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POKERSTARS RADIO SHOW RETURNS FOR BIGGEST EVER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP OF ONLINE POKER

11th WCOOP features record 65 events and guarantees \$30 million prize pool

LONDON, UK – August 29 – PokerStars Radio returns on September 2 to bring poker fans daily live coverage of the World Championship of Online Poker (WCOOP) and hours of entertainment, competition and interviews with the elite players in online poker.

The 11th annual WCOOP is set to be the biggest ever, with a record 65 events taking place and \$30m in guaranteed prizes; the PokerStars Radio – WCOOP show will be the perfect companion piece for the action every night from September 2-25 at 20.00 BST (21.00 CET).

“We saw last year with the WCOOP radio show that poker players and fans love the format and really connect with the live interactive elements,” says Joe Stapleton, one of the WCOOP radio hosts. “It provides a way for the growing poker community worldwide to share in the excitement of the most important festival in online poker.”

PokerStars Radio – WCOOP is a fully interactive radio show broadcast live from the UK and available to listen to online at www.pokerstars.com/wcoop/radio. Each show is jam-packed with quizzes, competitions, interviews, live phone-in discussions, twitter posts and exclusive online tournaments for listeners, with more than \$25,000 up for grabs.

The popular poker radio programme promises to be funnier and edgier than ever, as Stapleton is joined by fellow hosts Nick Wealthall and Matt Broughton, well known for their sardonic wit. The shows will feature the biggest names in poker, including past and present WCOOP winners, Team PokerStars Pros and Team Online members and a host of other poker heroes and legends.

WCOOP 2012

WCOOP is widely recognised as the ‘must-play’ festival of the year for poker pros and aspiring recreational players. This year is no different, with several ‘signature events’ including:

- WCOOP 22: \$10,300 NL Hold'em [High Roller] – \$1.25m guaranteed
- WCOOP 43: \$10,300 NL Hold'em [High Roller Heads-Up] – \$200,000 guaranteed
- WCOOP 62: \$2,100 HORSE – \$200,000 guaranteed
- WCOOP 64: \$10,300 8-Game [High Roller] – \$400,000 guaranteed

The WCOOP series will culminate in the most eagerly anticipated event of the year on September 23 – the \$5,200 NL Hold'em Main Event – which guarantees \$5 million and at least \$1 million for first place. Last year's winner, Thomas 'Kalilille' Pedersen from Denmark, became a household name in the poker community after scooping the life-changing first prize of \$1,260,018.



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Team PokerStars Online member Anders 'Donald' Berg is one of only three players to have won three WCOOP titles. Speaking about what it takes to become a multiple WCOOP champion, Berg said: "WCOOP is the benchmark of success for any online poker player. Being able to navigate large fields through skill and patience is key to victory, but being able to play a wide variety of games competently will certainly give you a much greater chance of glory. The Main Event is like the online equivalent of the World Series of Poker No Limit Hold'em Championship – it's the one tournament every player wants to win."

Go to www.pokerstars.com/wcoop for a full schedule of the 65 WCOOP events.

Online qualifiers

There are plenty of satellites to all WCOOP events running every day at PokerStars.com from just \$1 or 5 FPPs. Players can also buy into WCOOP events with Steps tickets at the \$215, \$700 and \$2,100 level, although players can also start their qualification at lower stakes via the \$7.50, \$27 and \$82 Steps tourneys.

Player of the Series

As with previous WCOOPs, there will be leaderboard prizes for the best players of the series, with prizes totalling more than \$50,000 up for grabs. To see how players accrue points for their WCOOP performances, and the prizes on offer, check out www.pokerstars.com/wcoop/player-of-the-series.

Reload bonus

Players can give their bankrolls a quick boost ahead of the series via a special WCOOP reload bonus offer. There is a 20% bonus available up to \$100, just for making a deposit using bonus code 'WCOOP' by 23.59 ET on September 4. For info on how to receive the bonus, go to www.pokerstars.com/poker/promotions/reload-bonus.

Follow WCOOP

Players and fans can follow WCOOP on Twitter (#WCOOP2012), the [PokerStars Blog](#), at PokerStars.com, and by watching final table replays at www.PokerStars.tv.

About PokerStars

PokerStars operates PokerStars.com, the world's most popular online poker site that serves the world's largest poker community with more than 49 million registered members since it launched in December 2001. It is the first choice of the world's top players, with more daily tournaments than anywhere else, and with the best security online. More hands have been dealt on PokerStars.com than on any other site; that's over 85 billion hands and more than 565 million tournaments played.

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