



POKERSTARS GUARANTEES \$40 MILLION ACROSS 66 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS THIS SEPTEMBER

\$10 million guaranteed Main Event Final Table will feature webcast for first time

ONCHAN, Isle of Man – August 6, 2014 – PokerStars today announced that the [World Championship of Online Poker](#) will return from September 7-28, with 66 events, \$40 million in guaranteed prize money and, for the first time in its 13-year history, a full webcast of the \$5,200 Main Event final table.

The two-day Main Event, featuring a \$10 million guarantee, will take place September 28-29 and have a cards-down webcast of the final table. This will create an enhanced viewing experience for audiences, with the commentary team of EPT Live regulars James Hartigan and Joe Stapleton, plus members of Team PokerStars, bringing a new dimension to the action.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

The World Championship is renowned for the vast array of games, tournaments and formats that it comprises, and this year is no exception. The opening day sees three Sunday Major special editions – including a 6-Max version of the Sunday Warm-Up – and a total of more than \$3 million guaranteed. Other signature events include:

- WCOOP-09: \$1,050 NL Hold'em [Super Tuesday SE]
- WCOOP-18: \$320 NL Hold'em, [Turbo, Zoom]
- WCOOP-23: \$10,300 NL Hold'em [8-Max, Re-Entry, High Roller]
- WCOOP-44: \$10,300 NLHE [High Roller, Heads-Up]
- WCOOP-63: \$2,100 HORSE
- WCOOP-65: \$10,300 8-Game [High Roller, Re-Entry]

In addition there are also six Progressive Super Knockout events, which proved extremely popular when they were run for the first time in last year's World Championship, plus a host of other formats like Ante Up, Big Antes, 4-Max, 6-Max, Shootouts and more. Games include Omaha, Omaha Hi/Lo, Draw, Stud, Razz and many more. Check out the full tournament schedule at <http://psta.rs/1p4haKf>.

THE PROTÉGÉ

For the first time in the World Championship, PokerStars is running a side promotion that will see four protégés win training from Team PokerStars Pros (Andre Akkari, Bertrand 'ElkY' Grospellier, Eugene Katchalov and Vanessa Selbst), and receive buy-ins to three events, including the \$5,200 Main Event. The public vote to see who gets chosen to become the four protégés will begin on August 15. Check out the **PokerStars.net Facebook page** from August 15 for more information and how to vote.

SATELLITES

Online qualifiers to all the events are running now, with cash buy-ins starting from less than \$1 and Frequent Player Point satellites from just 1 FPP. Go to <http://psta.rs/SsxMhz> for more satellite information, or click on 'Online Events' > 'WCOOP' > 'All' in the client.

PLAYER OF THE SERIES

In addition to the huge sums of money up for grabs in individual events, PokerStars also rewards players for consistency in the series with big tournament package prizes. For full details, go to <http://psta.rs/1o64GSf>.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

The World Championship of Online Poker, which began in 2002, is not only the longest-running online poker series but also the richest, with well over \$350 million in prize money awarded to date. It has long been regarded by players and media as a 'must-play' event that pitches world-class poker pros against aspiring recreational players, all in pursuit of life-changing sums of money. The World Championship gold and diamond bracelets awarded to event winners are the most iconic prizes in online poker.

The World Championship of Online Poker is awash with great champions, from high-profile winners like JC 'area23JC' Tran, who was a World Championship Main Event winner in 2006, and Yevgeniy 'Jovial Gent' Timoshenko, who took down a \$1.7 million victory in the 2009 Main Event, to have-a-go hero stories like recreational Russian player 'maratik', who won \$1 million after qualifying for just 40 Frequent Player Points.

For more information, please email press@pokerstars.com.

About PokerStars

PokerStars operates the world's most popular online poker sites, serving a global poker community of more than **65 million registered members**. Since it launched in 2001, PokerStars

has become the first choice of players all over the world, with more daily tournaments than anywhere else and with the best security online. More than **115 billion hands** have been dealt on PokerStars, which is more than any other site.

PokerStars.com and PokerStars.eu operate globally under licenses from the Isle of Man and Malta governments, respectively. PokerStars also holds separate government licenses in Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy and Spain.

PokerStars is a member of Rational Group, which operates gaming-related businesses and brands, including PokerStars, Full Tilt Poker and the European Poker Tour. In 2012, 2013 and 2014, Rational Group companies in the UK and Isle of Man won recognition as one of the best workplaces in the UK, being awarded a top 25 position by the Great Place to Work Institute's Best Workplaces – Large category rankings. Rational Group entities in Costa Rica and Dublin also achieved the same accolade in their respective local rankings in 2014.

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