



## WPT DEEPSTACKS WRAPUP-GOLD COAST STAR CASINO MAIN EVENT WINNER – WILL DAVIES

A last-minute decision to saddle up in May's WPT Deepstacks Main Event paid the biggest of dividends for Sydney poker identity Will Davies.

Having struggled to find any real 'rungood' in a slew of lead-up events – with a 10<sup>th</sup> in the PLO \$300 event the only standout – Davies had all but signed off on the Star Casino-hosted Series.

But an impulsive change in plans saw him stick around on the beautifully inviting Gold Coast and late register the prestigious event ... entering as Alternate 181 and eventually sitting down with a restrictive 25 big blinds.

Needing to get out of the blocks well, the 29 year-old wasted no time getting on the front foot and found himself involved in a huge pot first orbit when his AK shove held against A10 for the crucial double-up.

"That first hand was pretty intense, but it absolutely got me into a better headspace straight away," the London-born Davies told us.

"Otherwise, Day1 was a real day of grinding. I ended up bagging only 19 big blinds, so the pressure was on again as soon as Day 2 started."

But once again, Davies was able to find a big spot early and get some forward momentum.

Which was definitely needed, as the remaining 162 players (from a field of 1113 entries) endured an exhausting 13 hours of play before the Final 10 were decided.

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With a boisterous rail behind him, including gorgeous Irish partner Lauren, Davies chipped away patiently during the marathon session – spurred by a huge pot against seasoned pro Corey Kempson when his AK of hearts hit a backdoor flush all-in v Kempson's pocket Jacks for a \$900k pot when the average stack was about \$300k.

Bagging a healthy \$3.6m in chips when Day 2 finally drew to a close, Davies was nestled midfield behind Canadian chip leader Mike Maddocks (\$7.7m), with WSOP 2018 November Niner Alex Lynskey hovering in third spot (\$5.8m).

With an impressive tournament record which includes a 3<sup>rd</sup> at the WPT (Nottingham) for a healthy 60,000pd collect, Davies entered the Final Day intent on staying focused and earning a career payday.

Split into two tables, it took literally one had to decide the Final 9 as Lynskey busted Attila Bognar in 10<sup>th</sup>.

After laying down an early pot to Maddocks, which left him with just over \$2m in chips, Davies applied the brakes with tournament favourites Maddocks and Lynskey on his immediate left.

Finding great spots (A10 v A8s and then AQ v 9/10s) to eliminate two players, Davies' patience and experience saw him climb to over \$7m as Lynskey went on a tear.

As Lynskey climbed to go over \$15m in chips, Davies cut the field to three with his elimination of Sheldon Mayer when his A10 call crushed his opponent's A5.

As Maddocks and Lynskey waged a virtual war, Davies saw his stack dwindle to \$4.1m as Maddocks hit the \$20m mark and Lynskey slipped to \$9.2m.

Needing a bit of fortune but rebuilding nicely, Davies cashed in his ONE TIME in a massive \$18.9m pot against Lynskey – crippling the Aussie when his AJ of Hearts smashed an AJ10 board all-in versus Lynskey's AQ.

After finishing Lynskey off soon after, Davies entered heads-up against Maddocks with a commanding chip lead.

After a cautious start, Davies scored a nice pot early to build a 3:1 chip advantage and then found a dream scenario as his shove with 77 forced a call from Maddocks with A7 of Diamonds.

With a two-diamond flop, Davies had to fade a fistful of outs but watched a clean runout to pocket an impressive trophy and the top prize of \$252,729.

Maddocks added \$177,166 to his recent cache and Lynskey also had a healthy \$114,960 for his impressive resume.

After a night of celebration with his rowdy rail, Davies planned to perhaps invest in a property back home in the UK and had a busy work schedule awaiting him at West Sydney's boom card establishment, The Poker Palace.

"We've got a massive schedule building, with our week-long Winter Championships (\$700k est) approaching next month – we run four huge Series a year and my partner Lauren is also heavily involved in the planning, so on top of our already solid weekly tournament schedule its quiet mornings and long nights ahead of us," the popular tournament director told us.

The Poker Palace has quickly made a great name for itself and by all reports is well worth the trip. These guys gave away a \$20,000 ROLEX last Series!!



# POKER BUZZ PLAYER PROFILE



\*Photo Courtesy of Dimi Photography

## Will Davies

### OCCUPATION

Tournament Director (Poker Palace, Fairfield)

### FAVOURITE PLAYER

Spanish pro Adrian Mateos (got to play against him a while ago in London)

### FAVOURITE HAND

A♥10♥

AGE: 29

LIVES: RYDE (SYDNEY)

## THE WINNING COUPLE!



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\*Photo Courtesy of APW INFORMER

**POKER BUZZ AMBASSADOR – MEL JUDAH!**



# POKER MEDIA

**POKER BUZZ had a pretty busy June. We travelled to Sydney, Gold Coast and then back to Brisbane and to be a part of three poker events and must say the most exciting was the WPT DEEPTSTACKS GOLD COAST!**

**We got to rub shoulders once again with poker celebrities and got to witness some of the new young guns on the felt. We also had the pleasure working alongside our fellow poker media colleagues Ben Blaschke and Landon Blackhall.**

**All I can say is that 'we enjoyed every moment of every day and appreciate once again being part of such a prestigious event in our own backyard'.**



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\*Photo Courtesy of DimiPBrisbane

## WPT DEEPTSTACKS GOLD COAST 2021!

# QPC SERIES WRAP-UP

GOLD COAST poker pro Sam Adams again proved his consistency by scooping his second straight WPT QPC Player of the Series Award on the Gold Coast last month.

With a typical swag of deep runs, it was another feather in the cap for Adams. He finished 160pts clear of Mike Rowley to take the prestigious title and top prize of over \$15k.

As the final events played out, Adams got the deep finish he needed to secure the Title when he jostled heads up with top-ranking Canadian, Mike Maddocks for the PLO 6-Max Title.

Maddocks eventually prevailed and pocketed a touch under \$10k for his effort, with Adams' second place enough to seal the Player of the Series challenge.

With the quarterly series no showing great signs of comfort at its new home – Gold Coast Turf Club – players again swarmed in search of a big payday and a chance at winning one of the five-day QPC Series' Events. And it wasn't long before very familiar names were making their mark.

Straight out of the blocks, well-credentialed high stakes regular, Jigsy Reyes was owning souls in the Mini Main Event – eventually bettering a star-studded field of 408 entries for an impressive large field win.

Another well-loved character is Wayne Rickhuss was also dominating on the felt, earning a 3am victory lap and a \$6800 payday in the Rebuy Event.

The \$3k Buy-in Alpha event saw Victorian Sean Ragozzini (\$81,470) beat Vincent Huang in a spookily ironic finish. The pair also finished 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> at the previous fortnight's WPT Deepstacks \$%k Challenge at Star Casino Gold Coast.

In other notable results, Will Davis claimed his first Championship ring in the 8-6-2 Mix Max. The Shootout Event saw the well-performed Aitor Marin emerge victorious, while Jordan Bromley continued his golden run with a win in the Reload event. 339 entries turned out for the popular High Roller event, with Dylan Wayne finishing on top for a \$29,520 collect, while Troy McLean (\$57k first place) bested Ashish Gupta heads-up for the Super High Roller Title.



WPT QPC PLAYER OF THE SERIES : Sam Adams. WPT QPC ALPHA EVENT WINNER: Sean Ragozzini

\*Photo Courtesy of WPT QPC SERIES



# POKER BUZZ'S PLAYER OF THE MONTH

## MINA GERGES!

New to our scene and making his debut back in late April early May at the Check Raise 6-Max Super Series was none other than Canadian born – Mina Gerges. Gracing the felt in a very quiet manner he started to make an impression and much respected poker player amongst his rivals who in no time have become good friends by placing second against our very own Rauran Toye in the CRP Super High Roller.

Thus, his poker journey began here in Queensland and this young gun just kept going to achieve in the month of June with a staggering result of playing in a total of 11 events and cashing in 8 plus winning a satellite for the high roller at the WPT Deepstacks at the Gold Coast. What an awesome effort by this 34-year-old from Montreal calling Australia home now.

We were able to sit and chat with Mina and asked him about the how, where and the why in his poker career thus far and below you will find out more about the quiet man behind the dark shades.

Hope you all enjoy the read and just in my humble opinion, he is and will be a force to reckon with on the felt!

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\*Photo Courtesy of Star Poker Gold Coast



### So, Mina how many events did you play in the WPT Deepstacks Gold Coast?

I played 6 events total plus a satellite for the high roller. It started with the \$330 freezeout. Followed by the \$330 PLO.

- \$440 Big Bounty
- \$1,500 Main Event
- \$550 PLO
- \$400 Mega Stack Freezeout



\*Photo Courtesy of WPT QPC Series

### What did you place in these events?

I cashed 4 out of 6 events and won the satellite for the \$1,500 Main Event.

I min cashed in the \$330 Freezeout and ended up chopping heads up in the \$440 Big Bounty placing second plus 11 bounties. Then placed 43<sup>rd</sup> in the \$1,500 Main Event and 5<sup>th</sup> in the \$550 PLO.

### What would you consider to be your best achievement within the series?

I think the fact that I ran very deep in the most important tournaments was definitely my best achievement but also the fact that a lot of big names in this industry noticed my achievements and I gained a lot of respect from them.

### So, then we get to WPT QPC Gold Coast where again your run good keeps going. What events did you play and which did you place and cash?

I played 5 events and cashed in 4. Those events were the PLO 6-Max- Super High Roller, Main Event, 6-Max, Ultimate Terminator. I came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the PLO, 12<sup>th</sup> in the Main Event, 4<sup>th</sup> in The Ultimate Terminator and I honestly don't remember which place exactly I finished in the \$1,150 lol too many tournaments, but I definitely cashed.

### A bit of your background for the audience. So originally from Montreal Canada, moved to Melbourne and now in Brisbane. Now that you have played in a few series in the last 6-8 weeks how are you finding the poker here down under?

I am not really established anywhere in particular, which makes it more fun to be honest. I've been going back and forth from Melbourne to the Gold Coast to Brisbane and to Sydney next week. I really like it down here though because people have been absolute class to me. Yes, I have been getting a lot of good results but at the same time, I feel I am surrounded by a lot of good people, and it makes it way easier for me to establish myself here in Queensland. I am very thankful for it and I hope it keeps going.

### What could you say is your tournament philosophy?

Never quit! Every tournament is a new adventure, enjoy it and let your skills and personality do the talking.

### Your favourite player? (besides me of course lol)

No favourite players really but I have always been a Gus Hansen and Tom Dwan fan.

### Your favourite hand?

Can't share that with you 😊

### At what age did you start playing poker?

I started playing 12 years ago with friends for fun and with my psychology and math background, it was a match from heaven. Never stopped since.

### Which overseas major event have you played in so far?

WSOP Canada 5 years ago. I was always a cash player more than tournaments and that is why I didn't play big major events in my career but it is about to change 😊





# TABLE TALK

## w/ Geoff Bond

### **ALIEN LANGUAGE**

#### **POKER'S CATCHPHRASES AND TERMINOLOGIES**



I came to a realization recently that - for an outsider listening in - poker's array of unique and weird catchphrases and terminologies must seem like an alien language.

There I was telling an initially fascinated workmate about a huge hand I had played the night before, babbling on about trapping my opponent by checking the turn and getting max value when I bet quarter pot on the river and induced an all-in bluff with my set of Aces.

Only to see their eyes roll back and realise I had thrown them headlong into previously uncharted territory ... a territory they never knew existed and clearly instantly sounded like another planet.

Where else would one label every opponent as 'the villain', or curse a particularly sick 'bad beat' (I mean, isn't very beat bad) or even consider themselves a 'post-flop wizard amongst fish'?

Never mind trying to get someone oblivious to poker-speak to even try understanding what GTO or Under the Gun or double-gutshot or The Cutoff or Hijack could possibly mean. Outside of our poker fraternity, it's like speaking Swahili to the other 99.9% of the world!

Let's face it. In the real world, terms such as 'loose and aggro' or 'getting it in good' or drawing to the nuts' don't exactly mean what they do in the poker world.

I mean, if someone asks me (or you) to teach them how to win at poker, where do we actually start Lesson Number One? Shuffle a deck of cards and deal out two cards each - then what?

It could be weeks before they can even start to remember if a flush beats a straight. Or who acts first post-flop and if that makes any difference.

And, good luck a month in explaining why it's time to bluff and not give up (or vice versa) regardless of what cards you got. That surely just sounds stupid to a new player.

God help them when they think they're ready to start earning a six-figure living on the felt (usually at the 5-6 week mark) and then engage in a hand breakdown chat with a veteran blowing one last durrie before their first night of live poker.

They haven't even heard of three-barrelling or blocker bets or squeezeplays yet and guaranteed they're heading for a stroke if you can't calm them down before they find out they have to deal every eighth hand ... and shuffle 'properly' with everyone peering holes in their every move.

Yup, probably best to hook them up with a How to Talk Poker manual or send them a link to a WSOP Youtube arsenal before you bring them to the darkside.

Don't want to turn them away - they may just fall in love with the game and be easy money.

**~GEOFF**

# WHAT'S ON IN JULY?

**QUEENSLAND**  
COVID RESTRICTIONS (TBA)

**NEW SOUTH WALES**  
COVID RESTRICTIONS (TBA)

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA**  
MATCHROOM POKER CHALLENGE

**4<sup>th</sup> July - 11<sup>th</sup> July**

\$1,150 Buy-in Main Event - \$50,000 GTD for first.  
[www.matchroompoker.com.au](http://www.matchroompoker.com.au)

**STACKED POKER CHAMPIONSHIP**

**16<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> of May**

\$100k GTD for 1st for the Main Event.  
[www.stackedsocial.com.au/](http://www.stackedsocial.com.au/)

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