's the biggest tournament in the world," Jorstad said after closing out the win.

| Year | Champion                | Entries | Prize Pool  | Payout      |
|------|-------------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| 1970 | Johnny Moss             | 7       | N/A         | N/A         |
| 1971 | Johnny Moss             | 6       | \$30,000    | \$30,000    |
| 1972 | "Amarillo Slim" Preston | 8       | \$80,000    | \$80,000    |
| 1973 | Walter "Puggy" Pearson  | 13      | \$130,000   | \$130,000   |
| 1974 | Johnny Moss             | 16      | \$160,000   | \$160,000   |
| 1975 | Bryan "Sailor" Roberts  | 21      | \$210,000   | \$210,000   |
| 1976 | Doyle Brunson           | 22      | \$220,000   | \$220,000   |
| 1977 | Doyle Brunson           | 34      | \$340,000   | \$340,000   |
| 1978 | Bobby Baldwin           | 42      | \$420,000   | \$210,000   |
| 1979 | Hal Fowler              | 54      | \$540,000   | \$270,000   |
| 1980 | Stu Ungar               | 73      | \$730,000   | \$385,000   |
| 1981 | Stu Ungar               | 75      | \$750,000   | \$375,000   |
| 1982 | Jack Straus             | 104     | \$1,040,000 | \$520,000   |
| 1983 | Tom McEvoy              | 108     | \$1,080,000 | \$540,000   |
| 1984 | Jack Keller             | 132     | \$1,320,000 | \$660,000   |
| 1985 | Bill Smith              | 140     | \$1,400,000 | \$700,000   |
| 1986 | Berry Johnston          | 141     | \$1,410,000 | \$570,000   |
| 1987 | Johnny Chan             | 152     | \$1,520,000 | \$625,000   |
| 1988 | Johnny Chan             | 167     | \$1,670,000 | \$700,000   |
| 1989 | Phil Hellmuth           | 178     | \$1,780,000 | \$755,000   |
| 1990 | Mansour Matloubi        | 194     | \$1,940,000 | \$895,000   |
| 1991 | Brad Daugherty          | 215     | \$2,150,000 | \$1,000,000 |
| 1992 | Hamid Dastmalchi        | 201     | \$2,010,000 | \$1,000,000 |
| 1993 | Jim Bechtel             | 231     | \$2,308,000 | \$1,000,000 |
| 1994 | Russ Hamilton           | 268     | \$2,680,000 | \$1,000,000 |
| 1995 | Dan Harrington          | 273     | \$2,730,000 | \$1,000,000 |

|      |                  |       |              |              |
|------|------------------|-------|--------------|--------------|
| 1996 | Huck Seed        | 295   | \$2,950,000  | \$1,000,000  |
| 1997 | Stu Ungar        | 312   | \$3,120,000  | \$1,000,000  |
| 1998 | Scotty Nguyen    | 350   | \$3,500,000  | \$1,000,000  |
| 1999 | Noel Furlong     | 393   | \$3,930,000  | \$1,000,000  |
| 2000 | Chris Ferguson   | 512   | \$5,120,000  | \$1,500,000  |
| 2001 | Carlos Mortensen | 613   | \$6,130,000  | \$1,500,000  |
| 2002 | Robert Varkonyi  | 631   | \$6,310,000  | \$2,000,000  |
| 2003 | Chris MoneyMaker | 839   | \$7,802,700  | \$2,500,000  |
| 2004 | Greg Raymer      | 2,576 | \$24,224,400 | \$5,000,000  |
| 2005 | Joe Hachem       | 5,619 | \$52,818,610 | \$7,500,000  |
| 2006 | Jamie Gold       | 8,773 | \$82,512,162 | \$12,000,000 |
| 2007 | Jerry Yang       | 6,358 | \$59,784,954 | \$8,250,000  |
| 2008 | Peter Eastgate   | 6,844 | \$64,333,600 | \$9,152,416  |
| 2009 | Joe Cada         | 6,494 | \$61,043,600 | \$8,547,042  |
| 2010 | Jonathan Duhamel | 7,319 | \$68,798,600 | \$8,944,310  |
| 2011 | Pius Heinz       | 6,865 | \$64,531,000 | \$8,715,638  |
| 2012 | Greg Merson      | 6,598 | \$62,021,200 | \$8,531,853  |
| 2013 | Ryan Riess       | 6,352 | \$59,708,800 | \$8,361,570  |
| 2014 | Martin Jacobson  | 6,683 | \$62,820,200 | \$10,000,000 |
| 2015 | Joe McKeehen     | 6,420 | \$60,348,000 | \$7,683,346  |
| 2016 | Qui Nguyen       | 6,737 | \$63,327,800 | \$8,005,310  |
| 2017 | Scott Blumstein  | 7,221 | \$67,877,400 | \$8,150,000  |
| 2018 | John Cynn        | 7,874 | \$74,015,600 | \$8,800,000  |
| 2019 | Hossein Ensan    | 8,569 | \$80,548,600 | \$10,000,000 |
| 2020 | Damian Salas     | 1,379 | \$14,238,400 | \$2,550,969  |
| 2021 | Koray Aldemir    | 6,650 | \$62,011,250 | \$8,000,000  |
| 2022 | Espen Jorstad    | 8,663 | \$80,782,475 | \$10,000,000 |



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# WSOP STATISTICS AND RECORD HOLDERS

Here is a look at where things stand in the key *WSOP* statistical categories entering the 54th annual series. Only one player, Phil Hellmuth, is among the top five in all three categories. The Poker Brat holds the record for the most bracelets with 16, and is also ranked third in cashes (187) and fourth in earnings (\$16.8 million). Daniel Negreanu has the impressive one-two punch of being the all-time leader in *WSOP* cashes (217) and the second-highest earner in history with \$20.7 million.

| Player           | Bracelets |
|------------------|-----------|
| Phil Hellmuth    | 16        |
| Phil Ivey        | 10        |
| Johnny Chan      | 10        |
| Doyle Brunson    | 10        |
| Erik Seidel      | 9         |
| Johnny Moss      | 9         |
| Men Nguyen       | 7         |
| Billy Baxter     | 7         |
| Daniel Negreanu  | 6         |
| Chris Ferguson   | 6         |
| John Hennigan    | 6         |
| TJ Cloutier      | 6         |
| Jeff Lisandro    | 6         |
| Brian Hastings   | 6         |
| Layne Flack      | 6         |
| Ted Forrest      | 6         |
| Jay Heimowitz    | 6         |
| Michael Mizrachi | 5         |
| Shaun Deeb       | 5         |
| Allen Cunningham | 5         |
| Brian Rast       | 5         |
| Jeremy Ausmus    | 5         |
| Scotty Nguyen    | 5         |
| John Juanda      | 5         |
| Jason Mercier    | 5         |
| Daniel Alaei     | 5         |
| David Chiu       | 5         |
| Eli Elezra       | 5         |
| Adam Friedman    | 5         |
| Berry Johnston   | 5         |
| Stu Ungar        | 5         |
| Gary Berland     | 5         |



| Player             | Earnings     |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Antonio Esfandiari | \$21,917,460 |
| Daniel Negreanu    | \$20,732,100 |
| Dan Colman         | \$17,413,780 |
| Phil Hellmuth      | \$16,753,010 |
| Justin Bonomo      | \$14,937,400 |
| Jonathan Duhamel   | \$14,644,200 |
| Joe Cada           | \$13,727,150 |
| Fedor Holz         | \$13,373,430 |
| Elton Tsang        | \$12,388,310 |
| Martin Jacobson    | \$12,260,470 |
| Koray Aldemir      | \$12,218,720 |
| Jamie Gold         | \$12,198,920 |
| Sam Trickett       | \$11,755,580 |
| Dario Sammartino   | \$11,358,630 |
| Joe McKeehen       | \$11,013,770 |
| Dan Smith          | \$10,976,230 |
| Espen Jorstad      | \$10,873,390 |
| Ryan Riess         | \$10,589,840 |
| Greg Merson        | \$10,319,020 |
| Hossein Ensan      | \$10,314,660 |

| Player               | Cashes |
|----------------------|--------|
| Daniel Negreanu      | 217    |
| Roland Israelashvili | 201    |
| Phil Hellmuth        | 187    |
| Chris Ferguson       | 161    |
| Yueqi Zhu            | 160    |
| Ben Yu               | 154    |
| Arkadiy Tsinis       | 142    |
| Erik Seidel          | 138    |
| Shaun Deeb           | 137    |
| Jeff Madsen          | 132    |
| Barry Greenstein     | 127    |
| Shannon Shorr        | 121    |
| Mike Leah            | 120    |
| Ryan Riess           | 116    |
| Ryan Laplante        | 115    |
| Eric Baldwin         | 112    |
| Max Pescatori        | 107    |
| Men Nguyen           | 107    |
| Chris Moorman        | 106    |
| Matt Stout           | 106    |

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# TEAM POKER? WOMEN TURN UP FROM ALL OVER UNITED STATES FOR NEVADA TOURNAMENT SERIES

Ladies International Poker Series (LIPS) A Huge Success In Las Vegas

By Allyn Shulman



No Muck Grey Ducks

The *Ladies International Poker Series*, otherwise known as *LIPS*, has had a mission to create venues for women to learn and excel in the game of poker through education, tournament play, and social event opportunities since 2004, when it was founded by Lupe Soto.

Throughout the years, *LIPS* has surged to the forefront of the women's poker movement. Not only is *LIPS* a place to learn and grow as a female poker player, but it has also become a place where friendships have flourished and where ladies from near and far look forward to seeing one another and lauding each other's successes.

Poker can be highly competitive, but we have to remember that it's also fun.

I had the pleasure of recently attending the *Nevada State Ladies Poker Championship Festival*, which ran from April 19-23 at the South Point Hotel & Casino, and I have to say that it might have been the most fun I have ever had playing poker.

The series brought more than 350 eager women from as



far away as North Carolina, Florida, Wyoming, Utah, Arizona, Georgia, Minnesota, Washington, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Canada, and of course Nevada. There was a Pajama Jam Party where the ladies actually showed up in jammies, and a Poker Queen Roundup where crowns or tiaras were a must. There was also a mini main, a main event, a bounty tournament (I got four bounties, yip-pee!), an Omaha tournament, and a bunch of other fun and informative gatherings.

Although the championship event was the headliner, the standout event of the weekend was a creative dive into something relatively new, the *US Ladies Team Tournament*. For months, ladies chose their teams and meticulously planned imaginative names and costumes.

Unfortunately for Minnesota's Molly Mossey, a former poker reporter and captain of the 'No Muck Grey Ducks,' she was unable to make it as her flight was canceled. "Missing this event has been the biggest disappointment of my year," Mossey said.



Her misfortune turned into an opportunity for me, as I hadn't joined a team and took the alternate spot, joining Kelli Bernard, Shawn Brothers, Sherry Hammers, and Jordan Handrich. They were even nice enough to gift me a team shirt!

As it turns out, most of the team names had backstories. For Molly's team, 'No Muck Grey Ducks,' I was schooled in Minnesotan culture. Instead of saying, "duck, duck, goose" when playing the children's game, Minnesotans say "duck, duck, grey duck."

Furthermore, I'm told the game originated in Scandinavia and was called "anka, anka, grättanka," which translates to "duck, duck, grey duck." So, I guess the Minnesotans have been doing it right all along!

As I walked around the venue prior to the start of the team tournament, I had to laugh seeing my busty pals Jeannie David and Karina Jett, each proudly sporting jerseys that said 'Double D's' with their names emblazoned on the back. Their teammates, Tatiana Fox, Amanda Wheeler, and Rebecca Scales all fit the bill as well!

Then there were the 'Southern Poker Pistols,' all in purple, pointing little squirt guns. JJ Liu was in that group, donning her purple shirt with a gold belt, one of her signature fascinators (a fancy hat), and a purple bejeweled jacket that was to die for. Dare I say her outfit was fit for the Oscars?

The 'Shake and Bake' ladies were looking hot, adorned in hot pink sweatshirts. When they turned around, the back said, "California Shakers and Idaho Bakers."

The 'Over The Hump, Not Over The Hill' ladies had beautiful black and sparkly silver zip-up sweaters with their names on the front and a map of nearby Pahrump in back.

The 'Spirit Crushers' had an innovative sign with each woman's name and how long she has been crushing. The 'Texas Tornadoes' wore purple cowboy hats with tiaras, heart-shaped purple sunglasses, and jean jackets with red lips

and their names.

The 'Knighly Knight Bitches' were dressed in impressive full Las Vegas Golden Knights gear from head to toe. One woman even had a black eye, as if she had been involved in a hockey fight! I kept looking at her until Lupe confirmed it was Louise Francouer sporting a big fake black eye.

The 'Heartland Queens' were from all over. Patty from Wyoming, Dottie from Texas, Janine from Minnesota, Diana from New Mexico, and Julie from California, all in red, including cowboy hats with crowns.

The 'Sun City Aces' are ladies who now all live in Vegas. Team member Catherine Alford explained, "I recently relocated to Vegas full-time and I'm living the dream. Lupe put our team together confirming five of us would be representing Nevada. My teammates, Nicole Schwartz, Alice Popp, Nora Tolins, and Yolanda Nance, got to know one other on Facebook. It was like a big overdue reunion seeing girlfriends, catching up and playing poker together again. I call them PFF's - poker friends forever. Women supporting women in poker... it's a real sisterhood!"

One of the classiest outfits was worn by "The Stackers," who got their team outfits sponsored by Southern Poker who made spectacular blue and white hoodie jackets with chips on the front and their last names on the back. "The Stackers" finished second in the team tournament, which was no surprise since their team members included two-time defending Nevada State Ladies Champion Ruth Hall, last year's mini main winner Lisa Taylor, consistent cashers Bonnie Weitzel and Kristen Deardorff, and 2021 *MSPT* Player of the Year Kyna England, who has almost \$1 million in tournament earnings.

I've been watching Lisa Taylor since last year when she moved to Vegas. Besides being a nice woman, she is a rising star with huge potential and a great future in poker. Unfortunately for her, she lost most of her stack on a bad beat

# TOURNAMENTS



The Stackers



Portland Punters



LADIES INTERNATIONAL POKER SERIES  
Knighty Knight Bitches



Heartland Queens



Las Vegas Divas



Double D's



to Poker Hall of Famer Linda Johnson.

“During the tournament I asked Linda how to play aces, slow or fast? Her response was, ‘always fast.’ Five mins later, what did I do? I limped with aces from under-the-gun and Linda jammed from the button with A-K. She ended up hitting a gutshot for her straight on the river, doubling up and denting my stack. But I can’t wait until next year! It is a great warm up to the *WSOP* plus [you get to] make friends for life along the way!”

‘Tits on Tilt’ wore black shirts with an embossed queen of hearts caricature who sported red sunglasses, and a low-cut red top holding aces. Another inventive team, ‘Washington Wild Cards,’ had sunglasses where each lens gave the middle finger.

I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the ‘Las Vegas Divas’ made up of Linda Johnson, Jan Fisher, Espy Enriquez, Ruthie Primiano, and Holly Jones. Jan and Linda have been my beloved girlfriends for over 30 years, and I honestly did not recognize them. With full on colorful wigs, purple winged sunglasses, and purple feather boas, they were a favorite.

There were so many great teams and not enough space to talk about them all. It’s a shame as the effort, camaraderie, ingenuity and joy in the room was exceptional from everyone. There were 55 teams, each with five players for a total of 275.

The concept was simple, with two competitions in one tournament. The prize pool was split, with half allotted to the top individual finisher, and half for team results. Scoring didn’t begin until we reached the final 100 players. At that point, each eliminated player was given a score based on their finish.

The last woman standing was Julie Lang, from Port Orange, Florida, a proud grandma and business owner.

Lang told me that it was a very tough final table. She stayed patient for hours and “finally, it happened... that moment when you can do no wrong.”

Whatever she did, it worked. She was heads up for a long time with top pro Angela Jordison before ultimately coming away with the win.

## Final Table Results

|    |                                    |         |
|----|------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | Julie Lang (Royal Crappers)        | \$5,493 |
| 2. | Angela Jordison (Portland Punters) | \$3,850 |
| 3. | Donna Houle (The 420’s)            | \$2,599 |
| 4. | Jen Bernard (Portland Punters)     | \$2,090 |
| 5. | J.J. Liu (Southern Poker Pistols)  | \$1,705 |
| 6. | Kristen Deardorff (The Stackers)   | \$1,375 |
| 7. | Linda Johnson (Vegas Divas)        | \$1,073 |
| 8. | Gigi Santiago (Diamond Dolls)      | \$866   |
| 9. | Patty Pfeil (East Meets West)      | \$688   |

When all was said and done, the Portland Punters took home the team title thanks to the runner-up from Angela Jordison and the fourth-place finish from Jen Bernard.

## Team Results

|     |                        |
|-----|------------------------|
| 1.  | Portland Punters       |
| 2.  | The Stackers           |
| 3.  | Royal Crappers         |
| 4.  | The 420’s              |
| 5.  | East Meets West        |
| 6.  | Diamond Dolls          |
| 7.  | Ladies Choice          |
| 8.  | Southern Poker Pistols |
| 9.  | Pahrump Divas          |
| 10. | Vegas Divas            |

But that wasn’t all the poker to be played! The Poker Queen Roundup required the wearing of a tiara or crown. Terry King, a recent Women in Poker Hall of Fame inductee, brought a bunch of extra rhinestone tiaras and generously handed them out.



Joan Short, Tammy Ehrhart, Evangeline Ayed

The tournament's champion, Yolanda Navarrete, was "totally excited about winning." She said that Ruth Hall has mentored her and although she admitted she doesn't take direction easily, she has learned a lot and was happy to see things come together.

Navarrete not only won this event, but she also made the final table in the mini main and the PJ Jam. If that wasn't enough, her hubby suggested she play in the poker room's deep stack tournament, which she also final tabled!

The Pajama Jam tournament attracted 69 players and Nooria Miskell from Seattle, Washington took it down.

Linda Johnson and Jan Fisher, always generous with their time, hosted a question-and-answer session promising a dessert giveaway for every question asked. Linda is a bit famous for her homemade peanut butter cups (to say nothing of her lasagna and a zillion other fabulous dishes), so hands quickly shot into the air.

The mini main, a \$200 buy-in with 20-minute levels, attracted 208 ladies. Marsha Adams walked away with the victory, chopping heads-up with 2008 *WSOP* ladies event champion Svetlana Gromenkova.

Marsha is a self-made real estate broker and investor, and as she put it, "competitive by nature." In 2005, her sons asked her how to play hold'em. She asked a friend who was hosting a small tournament that weekend and ended up winning it.

"There was no turning back," Adams said. "After raising my boys and winning three *WSOP Circuit* rings, I decided to go out on the road and play ladies events."

"My best friend, who had the tournament that I won in 2005, was my Matron of Honor back in 1987 when I got married," Adams continued. "She died in 2007 from colon cancer at the age of 42, so I started downsizing my

life and living each day to the fullest. Losing Missy and the special emotional connection that we had was devastating, but traveling and playing poker and making new friends has enhanced my life so much. The poker community is a wonderful family and special friendships are created each day. We are not promised tomorrow, we have to live today and try to touch the lives of others in a positive way!"

## Mini Main Results

|    |                     |         |
|----|---------------------|---------|
| 1. | Marsha Adams        | \$5,809 |
| 2. | Svetlana Gromenkova | \$5,809 |
| 3. | Lafaya Mitchell     | \$3,328 |
| 4. | Marites Haines      | \$2,529 |
| 5. | Bridgette Adkins    | \$1,964 |
| 6. | Erin Giddens        | \$1,531 |
| 7. | Melinda Hipp        | \$1,165 |
| 8. | Annette Wisniewski  | \$915   |
| 9. | Yolanda Navarrete   | \$732   |

The *Nevada State Ladies Championship* main event was a \$360 three-day \$35,000 guaranteed event with two starting days that drew 331 entrants. In the end, credit for the win went to Tammy Ehrhart, who chopped three-handed along with Joan Short and Evangeline Ayed for a \$14,134 payout.

Ehrhart is from Florida and told me she came to town with her fiancé. Although she dealt poker for 16 years, she didn't start playing tournaments until last June where she played four tournaments and cashed in three of them. She was thrilled with the win!



Lupe Soto and JJ Liu

**Main Event Results**

|    |                   |          |
|----|-------------------|----------|
| 1. | Tammy Ehrhart     | \$14,134 |
| 2. | Joan Short        | \$14,134 |
| 3. | Evangeline Ayed   | \$14,134 |
| 4. | Wendy Wolf        | \$7,572  |
| 5. | Christina Cosares | \$6,057  |
| 6. | April Facey       | \$5,048  |
| 7. | Deborah Blair     | \$4,038  |
| 8. | Camille Kearl     | \$3,029  |
| 9. | Debbie Espe       | \$2,221  |

I asked Lupe about the committee who helped her plan the five days of tournaments, pictures, backdrops, banners, parties, food, balloons, commemorative chips, giveaways, the inaugural Team Tournament, and more. But then I found out this nutty, amazing friend of mine planned it all herself!

Whaaaaaaat!?!? For one human being to plan the five days of detailed events that I witnessed is truly a feat worthy of unfettered respect.

“The NVSLCP is the best LIPS series for camaraderie,” said two-time defending Nevada State Ladies champion Ruth Hall. “It brings together poker friends from afar. Making new friends and seeing old friends for a hug or a meal is what I enjoyed the most.”

“This was the 13th year of the Nevada State Ladies Poker Championship Festival,” said Lupe Soto. “It has flourished the last three years with the partnership of Poker Director Jason Sanborn and the team at South Point Poker Room.”

“The NVSLPC is always a favorite on the women’s poker circuit, but with the added US Ladies Team Poker Championship, it pushed it to new heights,” Soto continued. “Women traveled from everywhere. Not only was the poker excellent, but these women went all out in the spirit of fun, friendship, and competition. I can’t wait to see where it goes from here!”

Next year will be the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the LIPS tour, and I’m confident that whatever Lupe decides to do will be exhilarating for all the ladies who come out and participate. ♠



Ruth Hall



Allyn Jaffrey Shulman is a 40-year veteran criminal defense attorney. As a constitutional law expert, she testified before the North Dakota Senate regarding online gaming. The Card Player Poker Tour Venetian main event champion has more than \$1.6 million in career tournament earnings, including a World Series of Poker bracelet after topping a massive field of 4,128 in the senior’s championship. The former Poker Player Alliance board member was inducted into the Women in Poker Hall of Fame in 2014. Shulman is currently writing a book about her experience as a woman in a man’s world. You can find her on Twitter @ajaffrey.

# 2023 Card Player Player of the Year

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| Place | Player                   | Points | Titles | Final Tables | POY Earnings |
|-------|--------------------------|--------|--------|--------------|--------------|
| 1     | Nacho Barbero            | 5,235  | 2      | 9            | \$3,290,540  |
| 2     | Ren Lin                  | 4,309  | 2      | 11           | \$2,155,463  |
| 3     | Alex Foxen               | 4,097  | 2      | 11           | \$1,411,043  |
| 4     | Isaac Haxton             | 3,752  | 4      | 10           | \$5,082,540  |
| 5     | Aliaksandr Shylko        | 3,630  | 1      | 2            | \$3,164,088  |
| 6     | Chris Brewer             | 2,987  | 2      | 9            | \$2,520,669  |
| 7     | Bin Weng                 | 2,916  | 2      | 4            | \$1,237,945  |
| 8     | Max Menzel               | 2,800  | 0      | 1            | \$2,859,990  |
| 9     | Seth Davies              | 2,783  | 0      | 9            | \$2,448,373  |
| 10    | Artur Martirosian        | 2,510  | 0      | 5            | \$2,406,079  |
| 11    | Orpen Kisacikoglu        | 2,490  | 2      | 7            | \$3,488,763  |
| 12    | Jeremy Ausmus            | 2,427  | 1      | 10           | \$1,070,772  |
| 13    | Fabrice Bigot            | 2,400  | 1      | 2            | \$767,750    |
| 14    | Adrian Mateos            | 2,340  | 0      | 7            | \$3,106,739  |
| 15    | Marius Gierse            | 2,309  | 1      | 5            | \$817,634    |
| 16    | Michel Dattani           | 2,280  | 1      | 1            | \$1,316,963  |
| 17    | Philipe Pizzari          | 2,240  | 0      | 1            | \$2,524,871  |
| 18    | Roman Hrabec             | 2,175  | 0      | 6            | \$1,162,952  |
| 18    | Justin Saliba            | 2,175  | 1      | 5            | \$1,020,417  |
| 20    | Razvan Belea             | 2,160  | 1      | 1            | \$1,251,900  |
| 21    | Nick Petrangelo          | 2,133  | 0      | 7            | \$2,378,391  |
| 22    | Preston McEwen           | 2,107  | 2      | 7            | \$397,462    |
| 23    | Joseph Cheong            | 2,092  | 1      | 5            | \$438,742    |
| 23    | Lautaro Guerra Cabrerizo | 2,092  | 3      | 4            | \$975,603    |
| 25    | Stephen Chidwick         | 2,066  | 2      | 5            | \$2,408,132  |
| 26    | Joey Weissman            | 2,030  | 2      | 3            | \$695,274    |
| 27    | Sam Soverel              | 2,007  | 1      | 8            | \$871,845    |
| 28    | Kiat Lee                 | 1,988  | 0      | 4            | \$1,934,932  |
| 29    | Kayhan Mokri             | 1,980  | 0      | 4            | \$556,757    |
| 30    | Daisuke Ogita            | 1,944  | 2      | 4            | \$559,407    |



## THE BEST WITHOUT A BRACELET (BY EARNINGS)

| Rank | Player              | Earnings     |
|------|---------------------|--------------|
| 1    | Isaac Haxton        | \$36,973,165 |
| 2    | Cary Katz           | \$36,624,492 |
| 3    | Steve O'Dwyer       | \$35,998,482 |
| 4    | Christoph Vogelsang | \$28,076,189 |
| 5    | Sean Winter         | \$23,821,220 |
| 6    | Rainer Kempe        | \$22,111,491 |
| 7    | Aaron Zang          | \$21,896,250 |
| 8    | Sam Trickett        | \$21,808,828 |
| 9    | Seth Davies         | \$20,524,340 |
| 10   | Ali Imsirovic       | \$19,227,767 |

The race for the bracelets is about to begin, so it only makes sense that we take stock of the most successful tournament players on the circuit who have yet to capture a title at the *World Series of Poker*. With Dan Smith's win in the 2022 *WSOP* \$25,000 heads-up championship, there are no longer any bracelet-less players inside the top 10 on poker's all-time money list.

As a result of Smith's victory, **Isaac Haxton** now sits atop the list of the highest-earning players without the gold. Haxton comes into the 2023 series as arguably the hottest high-stakes tournament player in the world, having already made ten final tables and won four titles this year, cashing for nearly \$5.1 million across those scores.

The 37-year-old poker pro now has nearly \$37 million in lifetime cashes, including seven separate seven-figure scores. His largest ever cash came when he took down the *Super High Roller Bowl V* for \$3.7 million back in 2018. His top score at the *WSOP* saw him finish second in the 2009

\$40,000 buy-in 40th-anniversary event for \$1,168,566.

**Cary Katz** comes in second on this list. The 53-year-old businessman and founder of PokerGO has accumulated more than \$36.6 million in lifetime earnings, with more than \$5.4 million of that coming from *WSOP* events. Katz has finished as the runner-up in two bracelet events: the \$5,000 pot-limit hold'em in 2013 and a \$1,500 no-limit hold'em in 2017. Katz has 28 career titles, including a win in the 2019 *Super High Roller Bowl London* for more than \$2.5 million.

The highest-ranked player on the money list with the lowest earnings at the *WSOP* is **Steve O'Dwyer**. The American-born resident of Ireland has nearly \$36 million in lifetime cashes, with just under \$700,000 of that coming from scores recorded in bracelet events. The 41-year-old poker pro's most recent cash in a stateside bracelet event came back in 2013, however. Although he does have two in-the-money finishes at the *WSOP Europe* since then, O'Dwyer is a long shot to attend the series in Las Vegas. ♠

# REWIND: DAN HARRINGTON'S GUTSY SQUEEZE PLAY AT THE 2004 MAIN EVENT FINAL TABLE

By Greg Raymer



In 2019, I published *FossilMan's Winning Tournament Strategies*, a 42-chapter book covering all of the basic concepts behind being a winning tournament player, as well as many of the more advanced strategies.

For my next book, I will go through several dozen notable hands I have played over my career and break down each decision along the way. Although not yet finished, I thought it would be fun to provide excerpts of some of those hands here for *Card Player* readers.

**In this hand, we take a look back nearly two decades ago to the 2004 WSOP main event final table. We are seven-handed, with the blinds now at 40,000-80,000 with a 10,000 ante. (Remember the days before the big blind ante?)**

**Josh Arieh is under-the-gun with K♥ 9♠ and raises to 225,000. Al Krux folds, and I call with A♠ 2♣. Matt Dean folds, and then Dan Harrington, on the button holding just 6♥ 2♦, goes all-in for 1,200,000. The blinds, Josh, and I all fold.**

With the benefit of a 2023 perspective, Josh probably should not be raising UTG with K-9 offsuit, even in a seven-handed game. Folding would be the better choice. Your long-term average number of hands to play in a seven-handed game is about 25%. Of course, that is a long-term average, and ignores factors such as your stack size relative to the blinds or table, and a multitude of other factors.

Even if you were correct to play 30% or more of your hands, on average, you are playing a lot less than this from UTG. You want to play more hands in late positions, and you end up playing more hands when in the blinds, especially the big blind, since you are already partially invested.

Even if Josh believes he can play more hands than GTO strategy would indicate, he still needs to be tighter than this in early position. If you are playing 25% of your hands in total, you are probably only going to be playing about 10% of the hands you are dealt UTG. K-9 offsuit is barely in the

top 23% of all hands, which makes this a clear fold.

My call with A-2 suited was also a mistake, and I should have folded. This hand doesn't rank any better than K-9 offsuit, though it does play better, since it can at least make the nut flush. It is harder for K-9 offsuit to make a hand where it is happy to get all-in.

Although I am in later position than Josh, and have the chip lead, the pot has been raised. I am putting myself in harm's way here since I will often lose extra chips when the board comes ace high. I can't just automatically fold when I flop top pair, that would be too tight. However, when I do flop top pair, I am either going to lose, get very lucky to catch two pair and beat a better ace, or I am picking off a bluff.

It is so rare that I flop two pair or a flush that much of the value of this hand is my ability to use it to bluff out better hands that aren't too strong. Even as the big stack, I was wrong to play the hand.

Now that we're done with the obvious stuff, let's get to the really interesting part of this hand, which is the raise by Poker Hall of Famer and two-time bracelet winner Dan Harrington.

He only has 6-2 offsuit. Certainly, folding would be the normal and correct decision for him to make. Given that, why would Dan choose to raise all-in, and risk being eliminated from the biggest tournament of the year?

Dan had found himself the perfect spot to execute the squeeze play.

The squeeze play happens when a player raises, another player(s) calls, and then the squeezer reraises with a hand they do not believe to be the best hand. Or, at least, they do not believe it will be the best hand if they get called. What distinguishes this play from a typical light three-bet is the presence of the caller in-between.

You will likely be presented with squeeze opportunities reasonably often. How do you know when it is a good time to go for it, and when you should abstain?

The most important factor is the likelihood that both (or all) players will fold. There must be some reasonable basis for you to believe this will happen. If the player who made the first raise is very tight, then they are more likely to have a premium hand, and therefore presumably less likely to fold. If the first raiser is loose and very sticky, then even though they might have raised with a marginal hand, they are going to be more likely to call as well. Similarly, if the caller(s) is very sticky and/or very tight, then they are not as likely to fold for the same reasons.

What you want to look for is a first raise by a player who has a very wide range. They are smart and aware enough to know you will usually have a strong hand. And they are also



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aware that the player in-between might also have a strong hand.

The pressure from you, and the added threat of the caller(s), is enough to pressure them into folding unless they have a premium hand.

You also need the in-between caller(s) to be somebody who is unlikely to have a premium hand. If any of these players is a calling station, do NOT try the squeeze play.

Here, Dan had a perfect storm for the squeeze play, recognized it, and wasn't afraid to pull it off, even with his tournament life on the line at the televised final table of the main event.

He knew Josh's range was extremely wide, even from under-the-gun. He knew I likely would have three-bet with a premium hand. And he knew Josh and I were very likely to fold without a monster.

But don't forget your image!

What really made this play work was Dan's super-tight image. I am sure Dan surprised a lot of people with this play when they watched it later on TV.

Have fun, play smart, and look for those squeeze opportunities! ♠



Greg Raymer is the 2004 WSOP world champion, winner of numerous major titles, and has more than \$7 million in earnings. He is the author of "FossilMan's Winning Tournament Strategies," available from D&B Publishing, Amazon, and other retailers. He is sponsored by Blue Shark Optics,

YouStake, and ShareMyPair. To contact Greg please tweet at him using @FossilMan or go to [www.FossilManPoker.com](http://www.FossilManPoker.com).

# TOURNAMENT HAND MATCHUP

2022 World Series of Poker  
\$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Main Event



Jeffrey Farnes  
28,150,000

Winning Percentage  
Before Flop: 71%  
After Flop: 98%  
After Turn: 98%



David Diaz  
27,800,000

Winning Percentage  
Before Flop: 28%  
After Flop: 2%  
After Turn: 2%



## PREFLOP

With 14 players remaining, a seven-handed table, and blinds of 400,000-800,000 with a big blind ante of 800,000, Jeffrey Farnes raised to 2,300,000 from the lojack. David Diaz called from the small blind.



Diaz checked, and Farnes bet 2,700,000. Diaz called.



Diaz bet 4,000,000, and Farnes called.



Diaz bet 7,000,000. Farnes moved all-in for 19,150,000, and Diaz folded.

## COMMENTARY:

In this issue's hand matchups, we are taking a look back at some of our favorites from recent editions of the WSOP main event. One of the most talked about hands from last year's world championship saw bracelet winner David Diaz correctly bet-fold queens full of twos on a double-paired board just a few knockouts away from the final table. Action kicked off with Jeffrey Farnes raising from the lojack with pocket kings. Diaz just called from the small blind with A-Q. Farnes flopped top set of kings with two diamonds on board. Diaz, who had hit middle pair with an ace kicker, check-called a bet of 2,700,000 and the turn brought another queen. Diaz led out for 4,000,000 into the pot of 11,600,000 with his turned trips. Farnes just called with his newly-found full house, not wanting to shut out any bluffs from Diaz. With another deuce on the end putting two pair on the board, Diaz's queens full could only lose to quad deuces, kings full of queens, and queens full of kings. Farnes had Diaz narrowly covered, with both having just less than a pot-sized bet remaining in their stacks. Diaz bet 7,000,000 into the 19,600,000 pot. Farnes moved all-in for 19,150,000, prompting Diaz to say, "I'm an idiot." He likely thought, after having made the bet, that it was unlikely to get called by worse and only opened himself up to face a raise from the few hands that did beat him. After several painful minutes in the tank, Diaz made the disciplined fold to preserve his remaining 11,800,000 in chips (14.75 big blinds). He was able to outlast a player and make a pay jump worth \$115,000 before hitting the rail in 13th place (\$525,000). Farnes went on to earn \$1,750,000 as the sixth-place finisher, while Espen Jorstad ultimately came away with the championship bracelet and the top prize of \$10 million.

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# TOURNAMENT STRATEGY: A WEIRD HAND WHERE LEADING WORKED OUT

By Jonathan Little

I was recently told about a hand in a \$500 buy-in poker tournament that illustrates a few mistakes that some players make on a regular basis.

**With blinds at 300-600, an amateur player limped in with a 33,000 stack from first position at a nine-handed table with A♦ 10♥.**

While A-10 may seem like a decent hand because it contains two big cards, you are usually better off folding it from early position, because if you face any amount of aggression, you could easily be dominated.

If you do decide to play it, you should raise in order to have some chance to steal the blinds before the flop, and to also have the ability to better control the action post-flop.

**The player in second position, who seemed to play well, raised to 2,200. Only the amateur called.**

At this point, folding may be the best play. If you think about which hands a player in second position should raise over a first-position limp, the vast majority of the raiser's range dominates the amateur's A-10. Playing dominated hands from out of position in a raised pot is asking for trouble.

**The flop came A♠ 10♦ 8♣, giving the amateur top two pair. That is lucky! The amateur led for 2,500 into the 5,300 pot.**

On boards that favor the preflop raiser, you should not have a leading range because on average, you will be decently far behind. This flop should be better for the preflop raiser because the raiser should have all of the best aces and big pairs in his range whereas the amateur should only have perhaps 8-8 and A-10 (assuming the amateur would limp/call with these hands).

**The player in second position called the 2,500 bet. The turn was the J♥, and the amateur bet 5,500 into the 10,300 pot.**

If you decided to lead the flop, continuing to bet the turn is fine. It is somewhat difficult to get called by K-K and Q-Q, but A-K and A-Q will never fold.

When trying to extract value, it is important to figure out which hands can realistically call. If your opponent's marginal hands (such as K-K and Q-Q) will fold to any additional bet on the turn or river, you should ignore those and instead focus on getting maximum value from the next best hands (the top pairs), which will likely call a larger bet than 5,500.

With that in mind, I would have bet 8,000, which would have left the amateur with a nice remaining stack of 21,300 with the pot being 26,300. Especially when you are primarily value betting, when you can bet a bit more money on the turn such that you have a remaining stack size that is a bit less than the size of the pot going to the river, you should. By betting a bit larger on the turn, you stand a much better chance of an additional bet getting called on the river.

**The player in second position called the 5,500 bet. The river was the 10♠, improving the amateur to a full house. The amateur pushed all-in for 23,800 into the 21,300 pot.**

Given the opponent's range is almost entirely marginal



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made hands that are worse than the amateur's, the amateur should bet because if he checks, his opponent will check behind the majority of the time. When determining how much to bet, you should choose an amount that can get called by most of your opponent's made hand range.

So, how much will A-K and A-Q call? Some players will only call a small bet, fearing they are beat, whereas other players will call any bet because they are incapable of folding top pair with a premium kicker. While it is nearly impossible for the amateur to be bluffing in this situation, I think going all-in makes the most sense against a generic player in a \$500 buy-in tournament.

**Luckily for the amateur, his opponent called and then mucked, giving the amateur a full double up.**

While the amateur got a double this time, more often than not, his opponent will have a hand that will simply fold to the flop lead, resulting in the amateur winning almost nothing. Just because a play works out this time does not mean it is the correct play on average. ♠



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](https://PokerCoaching.com/cardplayer).



# Are You Trying To Win The Most Pots, Or The Most Money?

By Alex Fitzgerald

When you watch inexperienced players play, it becomes obvious why they are not succeeding.

They are not playing to win the most money. They are playing to win the most pots.

If we are being honest with ourselves, we all want to be winning as many pots as possible, all the time. There is a dopamine hit associated with winning a pot. It feels good to stack chips. This is the feeling we are looking for when we get off of work and head to the cardroom.

The only problem is that chasing this dragon will have us playing disjointed poker. We will call with mediocre hands preflop when we are out of position. We will make thin river calls that we know are close to hopeless. We will raise preflop with hands that are better folded.

We can usually catch ourselves falling into this trap. If we find ourselves looking at a borderline hand and always finding a way to play it, then we know we are biased towards playing.

The hard part is dealing with the FOMO. When we fold a borderline hand and see it would have hit the flop, we get enraged with ourselves. Anyone else would have played that hand! If you tell someone else in the cardroom

about your fold, they will likely give you a hard time, too. They're not there to fold preflop either.

How can you make sure you're not playing to win pots as opposed to playing for money?

- Make sure that most of your speculative calls take place on the button or cutoff where at least position will be helping you.
- Think back on your sessions and pay attention to all the thin calls you made when you knew you were beat.
- Focus on playing more solid hands in position as a raiser.
- If it feels like you're folding just a little too much, then that means you're probably doing it right.

Most of the people you are playing against in the cardroom are not beating the rake. You do not want to be playing like them. You want your style to be either tighter than how they play, or more aggressive than how they play. A solid style is the easiest winning poker style to play because it combines both of these elements.

How can you identify if your opponents are playing

## TOURNAMENT HAND MATCHUP

2021 World Series of Poker  
\$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Main Event



Hye Park  
41,200,000



Winning Percentage  
Before Flop: 72%  
After Flop: 93%  
After Turn: 95%



George Holmes  
58,300,000



Winning Percentage  
Before Flop: 28%  
After Flop: 7%  
After Turn: 5%

### PREFLOP

With seven players remaining and blinds of 500,000-1,000,000 and a big blind ante of 1,000,000, Hye Park raised to 2,000,000 from the hijack. George Holmes called from the big blind.



Both players checked.



Holmes bet 3,500,000, and Park called.



Holmes bet 27,000,000, and Park folded.

### COMMENTARY:

While many of the recent *WSOP* main event champions have been accomplished tournament pros adding the ultimate accomplishment to already lengthy résumés, there have also been plenty of 'home game hero' types who have made their mark and secured multi-million-dollar paydays. Arguably chief among them is George Holmes, who came into the 2021 main event final table with only one prior cash to his name: a 213th-place finish in the 2019 running of the same event for \$50,855. Holmes became a fan favorite during his 2021 run thanks to a number of exciting hands he played down the stretch. This particular hand started with Holmes in third chip position among the final seven players. Poker pro Hye Park sat in fifth place and raised from the hijack with pocket tens. Holmes defended his big blind with the less-than-exciting J-6 offsuit. Holmes didn't pick up any pairs or draws on a queen-high flop with three spades. He elected to check to the initial raiser, and Park checked behind with his pocket pair and ten-high flush draw. The turn paired the middle card and Holmes jumped at the opportunity to take control of the hand, betting 3,500,000 into the pot of 5,500,000. Park called and the river brought the K♥. Holmes went for an overbet on the river, firing 27,000,000 into the pot of 12,500,000. The bet of more than two times the size of the pot put maximum pressure on precisely the type of one-pair holding that Park was sitting on. Park would have to risk roughly 75 percent of his remaining chips to make the call. He opted to fold and Holmes dragged the sizable pot without a showdown, moving into second place in the chip counts in the process. Park ultimately finished seventh for \$1,400,000, while Holmes made it down to heads-up play with eventual champion Koray Aldemir before finishing second for a staggering \$4,300,000 payday. Aldemir was awarded \$8 million as the champion.

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to win pots as opposed to playing to win? This is where things get fun.

If you see someone cold calling preflop more than normal, then that is likely someone who cannot fold anything halfway decent preflop. Versus these players you want to value bet more. They will keep chasing the dragon of a huge river call where they catch you bluffing.

The spot to capitalize on these players is with three-betting. If they open any halfway decent hand because they do not want to fold, then you want to reraise them liberally. You do not need a premium hand to do this. You just need a hand that beats the majority of their opening range.

If you keep reraising the same player at a certain point, they will take it personally. Most grown men especially do not take kindly to being bullied consistently.

At a certain point, they will decide they are going to call you down with any kind of mediocre pair. This is when you strike. This is when you triple barrel top pair for three streets.

Another person you can take advantage of is the player who has to be in every multiway pot due to "pot odds." They're not actually sure what pot odds mean, but it gives them an excuse to see the flop.

These players will hit some kind of pair on the flop and always call the first bet. They're hoping you shut down on the turn and river. They likely have never flopped a pair before and folded to the first bet. This allows you to exploit them.

When you flop something that beats most pairs on a given board and you're in a multiway pot with several

recreational players, feel free to bet bigger than you normally would. Theoretically, they could do an exploitative fold with their pair, but most of them cannot do this in practice.

What happens most of the time is the loose player in question will call the first bet and then be surprised at how large the pot is on the turn. When you bet half pot into this inflated pot on the turn, they will be hard pressed to fold. Because they have so much already invested, it feels awkward to them to let the hand go at this juncture.

This, of course, leads you to the river. Any river bet you can get called will be large at this point. If you bet something like 40% of the pot they will feel ridiculous about folding after being so invested. It will only be after the pot is over that they realize how many chips they lost in one hand.

Those plays should get you started on the felt when you're attempting to exploit players who want to win every pot. If you want to simplify your work, remember this.

Nits beat stations, stations beat maniacs, and maniacs beat nits. ♠



Alexander Fitzgerald is a professional poker player and bestselling author who currently lives in Denver, Colorado. He is a WPT and EPT final tablist. He has WCOOP and SCOOP wins online. His most recent win was the \$250,000 Guaranteed on America's Cardroom. He currently enjoys blasting

bums away in Ignition tournaments while he listens to death metal. Free training packages of his are provided to new newsletter subscribers who sign up for free at [www.pokerheadrush.com](http://www.pokerheadrush.com)

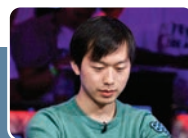
## TOURNAMENT HAND MATCHUP

2019 World Series of Poker  
\$10,000 No-Limit Hold'em Main Event



Hossein Ensan  
102,800,000

Winning Percentage  
Before Flop: 57%  
After Flop: 97%  
After Turn: 95%



Timothy Su  
89,200,000

Winning Percentage  
Before Flop: 43%  
After Flop: 3%  
After Turn: 5%



### PREFLOP

With 11 players remaining and blinds of 400,000-800,000 with a big-blind ante of 800,000, Hossein Ensan raised to 1,600,000 from the cutoff. Timothy Su three-bet to 6,800,000 from the small blind, and Ensan called.



Su bet 6,000,000, and Ensan called.



Both players checked.



Su bet 16,000,000. Ensan raised to 45,000,000, and Su called.

### COMMENTARY:

Hossein Ensan is no stranger to navigating the late stages of a big tournament. Prior to his championship run in the 2019 WSOP main event, the 58-year-old German had three EPT final tables under his belt, including a win in the 2015 EPT Prague main event for \$825,151. Ensan brought that experience to bear in this hand, in which he extracted a ton of value from a cooler. Ensan opened with pocket tens and called a three-bet from fellow big stack at the table Timothy Su, who held A-Q. Ensan received the dream flop, hitting middle set while Su made top pair, top kicker on a rainbow board. Su led out, having taken the betting lead preflop with his three-bet. Ensan flat called, keeping in as many bluffs as possible in Su's range while also controlling the size of the pot. With several short stacks remaining and a \$200,000 pay jump just two knockouts away, Ensan had every reason to be careful with the fellow big stack. The turn paired the board, giving Ensan tens full. Su checked, likely realizing that he was either way ahead or way behind. Ensan made a savvy check behind, hoping to draw a value bet on the river from strong hands like big pocket pairs and A-Q or K-Q, or a bluff with his weakest holdings. The 6♥ on the river did see Su go for value, betting just shy of 60 percent of the pot with his queens and sevens. Ensan raised to 45,000,000, more than the size of the pot. A larger raise can often be perceived as more bluffy, in that it looks like Ensan is trying to buy a fold with brute force. The move also has the benefit of earning Ensan extra value when Su does look him up. In the end, Su made the call and lost the pot of 116,000,000, while Ensan took a dominant chip lead on the final table bubble. Su finished eighth for \$1,250,000 in the end, while Ensan earned \$10 million as that year's world champion.

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# OMAHA EIGHT-OR-BETTER: DRAWING TO THE NUT LOW

By Kevin Haney

Scoping is your main objective in Omaha Eight-or-Better (O8), and early on in the hand we should always consider folding whenever it seems unlikely the entire pot can be won. However, if we have a one-way draw to the nuts we can sometimes continue on if the pot is big enough, especially when closing the action.

Suppose an early position player raises in a \$20-\$40 cash game, a reasonably loose opponent calls, we flat the button with  $A\heartsuit 2\clubsuit 10\clubsuit 7\spadesuit$ , and both blinds fold.

$A\heartsuit 2\clubsuit 10\clubsuit 7\spadesuit$  is a good, but not great holding. It has an A-2 and some possibilities on the high side. Calling is the standard play, while three-betting would be slightly overplaying the holding.

The flop comes down  $J\heartsuit 8\heartsuit 5\heartsuit$ , which really isn't to our liking. Early position bets, the middle position player calls, and it's up to us holding nothing but the nut low draw, that may or may not be shared with another player.

Some players will always soldier on with the nut low draw, even in the face of a raise. Let's break down the math and try to see if playing on with only one-way potential can be profitable.

Let's first assume an ideal situation where we hold the only A-2, the early position bettor holds  $A\heartsuit K\heartsuit Q\spadesuit 8\spadesuit$  for the flopped nut flush, and the caller is incorrectly continuing with  $A\clubsuit 3\heartsuit 4\heartsuit 9\spadesuit$  for just a draw to the second-best low. (That's

quite a bad play, but you will see it at the lower limits.) The player in the middle could also hold an inferior flush, a set, or two pair, in addition to a non-nut low draw.

Assuming the first player keeps betting, and the middle player goes the distance and calls every street including the river when the low comes in; we will win half of a \$450 pot around 51% of the time. Since we put in \$100 along the way, our net return would be \$125 ( $\$450 \times 50\% - \$100$ ).

There's an 11% chance that an ace or deuce shows up on the turn, in which case we will fold and lose the \$20 put in to call the flop bet. Our net loss will be \$60 if we are forced to fold on the river because we either missed our low draw twice, or we got there on the turn but were then counterfeited on the river. There's an approximate 38% chance that one of these two events will occur causing us to lose the \$60 maximum.

The weighted average of our expectation is calculated as follows:

|                     |     | Gain/(Loss) |             |
|---------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Fold Turn</b>    | 11% | -20         | -2.2        |
| <b>Fold River</b>   | 38% | -60         | -23.1       |
| <b>Make Nut Low</b> | 51% | 125         | <u>63.4</u> |
|                     |     |             | <b>38.2</b> |

## TOURNAMENT HAND MATCHUP

2018 World Series of Poker  
No-Limit Hold'em Main Event



John Cynn  
268,700,000

Winning Percentage  
Before Flop: 35%  
After Flop: 64%  
After Turn: 80%



Tony Miles  
125,100,000

Winning Percentage  
Before Flop: 57%  
After Flop: 36%  
After Turn: 20%



### PREFLOP

Heads-up at the final table with blinds of 1,000,000-2,000,000 with an ante of 300,000, John Cynn raised to 5,000,000 from the button. Tony Miles called from the big blind.



Miles checked, and Cynn bet 4,500,000. Miles called.



Miles checked, and Cynn bet 6,500,000. Miles raised to 20,000,000, and Cynn called.



Miles moved all in for 95,300,000. Cynn folded.

### COMMENTARY:

Just two years after finishing 11th in the 2016 WSOP main event, John Cynn made it all the way back. In fact, when this particular hand took place, he had advanced to heads-up play against Tony Miles. The two would battle for more than 11 hours. Cynn had just won a big pot to take a nearly 2:1 chip lead. Cynn raised on the button with 6-4 and Miles defended his big blind with 7-5, flopping a gutshot, while Cynn picked up second pair. Miles check-called a continuation bet on the flop and then checked again when the board paired on the turn. Cynn might have opted to control the size of the pot by checking back his weak, single-pair holding. Instead, he fired a second barrel, which opened the door for Miles. The Florida poker pro unleashed a check-raise, and Cynn made the call. The  $K\heartsuit$  on the river brought an overcard and completed the flush draw from the flop. Miles, having seized the initiative with his check-raise on the turn, followed through by moving all-in with just seven high. Cynn seemed to want to make the hero call with his hand, which was just a bluff catcher at that point. Calling would have resulted in him winning it all right there. Instead, he let it go after three minutes in the tank and Miles' gutsy move kept him in the match. The two battled it out for 166 more hands before the match was finally decided. Eventually, in the early morning hours, Cynn finally emerged victorious with the title and the \$8.8 million top prize. Miles earned \$5 million as the runner-up.

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## POKER STRATEGY

In the case where no other opponent shares the nut low with us our expectation is approximately \$38.20, slightly less than one big bet. That's not a bad result as one big bet is a decent hourly earn in any poker game, but we must also consider the times when we may end up with a quarter of the pot or less.

The following chart re-runs the numbers assuming the middle player instead also holds the nut low draw with  $A\clubsuit 2\heartsuit 4\spadesuit 9\clubsuit$ :

|                     |     | Gain/(Loss) |              |
|---------------------|-----|-------------|--------------|
| <b>Fold Turn</b>    | 8%  | -20         | -1.6         |
| <b>Fold River</b>   | 36% | -60         | -21.7        |
| <b>Make Nut Low</b> | 56% | 12.5        | <u>7.0</u>   |
|                     |     |             | <b>-16.4</b> |

This changes all of the probabilities, and even though we are more likely to make our draw, our net gain when getting quartered is only \$12.50 ( $\$450 \times 25 - \$100$ ) as opposed to \$125 when winning half. In total, we will lose approximately \$16.40 when one other player shares the nut low draw.

In the long run, we will almost certainly end up losing more than \$16.40 chasing in this spot because sometimes the middle player will decide to raise the river with the nut low and a decent but second-best flush. Or they might even raise with a lesser high hand (but one that may beat the early position aggressor), in the hopes that it may knock us off a small flush. Then of course it's also within the realm of possibility that all three players hold an A-2.

The obvious important question to ask is how often do

we expect to hold the only nut low draw? This is of course impossible to pin-point exactly, as it's mostly a function of our opponents and their playing styles.

If we hold the only A-2 half of the time our expectation is a simple arithmetic average of \$10.90, assuming that the other nut low draw does not raise the river and cost us both money. If we have the only nut low draw 33% of the time, our expectation is only \$1.82. This barely beats folding and is thus the approximate break-even percentage.

So, what's the final verdict? Once again, it depends on your opponents but calling down probably ekes out a sliver of profit in the long run, but it comes with higher variance.

And if it's a tournament, the chips you win are worth less than the ones you lose, so in that circumstance it's likely that chasing becomes a negative proposition.

It's a completely different matter if instead the flop came as either  $J\heartsuit 8\clubsuit 5\heartsuit$  or  $Q\heartsuit 8\clubsuit 7\clubsuit$  since we would often have some amount of high equity to go along with the nut low draw. As is the case in any split-pot game, any chance of scooping, albeit even somewhat small probabilities, go a long way towards turning what may be a break-even call-down, into one with a discernible positive expectation. ♠



Kevin Haney is a former actuary but left the corporate job to focus on his passions for poker and fitness. The certified personal trainer owned a gym in New Jersey, but has since moved to Las Vegas. He started playing the game back in 2003, and particularly enjoys taking new players interested in mixed games under his wing and quickly making them proficient in all variants. Learn more or just say hello with an email to [haneyk612@gmail.com](mailto:haneyk612@gmail.com).

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|                  |                |                                     |  |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>MAY</b>       | May 22-July 31 | DeepStack Championship Poker Series | Venetian Hotel & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV      |
|                  | May 25-July 19 | Wynn Summer Classic                 | Wynn ■ Las Vegas, NV                         |
|                  | May 29-July 9  | Orleans Summer Open                 | Orleans Hotel & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV       |
|                  | May 30-July 3  | Grand Poker Series                  | Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV |
|                  | May 30-July 11 | Summer Poker Festival               | MGM Grand ■ Las Vegas, NV                    |
|                  | May 30-July 18 | World Series of Poker               | Horseshoe Hotel & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV     |
|                  | May 31-July 15 | Aria Poker Classic                  | Aria Resort & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV         |
| <b>JUNE</b>      | June 1-4       | SWING Series                        | bestbet St. Augustine ■ St. Augustine, FL    |
|                  | June 15-July 6 | Summer High Roller Series           | Aria PokerGO Studio ■ Las Vegas, NV          |
| <b>JULY</b>      | July 1-2       | LIPS National Championship          | South Point Hotel & Casino ■ Las Vegas, NV   |
|                  | July 2-6       | Mixed Game Festival V               | Resorts World ■ Las Vegas, NV                |
|                  | July 24-30     | San Diego Summer Classic            | Ocean's Eleven Casino ■ Oceanside, CA        |
|                  | July 26-Aug. 8 | Seminole Hard Rock Poker Open       | Seminole Hard Rock ■ Hollywood, FL           |
| <b>AUGUST</b>    | Aug. 10-21     | Card Player Poker Tour              | bestbet Jacksonville ■ Jacksonville, FL      |
|                  | Aug. 10-22     | WSOP Circuit California             | Graton Resort & Casino ■ Rohnert Park, CA    |
| <b>SEPTEMBER</b> | Sept. 19-30    | Poker Masters                       | Aria PokerGO Studio ■ 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

### FRIDAY

10:00 a.m. NLH, \$95 AO \$5

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. NLH, \$290 AO \$10

### GRATON - ROHNERT PARK

#### MONDAY

10:00 a.m. NLH, \$135

#### TUESDAY

6:00 p.m. NLH, \$165

#### WEDNESDAY

10:00 a.m. NLH, \$135

#### THURSDAY

6:00 p.m. NLH, \$165

#### FRIDAY

10:00 a.m. NLH, \$135

#### SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. NLH, \$250

### OCEAN'S ELEVEN - OCEANSIDE

#### MONDAY-THURSDAY

10:00 a.m. NLH, \$95 AO \$5

7:00 p.m. NLH, \$95 AO \$5

## FLORIDA

### BESTBET - JACKSONVILLE

#### MONDAY

7:00 p.m. NLH, \$100

#### WEDNESDAY

12:00 p.m. NLH, \$100

#### FRIDAY

12:00 p.m. NLH, \$200

#### SUNDAY

12:00 p.m. NLH, \$200

### BESTBET - ORANGE PARK

#### TUESDAY

7:00 p.m. NLH, \$100

#### THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. NLH, \$100

#### SUNDAY

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

**BESTBET - ST. AUGUSTINE**

**MONDAY**  
7:00 p.m. NLH, \$60  
**TUESDAY**  
12:00 p.m. NLH, \$60  
**WEDNESDAY**  
7:00 p.m. NLH, \$100  
**THURSDAY**  
12:00 p.m. NLH, \$60  
**FRIDAY**  
7:00 p.m. NLH, \$160  
**SATURDAY**  
12:00 p.m. NLH, \$160  
7:00 p.m. NLH, \$100  
**SUNDAY**  
12:00 p.m. PLO H/L, \$120  
7:00 p.m. NLH, \$100

**NORTH CAROLINA**

**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

**OREGON**

**WILDHORSE - PENDLETON**

**TUESDAY**  
6:30 p.m. NLH, \$70  
**THURSDAY**

6:30 p.m. NLH, \$70  
**FRIDAY**  
6:30 p.m. NLH, \$125  
**SATURDAY**  
1:00 p.m. NLH, \$125  
**SUNDAY**  
1:00 p.m. NLH, \$70

**TEXAS**

**ROUNDERS CARD CLUB - SAN ANTONIO**

**MONDAY**  
12:00 p.m. NLH, \$25 \$20 RB \$20 AO (\$1K Guarantee)  
6:00 p.m. NLH, \$160 RB \$125 (\$10K Guarantee)  
9:00 p.m. CP, \$25 RB \$20 AO \$20 (\$1K Guarantee)  
**TUESDAY**  
7:00 p.m. NLH, \$25 RB \$20 AO \$20 (\$5K Guarantee)  
**WEDNESDAY**  
12:00 p.m. NLH, \$25 RB \$20 AO \$20 (\$1K Guarantee)  
6:30 p.m. NLH, \$180 (\$10K Guarantee)  
8:30 p.m. CP, \$25 RB \$20 AO \$20 (\$1K Guarantee)  
**THURSDAY**  
6:00 p.m. NLH, \$300 (\$20K Guarantee)  
8:30 p.m. PLO, \$25 RB \$20 AO \$20 (\$2K Guarantee)  
**FRIDAY**  
12:00 p.m. NLH, \$25, RB \$20 AO \$20 (\$1K Guarantee)  
7:00 p.m. NLH, \$25 RB \$20 AO \$20 (\$5K Guarantee)  
9:30 p.m. CP, \$25 RB \$20 AO \$20 (\$1K Guarantee)  
**SATURDAY**  
6:00 p.m. NLH, \$110 (\$2K Guarantee)  
8:00 p.m. NLH, \$25 RB \$20 AO \$20 (\$1K Guarantee)  
**SUNDAY**  
4:00 p.m. PLO, \$45 RB \$20 AO \$20 (\$2K Guarantee)  
6:00 p.m. NLH, \$25 RB \$20 AO \$20 (\$1K Guarantee)



Looking for ladies events? Check out Card Player's Women In Poker page, a comprehensive resource that has upcoming tournament schedule details, as well as information and recaps about past event winners.

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You are currently sitting six-handed, with three tables left in the \$1,500 buy-in *Millionaire Maker* event at the *World Series of Poker*. You have a stack of 25,000,000 chips at blinds at 250,000-500,000. The under-the-gun player raises to 1,200,000 and it folds around to you on the button holding A♥ Q♥.

**Question 1:** Should you fold, call, reraise to 3,200,000, or reraise to 4,800,000?

**Answer:** While you have the best hand the majority of the time, A-Q suited can flop extremely well and you would hate having to face a four-bet. Make the call and see how well the flop coordinates with your hand. If you expect to rarely get four-bet, three-betting has much more merit.

You call, the flop comes Q♠ 9♥ 4♣ giving you top pair. Your opponent bets 1,000,000.

**Question 2:** Should you fold, call, raise to 2,800,000, or go all-in?

**Answer:** If your opponent's range is decently wide and they will continuation bet with any gutshot straight draw, then raising and charging them to see another card would be a fine play. By betting extremely small, your opponent has provided themselves a great price to see the turn.

While you can raise to protect top pair with top kicker, calling is the best play, especially against tight, aggressive opponents who will make a small continuation bet with almost their entire range but frequently fold to a raise.

You call and the turn is the A♦. Your opponent bets again, this time for 2,700,000.

**Question 3:** Should you fold, call, raise to 7,200,000, or go all-in?

**Answer:** You likely have the best hand, but what turn decision will properly set you up to get all of your chips in by the river? Which hands will realistically call if you raise on the turn?

Out of the variety of hands you crush, most of them will fold to a raise. Let's say your opponent has a hand like A-5 suited. They would more than likely fold to a raise, but may make a value bet on the river if you don't scare them out of the pot. Call the bet and see if your opponent is willing to put in more money on the river.

You call and the river is the K♥. This time your opponent checks.

**Question 4:** Should you check, bet 3,200,000, bet 7,200,000, or bet 11,200,000?

**Answer:** A lot of tight, aggressive players will check the entirety of their range on the river unless they improve to a straight or better. Your opponent may even check with two pair or a set because they assume they will lose if they bet and are called or raised.

If your opponent is capable of checking a strong hand, check it back, but if they aren't, bet big for value to target worse hands like two pair and top pair. Bet roughly 50% pot and hope to get value from worse hands.

Although you considered betting for value, you knew your tricky tight-aggressive opponent was capable of checking with some strong hands. You check it back and take down the pot after your opponent reveals 7♣ 7♦.

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



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|------|-------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 7/24 | MON   | DAY 1A 10AM & 3PM | \$240 / \$50 / \$10               |
| 7/25 | TUES  | DAY 1B 10AM & 3PM | \$240 / \$50 / \$10               |
| 7/26 | WED   | DAY 1C 10AM & 3PM | \$240 / \$50 / \$10               |
| 7/27 | THURS | DAY 1D 10AM & 3PM | \$240 / \$50 / \$10               |
| 7/28 | FRI   | DAY 1E 10AM       | \$240 / \$50 / \$10               |
| 7/29 | SAT   | DAY 1F 10AM       | \$240 / \$50 / \$10               |
| 7/30 | SUN   | DAY 2 11AM        |                                   |

ALL FLIGHTS HAVE LIMITED ENTRIES. VISIT [WWW.OCEANS11.COM](http://WWW.OCEANS11.COM) FOR MORE DETAILS. ON DAY ONE, PLAY WILL CONTINUE UNTIL 12% OF FIELD REMAINING. ANY PLAYER THAT QUALIFIES FOR DAY 2 MORE THAN ONCE WILL RECEIVE \$1,200 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATION.

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PLAYING THE RIVER  
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