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Online Poker Tournaments, A Two Part Primer (Part 1)

By David Olsen

If you've ever watched any of the number of Poker Tournaments on TV you're probably aware of the excitement these tournaments can generate. There's really nothing like going "all in" when you're playing heads up, knowing that the entire prize pool is at stake. Well Tournament Poker is not just for the pros anymore. Your favorite Online Poker Room probably has a tournament going on right now. If you've never played in an online tournament here's some things you ought to know.

Anatomy of an Online Poker Tournament

Most online poker rooms offer tournament play. A quick visit to their website will tell you everything you'll need to know about their upcoming tournament schedule. Information like the buy-in, type of tournament, starting time is clearly displayed; you simply read the schedule and then make your decision. Here's what a typical tournament entry looks like:

6:00 PM ET (10:00 PM GMT) 30+3 NL Texas Hold'em

This simply means that the tournament starts at 6PM Eastern Standard Time, it's a No Limit (NL) Texas Hold'em Game. The 30+3 is the buy-in. These numbers tell you that it will cost you \$33 to play in this tournament; it's listed this way to let you know that you will be paying \$30 toward the prize pool and \$3 to the pokerroom. To play in this tournament you'll need to register sometime prior to 6PM. Registration essentially means paying the entry fee (\$33).

A few minutes before 6PM you should launch the pokerroom and login. Further details are specific to the pokerroom you're playing at, but most likely you'll automatically be taken to the tournament at the appropriate time.

At the start of the tournament, everyone will have the same number of chips (1,500 is a typical number). Play will commence as usual, blinds, the dealer button and betting order will be handled just like in non-tournament play. As hands won and lost and chips are moved around the table, some players will lose all of the chips and be eliminated. The tournament will continue until one player has won all of the chips. That person will be declared the winner and will take home the largest share of the

prize pool.

Most tournaments will have more than one winner, some larger tournaments can have five or more. The final player will win the biggest prize; the second, third, fourth... place finishers will each win lesser prizes. Any player that wins a prize is said to have finished "in the money"

David Olsen has been writing about online casinos and casino strategy for over five years and is considered an authority in the online gambling world. His latest website is all about the poker and video poker. Visit it at:

http://www.playvideopoker.us/poker_rooms

Online Poker Tips

By BetPrize

Internet poker room is a good place to test your basic skills and define the best live poker game playing strategy for yourself. At the Internet poker room table you would have to play against possibly more skilled opponents.

The first and the main live poker game tip on our list is: do your homework, study the basic rules of poker game, memorize all possible poker hands, visit Internet poker forums, read books on poker, chat with other poker card players.

Then try a few FREE versions of an Internet poker room game at our sister site: 3-hand, 5-hand, Caribbean Stud, Texas Holdem Poker, Video Poker. They all are fun to play!

Take full advantage of live poker game deposit bonuses at the Internet poker room you choose. Almost all Internet poker rooms offer deposit bonuses for new poker players, usually from \$30 to \$50.

Place a limit on the money you are going to gamble with before you start playing live poker game.

When playing a poker game, analyze the playing habits and poker playing strategies used by your opponents at the Internet poker room table.

As a beginner do not play too many poker hands, you will be sure to lose. Play only the higher value starting hands.

With chosen low poker limits you can play live poker game for several hours for less than the cost of a movie ticket. So even if you lose a little, think of the expense as a small payment for a nicely spent evening.

Play poker at your present mastery level. If you are just a beginner poker card player, do not rush into Internet poker room tournaments, your time will come after months of improving your skill in numerous live poker games.

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Learn how to fold a poker hand and when. Fold if you have nothing in your hand, do not be afraid to fold poker hands as many times as necessary.

Master the art of choosing starting poker hands, employing pot odds, and aggressively betting your winning hands.

We do not claim that these free online poker tips will help you win money, this article is for information purpose only.

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