

POKERSTARS SETS NEW RECORD FIELD FOR ONLINE POKER TOURNAMENT

100 Billion Hands Celebration continues this week with Golden Sit & Go's

ONCHAN, Isle of Man – June 17, 2013 – PokerStars yesterday beat its own record for largest online poker tournament, as the <u>100 Billion Hands Celebration</u> continued. The \$1 buy-in tournament reached its cap of 225,000 players, surpassing the previous biggest tournament of 200,000 players in December 2011.

The winner of yesterday's tournament was 'Mr.SlavaPro' from Russia, who won the top prize of \$25,000. Second place went to 'johnnykara75' from Greece, who won \$15,000. In total, 60,000 players cashed in the event, which had a prize pool of \$300,000. Despite the record field the tournament took just over four hours as the three-minute blind levels forced some super fast-paced action.

For a full tournament report, go to http://www.pokerstarsblog.com/2013/mrslavapro-outlasts-225000-players-to-wi-138817.html

100-BILLIONTH HAND WINNER

Meanwhile, the winner of last week's <u>100-billionth hand</u> has now been revealed. The Greek player, who goes by the name of 'microulis69' online and won \$103,800 in Thursday's historic hand, is Isidora Panagiotopoulou. She is a married housewife from Thessaloniki, who has been playing on PokerStars for just under a year.

In an interview conducted by PokerStars-sponsored Greek player Stavros 'IDOLLS' Kalfas over the weekend, Isidora recounts the day: "We had been playing the promotion from day one and felt bad we hadn't won any sort of prize. The feeling was extraordinary when it finally happened... I was with my sister-in-law all together at my husband's store. We celebrated and called our parents."

Asked what she plans to do with the money and future poker-playing, she adds: "We have lots of financial obligations to settle and this money will help a lot. I would like to use some of it to start playing poker professionally."

For a full interview with Isidora and to see some celebratory pictures, check out the PokerStars Blog story and attached images with this press release.

GOLDEN SIT & GO'S

The 100 Billion Hands Celebration continues this week with <u>Golden Sit & Go's</u>, which begins today and runs until Sunday, June 23. The promotion will aim to give away \$1 million in cash rewards to Sit & Go players by awarding three different levels of bonuses at random Sit & Go tables. The three different prize money levels are:

- Double prize pool and two buy-ins per player
- Quadruple prize pool and four buy-ins per player
- Ten times prize pool and ten buy-ins per player

For more details of how players can win with Golden Sit & Go's, check out http://www.pokerstars.com/poker/promotions/100-billion-celebration/golden/.

For further information, please contact: press@pokerstars.com

About PokerStars

PokerStars operates the world's most popular online poker sites, serving a global poker community of more than **50 million registered members**. Since it launched in 2001, PokerStars has become the first choice of the world's top players, with more daily tournaments than anywhere else and with the best security online. More than **100 billion hands** have been dealt on PokerStars.com, which is more than any other site.

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PokerStars is a member of The Rational Group, which operates gaming-related businesses and brands, including PokerStars, Full Tilt Poker and the European Poker Tour. Rational Group entities in the UK and Isle of Man were collectively recognised as one of the UK's best workplaces when they were awarded a top 25 position by the Great Place to Work Institute in its UK's Best Workplaces – Large category in both 2012 and 2013.

