



MSPT

MID-STATES POKER TOUR

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NATION'S #1
POKER TOUR

JULY 2019



Mazen Abdallah

WINS MID-SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP AT THE VENETIAN, \$540,116!

**GARY LOWE
WINS \$350
REGIONAL**

**BACK TO
JACK CLEVELAND
AUGUST 1-4**

**\$350 REGIONAL
AT CANTERBURY
AUGUST 7-11**

**\$200K GTD AT
MAJESTIC STAR
AUGUST 16-18**

**INDIANA STATE
CHAMPIONSHIP
AUGUST 23-25**



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Letter From the Publisher

WE'VE REACHED THE HALFWAY POINT IN SEASON 10, NOW WE RAMP UP AGAIN!

The first half of Season 10 has been an exciting one, highlighted by the \$3M Guaranteed Mid-Season Championship at The Venetian in Las Vegas June 3-8 that attracted a massive field as expected! You can read more about that tournament on pages 12-13.

The MSPT and The Venetian also partnered to host a \$1,600 buy-in, \$3M Guaranteed event June 17-21 that drew a huge crowd as well! That recap and results of that event will be featured in the August issue of MSPT Magazine.

As players return home to the Midwest from the summer action in Las Vegas, the MSPT ramps up again July into August. We'll kick things off at Potawatomi Casino in Milwaukee, WI with a \$350 buy-in, \$200K GTD Regional tournament July 17-21. From there we'll head to Meskwaki Casino July 26-28 for the \$1,100 buy-in Iowa State Poker Championship, a \$300K GTD Main Event.

This upcoming August is packed with back-to-back-to-back-to-back tournaments across the Midwest—from JACK Cleveland Casino in Ohio to Canterbury Park in Minnesota, then back to East Chicago for a \$200K GTD at Majestic Star Casino and wrapping up the month at Tropicana Evansville for the Indiana State Poker Championship. You can read our event previews for each of these events in this issue. 🎰



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Our Mission

MSPT Magazine is a monthly magazine dedicated to serving poker players and gaming facilities through MSPT news, results, tournament schedules, player profiles and professional tips. Coupled with our website, msptpoker.com, we are the Nation's #1 Poker Tour.

Mid-States Poker Tour

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MSPT
MID-STATES POKER TOUR

MSPT MAIN EVENT CASHES

Leaders as of June 20, 2019

Rank	Player Name	Cashes
1	Aaron Johnson	32
2	Kou Vang	31
3	Richard Alsup	25
4	Mark Hodge	24
5	DJ Buckley	23
6	Blake Bohn	22
7	Patrick Steele	21
8	Rob WazWaz	20
9	Jason Seitz	19
	Matt Alexander	19
11	Dan Hendrickson	18
	Phil Mader	18
13	Jeremy Dresch	17
	Matt Kirby	17
	Josh Reichard	17
	Nicholas Pupillo	17
17	Mark Sandness	16
	Todd Melander	16
19	Everett Carlton	15
	Rodger Johnson	15
21	Tom Hammers	14
	John Hayes	14
	Brian Zupancich	14
	John Reading	14
25	Reg Powell	13
	Dennis Stevermer	13
	Adam Lamphere	13
	Ben Keeline	13
	Keith Heine	13
30	Joe Matheson	12
	Brett Reichard	12
	John Pierce	12
	Joseph Barnard	12
	Richard Syverud	12
35	Judd Greenagel	11
	Jason Bender	11
	Andrew Rubinberg	11
	Michael Ross	11
	Adam Friedman	11
	Michael Ermie	11
	Loki Abboud	11
	Craig Trost	11
	Osama Aweida	11
	Chris Meyers	11



Aaron Johnson - Red Wing, MN



Kou Vang - Maplewood, MN

**Check out complete
MSPT stats page on
msptpoker.com**

Event Preview

MSPT153 AT JACK CLEVELAND CASINO BOASTS \$300K GTD AUGUST 1-4

BY MSPT STAFF

As the MSPT clears the halfway point in Season 10, it's time to look ahead to MSPT153 at JACK Cleveland Casino in Cleveland, OH—a 21 or older event.

The \$1,100 buy-in, \$300K GTD Main Event will take place August 1-4 and will be preceded by a series of \$70, \$145 and \$265 satellites where every single satellite boasts a 10-seat guarantee! The stop will mark the MSPT's 153rd Main Event but just the third ever at JACK Cleveland Casino.

In 2018, the inaugural MSPT Cleveland Poker Open attracted 581 entrants and saw Abdul “Dulie” Amer, a good friend of poker pros Adam Friedman and Nick Guagenti, capture the title and \$118,350 first-place prize.

Fast forward to January 2019 where the MSPT JACK Cleveland Casino event attracted 725-runners creating a prize pool over \$700K making it by far the largest major poker tournament (\$1K+ buy-in) in Cleveland's history, breaking our own record from the previous year. In the end, it was Sean Munjal of Ann Arbor, Michigan, who navigated the field to take down a \$140,654 first-place prize.

The property, which is open 24/7, is a 300,000-square-foot complex—96,000 square feet are dedicated to gaming including slot machines, table games, and poker—the property is located inside the historic Higbee Building on Public Square, which is adjacent to the city's entertainment district.

The casino, which is within minutes of Quicken Loans Arena, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and FirstEnergy Stadium, offers 1,600 slots with denominations from 1 cent all the way up to \$500 per spin, as well as nearly 100 table games including Blackjack, Craps, Roulette, and several poker variants. In addition, poker players can grind it out in the 30-table poker room, which hosts games (hold'em, Omaha, 7-Card Stud, and Razz are all offered) around the clock.



Sean Munjal

JACK Cleveland Casino also has you covered for parking as players may either valet or self-park at the casino's dedicated 1,300-space parking structure located at the corner of Ontario and Prospect streets. K Level card holders park for free, while other ClubJACK members park free based on rated play.

While you're at JACK Cleveland, you can choose from several dining options including a buffet restaurant, three quick-serve food outlets, and three feature bars. In addition, Boston-based burger-chain, Wahlburgers, is located in retail space adjacent to the casino parking structure.

Speaking of those three casino bars, they all offer premium spirits, cocktails, beers, and wines. Additionally, Rock Bar & Lounge offers 35 flat-screen TVs and the area's only electronic table games.

In its first three years, JACK Cleveland Casino welcomed more than 13 million guests, booked nearly 100,000 room nights at partner hotels, and redeemed more than \$4.4 million in meals at partner restaurants. It has truly established itself as one of the Midwest's premier gaming destinations!

About JACK Entertainment

JACK Entertainment is a Midwest-based urban gaming company focused on the development and operation of gaming facilities that are designed to maximize connectivity and economic impact in the local areas where they reside. Dan Gilbert, chairman of JACK Entertainment, is also majority owner of the NBA's Cleveland Cavaliers and AHL's Cleveland Monsters, and chairman and founder of Quicken Loans Inc. Nearly 5,000 Ohioans are employed through Gilbert's business interests.

JACK Entertainment also owns JACK Cincinnati Casino, Greektown Casino-Hotel in Detroit, JACK Thistledown Racino, a thoroughbred racetrack with video lottery terminals in North Randall, Ohio, and Turfway Park, a premier thoroughbred horse racing track located in northern Kentucky.

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Sun. July 21	4:00 PM	\$100 Mix Limit Hold'em/Omaha-8
Mon. July 22	6:30 PM	\$150 Double Stack NLH
Tues. July 23	6:30 PM	\$100 Leg-Up Charity Event
Wed. July 24	6:30 PM	\$300 Black Chip Bounty Double Stack NLH
Thurs. July 25	6:30 PM	\$200 Tag-Team NLH
Fri. July 26	6:00 PM	\$100 NL Crazy Pineapple
Sat. July 27	10:30 AM	\$250 Double Stack NLH
Sun. July 28	4:00 PM	\$50 Ladies NLH

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Event Preview

MSPT CANTERBURY PARK \$350 REGIONAL EVENT \$100K GTD SET FOR AUGUST 7-11

BY MSPT STAFF

Minnesota's Canterbury Park, home to the first-ever MSPT event, is gearing up for another record-breaking tournament. From August 7-11, the MSPT will be in Shakopee, Minnesota for a \$350 buy-in, \$100,000 GTD Regional Event.

A series of \$50 and \$90 satellites will feed into the Regional, which will run August 7-11. The tournament will offer four flights starting with Day 1A at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, August 7. Day 1B will take place at the same time on Thursday, August 8, while 1C and 1D will be at 12 p.m. on Friday, August 9 and Saturday, August 10 respectively. The remaining players from each flight will combine on Sunday morning at 11 a.m. and play until a champion is crowned.

Seating is limited as there is a max of 20 available tables, so alternates are a possibility. Be sure to register early to lock up a seat.

The upcoming MSPT Canterbury Regional, the third ever held at the venue, will be the 33rd Regional Event since their inception at the beginning of 2015. The Regional Events are designed to offer players the opportunity to play MSPT's lauded "Chainsaw-Approved" \$1,100 Main Event structure at a more affordable price point.

Last year, the second-ever MSPT \$350 Regional Event held at Canterbury Park attracted 1,065 entrants, and it was 2016 MNPokerMag POY Saad Ghanem who captured a \$39,542 first-place prize and the MSPT hardware after a three-way chop. Ghanem, AJ Thompson and Paul Cross negotiated an even split of the top three payouts which were scheduled to pay \$57,151, \$35,216 and \$26,258 respectively. For Cross it was a back-to-back top three finish in this event.

In 2017, 32-year-old Paul Cross topped a record field of 1,169 entries—the largest tournament in Minnesota history—to win a \$61,911 first-place prize.

Recently, Canterbury Park renovated their card room, gaming pits, restaurant options and entrance to the Track Level. In addition Canterbury unveiled a \$400-million redevelopment plan that would facilitate the development of restaurants, hotels, entertainment, offices, medical, retail and commercial recreational uses. Plans include an extended-stay hotel, boutique hotel, hotel and water park, an office space, new restaurants, specialty options, family entertainment venues and more. The live part includes a luxury apartment



Saad Ghanem



complex, upscale townhomes and a senior housing co-op. The vision for the redevelopment is a place to "live, stay, work, play."

Canterbury Park Racetrack and Card Casino is Minnesota's only thoroughbred and quarter horse racing facility. There is also year-round wagering on simulcast horse racing and hosts a variety of other entertainment and special events at its facility.

Through popular promotions and big-money tournaments Canterbury's Card Casino has become a Twin Cities' gaming destination.

For more information about Canterbury, please visit www.canterburypark.com.

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Event Preview

MSPT RETURNS TO MAJESTIC STAR CASINO AUGUST 16-18

BY MSPT STAFF

For the fourth time ever, the MSPT is headed to Majestic Star Casino in the East Chicagoland area (Gary, Indiana) from August 16-18.

A series of \$65 and \$250 satellites will feed into the \$1,100 buy-in MSPT154 Main Event, which requires players be 21+ to play. That tournament, which will offer a \$200K GTD, will offer two starting flights starting with Day 1A at 3 p.m. on Friday, August 16. Day 1B will take place at the same time on Saturday, August 17. The surviving players from both flights will then return at 11 a.m. on Sunday, August 18 to play down to a winner.

Also, on that Sunday there will be a \$340 NLH Last Chance Casino Bonus Event beginning at Noon.

In January of this year, Mike Shin of Milwaukee, WI topped



Mike Shin

a field of 309-entrants which eclipsed the largest field of 301 at the property. Shin walked away with the \$68,593 top prize! The win was the second largest of Shin's career after the \$427,930 he received for finishing 12th in the 2016 WSOP Main Event.

"I feel awesome, man! I don't know what else to say," Shin said after his victory. "I try not to miss these events, especially in this region."

The MSPT first visited Majestic Star back in March 2014 (Season 5) when Ken Baime topped a field of 301 entrants to win the title for \$77,681. Five months later, the tour returned to the venue and saw Brian Zimcosky top a 228-entry field to win \$61,870.

About Majestic Star Casino

Enjoy six floors of gaming action at Majestic Star Casino! They're bringing the 'Win' to the Windy City!

Located just 35 minutes from Downtown Chicago, our casino features a huge selection of gaming options 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It's there you'll find over 1,700 Slots, table games, Baccarat, poker, and more!

You can also enjoy a wide variety of dining options, including their award-winning Steakhouse. With the latest slots and wide array of table games, Majestic Star has something for everybody! Plus enjoy all your favorite games on their new non-smoking level. 🍷



Event Recap



Gary Lowe



Regional Main Event

Buy-in: \$350 ♣ 473 Entrants

Place	Name	City, State	Prize
1	Gary Lowe	Linton, IN	\$29,372
2	James Gidden	Irondale, MO	\$18,051
3	Dan Kuntzman	Piano, IL	\$13,008
4	Donnie Phan	Nashville, TN	\$9,838
5	Scott Gowdy	Newburgh, TN	\$7,379
6	Mohammad Najad	Nashville, TN	\$5,602
7	Bao Tran	Evansville, IN	\$4,373
8	Daniel Boyko	Clarksville, TN	\$3,146
9	Cameron Kieffer	Mount Carmel, IL	\$2,596
10	Earl Potter	Vincennes, IN	\$2,050



Tag Team Championship

Buy-in: \$125 per team ♣ 199 Entrants

Place	Names	Prize
1	Patrick Nordhoff & Stu Holland	\$5,970
2	Crystal Utley & John Utley	\$3,700
3	David Wilkens & Ivan Ayala	\$2,607
4	Mohammad Hassan-Najad & Anh Nguyen	\$1,891
5	Kayla Green & Donnie Paddock	\$1,393
6	Brian Meredith & Kyle Swope	\$1,035
7	Christopher Peters & Tony Cullon	\$836
8	Chase Giese & Cameron Kieffer	\$677
9	Ricky Stinson & Scott Watkins	\$537
10	Juan Cabrera & Brian Shymik	\$418

Tropicana Evansville

GARY LOWE WINS \$350 REGIONAL MAIN EVENT AT TROPICANA EVANSVILLE

BY MSPT STAFF

The MSPT was back at Tropicana Evansville May 22-26 with our popular Regional Series format for the which included a \$250 Tag Team, \$125 Seniors (50+) and a \$125 Turbo Deepstack and was capped off with the popular \$350 Regional Main Event.



Donald Williams



James Aldridge



Patrick Nordhoff & Stu Holland

The \$250 Tag Team event kicked off the series on Wednesday, May 22 and attracted 199 total entrants. In the end it was Patrick Nordhoff & Stu Holland that earned the win, splitting the \$5,970 first place prize.

On Thursday, May 23, 161 total runners came out to participate in the \$125 MSPT Seniors (50+) Championship. Donald Williams navigated the difficult field to take home the \$4,347 first place prize.

James Aldridge took down the \$125 Turbo Deepstack on Friday, May 24 by outlasting a field of 69 entrants. Aldridge pocketed \$2,415 for the win.

Gary Lowe of Linton, IN won the \$350 Regional Main Event by defeating a 473-entrant field to take home \$29,372. For Lowe this was his first ever MSPT cash and his largest career score. 🍀



\$350 Main Event Final Table



Turbo Deepstack

Buy-in: \$125 ♣ 69 Entrants

Place	Name	City, State	Prize
1	James Aldridge	Fort Branch, IN	\$2,415
2	Kevin Hill	Vincennes, IN	\$1,490
3	Robert Bentley	Evansville, IN	\$987
4	Kelly Morgan	Bumpus Mills, TN	\$704
5	Kenneth Robb	Owensboro, KY	\$524
6	Gary Hays	Dublin, OH	\$421
7	Perry Stone	Bloomfield, IN	\$359



Seniors (50+)

Buy-in: \$125 per team ♣ 161 Entrants

Place	Name	City, State	Prize
1	Donald Williams	Rockville, IN	\$4,347
2	Durwood Flournoy	Readyville, TN	\$2,720
3	Danny Marshall	Shawneetown, IL	\$1,932
4	Shelia Nickle	Bloomington, IN	\$1,369
5	Russell Query	Petersburg, IN	\$1,047
6	Perry Stone	Bloomfield, IN	\$821
7	John Winters	Flora, IL	\$628
8	Terry Harden	Terre Haute IN	\$483
9	Joseph Villhauer	Crossville, TN	\$386
10	Terry Coleman	Winslow, IN	\$306

Event Recap

MSPT VENETIAN MID-SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP ATTRACTS 4,345 RUNNERS!

BY MSPT STAFF

The \$1,100 buy-in, \$3 million Guaranteed MSPT Mid-Season Championship at The Venetian attracted 4,345 runners, which made it the second-largest poker tournament in both MSPT and Venetian history!

On Day 3, the final 21 players returned to play down to a winner. After six hours, it was retired attorney turned business investor Mazen Abdallah of New Orleans, Louisiana who walked away with a \$445,000 first-place prize after a four-way chop (the original first-place prize was slated to be \$540,116)

"I feel amazing!" Abdallah said after his victory. "I came out here specifically for this tournament, I flew in from Houston, Texas to come here. I told my wife I came here for one thing and one thing only, and that's to win this goddamn tournament, and that's what I did!"

Abdallah, who was a charismatic force at the table, had a unique way of describing his play style. "My style is a little bit off; a combination of game theory, but also anti-game theory. Create chaos, but always be in control at the same time. And the number one edge that I have is my table talk. I influence a lot of action through my words. It's because I convince myself of the strength of my hand, and it conveys through my speech."

Abdallah's victory was also unique in that he doesn't have a lot of prior tournament experience; "I don't normally play tournaments, this is probably the sixth tournament I've ever played in my life. The thing is, it's so hard to make it to the very end of a tournament. You can spend six, seven days and walk away with nothing. To have a couple prop bets with a buddy of yours, to where if you do make it, it's worthwhile. I don't wanna go into too many details, but every tournament I've ever played is based on a prop bet. Earlier this year, I had a prop bet on the first WSOP event I ever played, a \$1,350 High Roller at the Hard Rock, and the only reason I played it was because of that prop bet." He ended up shipping that event for the ring and \$31,500.

Coming into the final day, Abdallah had a premonition about his eventual victory. "I had this overwhelming feeling, I'm gonna win this. I was telling everybody over and over again. Buddy of mine that made Day 3, (2018 WSOP Main Event Final Tablist) Aram Zobian, amazing player, he gave me some advice and tips on the later stages of the tournament. Ultimately what he told me was - Play your game, don't



Mazen Abdallah

change it. Play your game, maintain it, that's what got you there."

Abdallah also doesn't plan to keep much of the winnings he accrued but has noble intentions in mind, saying, "I have to say this; my wife does not allow me to keep any money I win from poker. So basically it's either going to charity or people who are in need. I told her we're gonna splurge on one thing, though, and she agreed!"

Day 2 saw a number of notables cash, including Reg Powell (24th - \$21,182), Season 7 MSPT Canterbury Park champ Jonathan Kim (29th - \$14,404), last year's runner-up Felipe Davila (36th - \$14,404), WSOP bracelet winner Jessica Dawley (50th - \$10,591), former MSPT champ Josh Reichard (63rd - \$9,320), Season 9 MSPT Venetian champ Sam Vizza (125th - \$5,423), Season 6 MSPT POY Mark Hodge (200th - \$4,152), Season 8 MSPT Potawatomi Regional champ Craig Trost (212th - \$4,152), Season 9 MSPT Michigan State Poker champ Matthew Stammen (361st - \$2,711), MSPT Hall of Famer Rich Alsop (366th - \$2,711), and former WSOP November Niners Bryan Piccioli (391st - \$2,372) and Jeremy Ausmus (392nd - \$2,372).



Michael Shelton

The Venetian Las Vegas

Day 3 saw 11 players fall short of making the final table, including final table bubble boy Thaun Lam (11th - \$42,364), Dustin Lee (13th - \$36,009), Scott Hall (15th - \$36,009), Erik Glenister (18th - \$29,655) and 2018 WSOP Main Event Final Table list Aram Zobian (20th - \$25,418).

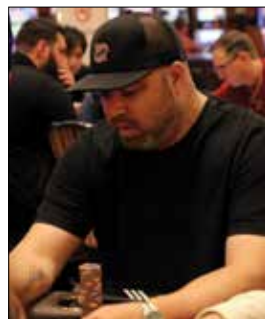
Final Table Action

Julien Loire went out on one of the very first hands of the final table, getting his last seven big blinds in with king-queen against the eights of Jesse Jaurigue. Loire failed to improve and hit the rail in tenth, \$42,364 richer. A few levels later, Fernando Araujo was felted in another flip, when his sevens couldn't fade the king-jack of Mazen Abdallah. Araujo took \$50,837 home for his ninth-place finish.

Brandon Sinawi got his last ten big blinds in a short time later in a blind-versus-blind battle, but Jaurigue held Big Slick and ended Sinawi's run in eighth-place for \$63,546. Another blind battle would end Nitis Udornpim's tournament in seventh-place, when he ripped king-six right into Sheddly Siddiqui's jacks, giving Udornpim



Sean Davidson



Sheddly Siddiqui



The Venetian Las Vegas

Buy-in: \$1,100 ♣ 4,345 Entrants

Place	Name	City, State	Prize
1	Mazen Abdallah	New Orleans, LA	\$445,000*
2	Sean Davidson	Boston, MA	\$306,265*
3	Michael Shelton	Indianapolis, IN	\$302,020*
4	Sheddly Siddiqui	Pembroke Pines, FL	\$291,742*
5	Jesse Jaurigue	Covina, CA	\$148,273
6	Matthew Sesso	Naples, FL	\$108,028
7	Nitis Udornpim	Columbia, MD	\$80,491
8	Brandon Sinawi	Macomb, MI	\$63,546
9	Fernando Araujo	Brazil	\$50,837
10	Julien Loire	Lille, France	\$42,364

*Denotes chop amount

a \$80,941 consolation prize.

Abdallah claimed his next victim when the start of Day 3 chip leader Matthew Sesso got his king-queen in against the ace-deuce of Abdallah, and Sesso failed to improve, leaving him with sixth-place and \$108,028. Jaurigue was the last player to fall, when he called off his last ten big blinds with sevens, only to find Michael Shelton had him crushed with queens. Jaurigue finished in fifth for \$148,273. 🍀



Final Table



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Strategy presented by Jonathan Little

FACING A FOUR-BET WITH POCKET NINES

BY MSPT STAFF

On Day 1c of May's record-breaking MSPT Fire-Keeper, it was Level 14 with the blinds at 1,500/3,000/3,000 when the UTG+1 player raised to 9,000 and Scotter Clark three-bet all in for 14,000 total.

Jim Duda (140,000) then four-bet to 25,000 and called when the UTG+1 player jammed for 65,000.

Duda: A♥J♥

UTG+1: 9♥9♠

Clark: 5♦5♥

The board ran out 8♦A♦4♠A♠5♠ and Clark rivered a full house to triple up while Duda claimed the side pot with trip aces to chip up to 200,000.

We caught up with poker pro Jonathan Little of PokerCoaching.com, the official training site of the MSPT, to ask him a few questions.

MSPT: What do you make of Duda's four-bet here with ace-jack suited? Good idea or better off to flat/fold?

Little: This is a difficult spot to analyze because it depends entirely on the ranges and tendencies of the other two players in the hand, which are impossible to know. In general, though, due to UTG+1's shallow stack, I think Duda should either four-bet larger (to induce UTG+1 to fold) or fold. If UTG+1 is a loose, splashy player, I like four-betting, but if he has been reasonably snug, folding is probably ideal. If Clark was known to be extremely tight, Duda should also fold. If everyone plays reasonable ranges though, four-betting due to having a decent amount of equity plus fold equity is probably ideal.

If you were in the UTG+1 player's shoes what would you have done with the nines when facing a four-bet?

Little: Facing the four-bet, I would have folded. For Duda to four-bet, he needs either a premium pair or a strong high-card hand, resulting in 9x9x being at a disadvantage. It is easy to figure out if you are in good shape or not against a range by asking how many hands you dominate and how many hands dominate you. In this spot, pocket nines are losing to all bigger pairs and presumably worse pairs would not four-bet, so nines are not in great shape.

What do you make of Duda's call after the UTG+1 player five-



Jim Duda



Scotter Clark

bet jammed? How do ranges factor in a spot like this?

Little: Against an all-in, I would still fold for the same reason. While some players will only min-four-bet with exactly their best hands and go all-in with their marginal hands, many players are figuring out that it is usually not the ideal strategy because it clearly splits their range, making them easy to play against. So, either way, facing the small all-in and four-bet, I would have folded pocket nines.

PokerCoaching.com is an interactive poker learning experience from two-time WPT Champion Jonathan Little. Try it for free at PokerCoaching.com/mspt.



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MSPT

MID-STATES POKER TOUR

MSPT EARNINGS

Leaders as of June 20, 2019

Rank	Player Name	Amount
1	Pavel Plesuv	\$681,212
2	Richard Alsup	\$670,325
3	Michael Soyza	\$588,249
4	David Levine	\$495,500
5	Blake Bohn	\$485,398
6	Thomas Boivin	\$455,142
7	Mazen Abdallah	\$445,000
8	Felipe Davila	\$422,993
9	Kou Vang	\$403,968
10	Nadar Kakhmazov	\$395,888
11	Yat Cheng	\$392,806
12	Andrew Rubinberg	\$386,537
13	Jeremy Saderne	\$364,573
14	Carl Carodenuto	\$358,241
15	Chris Moon	\$349,415
16	Aaron Massey	\$349,028
17	Peixin Liu	\$318,857
18	Brayden Gazlay	\$316,782
19	Matthew Stammen	\$312,298
20	Sean Davidson	\$306,265
21	Mukul Pahuja	\$304,491
22	Rob WazWaz	\$302,424
23	Michael Shelton	\$302,020
24	Jason Zarlenga	\$298,379
25	James Romero	\$294,445
26	Sheddy Siddiqui	\$291,742
27	Mike Shanahan	\$278,607
28	Matt Kirby	\$278,448
29	Jeremy Dresch	\$276,265
30	Aaron Johnson	\$273,146
31	Chris Meyers	\$272,282
32	Lou Garza	\$269,639
33	Osama Aweida	\$242,330
34	Alex Foxen	\$239,000
35	Keith Heine	\$235,580
36	Angelina Rich	\$234,829
37	Greg Himmelbrand	\$234,062
38	Maury Solano	\$228,817
39	Richard Bai	\$226,044
40	Mark Brazis	\$221,323
41	Joni Jouhkimainen	\$221,304
42	Travis Lauson	\$220,117
43	Adam Friedman	\$216,732
44	Glen Nguyen	\$215,430
45	Keven Stammen	\$212,187
46	Daniel Bekavac	\$211,429
47	John Hayes	\$209,395
48	Jonathan Kim (MN)	\$208,380
49	Hao "John" Sun	\$205,641
50	Kristen Bicknell	\$203,729



Pavel Plesuv - Moldova, Prague



Rich Alsup - New Hope, MN

Check out complete
MSPT stats page on
msptpoker.com

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MSPT

MID-STATES POKER TOUR

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Season 10 Standings as of June 20

Rank	Player Name	Points
1	Brian Wilson	3,250
2	Brian Hou	2,250
3	Jeremy Brown	2,100
4	Chris Moon	2,050
5	Mazen Abdallah	2,000
6	Mike Shin	1,975
7	Scott Vetter	1,800
	Sean Munjal	1,800
	Sean Davidson	1,800
10	Daniel Bekavac	1,700
	Jeffrey Hill	1,700
	Pedro Mendes	1,700
	Michael Shelton	1,700
14	Matt Kirby	1,675
15	Kou Vang	1,650
16	Ryan Awwad	1,600
	Anthony Carbone	1,600
	Eli Ross	1,600
	Sheddy Siddiqui	1,600
20	Steve Federspiel	1,575
21	Tom Stambaugh	1,550
	Matthew Stammen	1,550
	Mark Jaroslowski	1,550
24	John Mingus	1,534



Aaron Johnson - 2018 Season 9 POY

♣All players who cash in a MSPT event are ranked for Player of the Year points. At the end of the calendar year 2019, the top-ranked player will receive POY recognition and a \$10,000 WSOP Main Event buy-in for 2020.

♣MSPT Player of the Year points are awarded based on the total prizepool of the tournament

♣For more POY information, including how points are awarded, and to follow the race in 2019, visit <https://msptpoker.com/statistics/MSPTSeasonPoints.aspx>



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Event Preview

MSPT HEADS TO TROPICANA EVANSVILLE AUGUST 23-25 FOR 2019 INDIANA STATE POKER CHAMPIONSHIP

BY MSPT STAFF

Season 10 of the MSPT has included two Regional Series at Tropicana Evansville in southern Indiana back in early February and May, now we're headed there again from August 23-25. However, this time it'll be for the \$1,100 buy-in, \$200,000 GTD 2019 MSPT Indiana State Poker Championship.

For nearly 22 years, Tropicana Evansville operated as Indiana's first riverboat casino, and now they've become the first to transition to a land-based casino with their new 75,000 square-foot facility.

The 2019 MSPT Indiana State Poker Championship will kick off with Day 1A at 3 p.m. on Friday, August 23 with the plan of playing 15 levels. Day 1B will then take place at the same time on Saturday, August 24. Players who advance from Main Event Flight 1A to Day 2 are not eligible to play in Flight 1B without forfeiting their chips. The remaining players from each flight will combine on Sunday, August 25 at 11:00 a.m. and play until a champion is crowned. The complete schedule can be found on msptpoker.com.

The final table will be broadcast LIVE (15-minute delay) worldwide on msptpoker.com using RFID technology allowing all viewers to see the hole cards. In addition, the entire Main Event will be live reported in the MSPT live blog.

It'll mark the sixth time a Main Event has been held at Tropicana Evansville, the second in the new land-based facility. The 2018 MSPT Indiana State Poker Championship attracted 307 entries to Tropicana Evansville, which sits on the Ohio River just across the border from Kentucky. After a full weekend of play, Tim Burden of Central City, Kentucky walked away with the title and \$68,149 top prize, his first ever MSPT cash.

In August 2017, the 2017 MSPT Indiana State Poker Championship drew 320 entries and saw Satish Thakur claim the title and \$71,047 top prize.

In 2016, Earl Potter bested a 340-entry field to win the 2016 MSPT Indiana State Poker Championship for \$82,450. Other winners of the MSPT Tropicana Evansville include Michael O'Neill (August 2015 for \$67,746) and Charlie Dawson (August 2014 for \$60,527).

Tropicana Evansville is a multi-million-dollar entertainment complex located on the scenic banks of the Ohio River in southwestern Indiana. The single-level 24-hour casino, which opened on October 20, 2017, encompasses 45,000 square feet



Tim Burden



of gaming space featuring 1,175 slot games, 33 table games, a dedicated Poker Room and a High Limit Room.

Accommodations include a 243-room hotel tower and a 95-room boutique hotel. The property showcases an ultramodern entertainment lounge, five dining options, five bars, gift shop, conference center, riverfront pavilion and a 1,660-vehicle attached parking garage.

For more information, visit tropevansville.com. Stay tuned to msptpoker.com for upcoming hotel rates. 📺



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