

## TEAM POKERSTARS PRO JASON MERCIER STREAMS WORLD'S

## **BIGGEST-EVER BUY-IN ONLINE POKER TOURNAMENT**

Leading online broadcaster Jason Somerville joins PokerStars' \$100,000 Super
High Roller Action on Twitch.TV

ONCHAN, Isle of Man – September 8, 2016 – Team PokerStars Pro Jason Mercier will be broadcasting his attempt to win the \$102,000 No-Limit Hold'em [8-Max, Super High-Roller] event in the World Championship of Online Poker (WCOOP) on Sunday, September 11 on Twitch. The 82-event series, which carries a \$50m online festival guarantee, started last Sunday on <a href="PokerStars">PokerStars</a>, an Amaya Inc. (Nasdaq: AYA; TSX: AYA) brand.

With a buy-in of more than \$100,000, this Super High Roller event will be the highest-buy-in poker tournament ever played online. The previous record of \$51,000 was set during the 2015 World Championships, also on PokerStars. The Super High Roller will be one of several high profile events, including the NL Hold'em 8-Max High Roller and Main Event, to be streamed on the PokerStars Twitch channel at: https://www.twitch.tv/pokerstars.

Mercier, who has earned more than \$17 million in live tournaments, and is the reigning World Series of Poker Player of the Year, will be allowing poker fans around the world to see his cards as he takes on the other biggest names in the game, albeit with a 15-minute delay put in place to prevent his high stakes opponents from seeing what he has during play. Fellow Team PokerStars Pro and Twitch record breaker Jason Somerville will be joining Mercier in the broadcast booth, providing commentary and interacting with viewers in chat. Somerville's Twitch channel has had 13.5 million views. The event will also be streamed on Facebook, YouTube and PS.tv

"The WCOOP is the premier online tournament series of the year, and our 15th annual Championship is the biggest yet with over \$50 million guaranteed. There was great buzz last year about the \$51,000 Super High Roller, but we've upped the ante this year by doubling that record to \$102,000," said Eric Hollreiser, Director of Corporate Communications, PokerStars. "Jason Mercier streaming the event and showing his hole cards gives poker fans an amazing opportunity to jump on board the action and excitement. On top of that, Jason Somerville has made Twitch the premiere channel for poker fans and knows how to put on a truly great show. All this combined is going to

make for some intense Sunday poker watching."

Mercier will be streaming on the PokerStars Twitch channel, twitch.tv/pokerstars, which is available to all viewers free of charge. The event begins on Sunday, September 11, at 1:30pm US Summer Eastern Time (6:30pm British Summer Time; 7:30pm Central European Summer Time). It is a two-day event, and if Mercier makes it through to Day 2, he and Somerville will both be in the booth to the end.

Scott Ball, Community Development and Poker Manager for Twitch, said "Twitch is proud to host Jason Mercier playing the \$102,000 Super High Roller. As a serious poker player myself, I look forward to seeing Jason's strategy unfold hand by hand and learning from him. And of course, Jason "JCarver" Somerville was the founder of poker streaming and a Twitch legend. With him in the booth, there won't be a dull moment; it should be a great day for Twitch and poker fans everywhere."

Jason Somerville's commentary will help explain the action to new viewers. In accordance with PokerStars' rules, Somerville will not be providing strategy advice to Mercier during the tournament.

For a full tournament schedule go to <a href="https://www.pokerstars.com/wcoop/">https://www.pokerstars.com/wcoop/</a>. For further information, please contact: <a href="mailto:press@pokerstars.com">press@pokerstars.com</a>

## **About PokerStars**

PokerStars operates the world's most popular online poker sites, serving the global poker community. 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 online security. More than 145 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 local licenses or approvals to offer services to players in many jurisdictions, including Italy, France, Estonia, Belgium, Denmark, Spain, Bulgaria, Greece, United Kingdom, Schleswig-Holstein in Germany, Ireland, Romania and New Jersey in the United States of America.

PokerStars is the flagship brand of Rational Group, which operates gaming-related businesses and brands, including PokerStars, Full Tilt and the European Poker Tour. In 2012, 2013 and 2014, Rational Group companies in the UK and Isle of Man was recognised as one of the top 25



best places to work by the Great Place to Work Institute's Best Workplaces – Large category ranking. Rational Group entities in Costa Rica and Dublin also achieved the same accolade in their respective local rankings in 2014. PokerStars is owned by Amaya Inc. (Nasdaq: AYA; TSX: AYA).

