

This Free E-Book is brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

The Poker Tournament Craze

By Kenneth Bateman

It's official, poker is the hottest game in the universe! Poker tournaments are the hottest gaming events, and the World Series of Poker, (WSOP) is the hottest of them all!

And best of all, for those who host these tournaments, particularly those hosting the WSOP, are the huge monetary rewards, with player buy-ins ranging from \$1,000 entry fees to \$10,000 buy-ins per player at the final table, and thousands more for special event buy-ins within the WSOP tournament, as well as sponsors literally throwing advertising money at the hosts to get a piece of the world-wide publicity accompanying these events.

Just about everyone addicted to watching poker tournaments would love to get in on the action, but, like most of us, the requisite skills and experience just aren't there. However, pending legislation in the State of Nevada may soon give anyone a chance to participate by betting on the tournament players. In other words, allowing what amounts to pari-mutuel or group wagering.

Pari-mutuel betting, in which gambler's wagers are pooled and paid out to winners, are common to such betting venues as horse racing, dog racing and Jai Alai. In pari-mutuel betting players bet against one another, and not against the house. The fewer gamblers who bet on the winner, the larger their share of the winnings.

A primary benefit to the casino's - if this legislation is approved - is that the casino's would not be risking their own money by setting the odds. Instead, they would take a "rake" off the top of the pot, as they do with racing events.

Gaining permission to engage in pari-mutuel betting on poker events would give Nevada casinos the opportunity to tap a revenue resource that has traditionally been the domain of illegal bookies, who attend poker championship tournaments and take wagers on individual players and teams of players.

The pari-mutuel betting proposal is still another example of the Nation's gambling capital originating new ways of making it easier for people to place wagers. Wireless wagering on casino floors and casino games in admission charging venues such as nightclubs, is yet another example.

The Poker Tournament Craze

Actually, Nevada's new found interest in incorporating pari-mutuel betting into poker tournaments was really inspired by Internet casinos, who, years ago set long and short term odds on individual tournament players.

Still another motivating factor in prompting Nevada casino's to pursue this legislation, is the fact that in addition to the widespread and still growing public fascination with high-stakes high profile poker tournaments, enhanced television coverage of these events have made celebrities of the players themselves, who are achieving what amounts to stardom, with fan clubs and the like developing for the most popular players.

With poker fans being able to participate in the wagering, thus getting the "feel" that they are actually taking part in the tournament, this legislation, if approved looks like a sure winner for Nevada's gaming industry.

Kenneth Bateman writes numerous articles on the subject of poker and its players. To read more player profiles, visit

<http://www.xlpoker.com>

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).

The Poker Tournament Craze

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



This Free E-Book has been brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!