

## **WPT World Championship III**

Casino: Bellagio Resort and Casino

Location: Las Vegas, NV

Buy-in: \$25,000

Entry Fee: \$500

# of Players: 452

Prize Pool: \$10,961,000

Final Table Date: Apr. 24, 2005

### Results:

1. Tuan Le \$2,856,150
2. Paul Maxfield \$1,698,390
3. Hasan Habib \$896,375
4. John Phan \$518,820
5. Rob Hollink \$377,420
6. Phil Ivey \$264,195

It's only fitting that the pinnacle of the WPT season provided a tournament that boasted a prize pool of over \$10,000,000. The WPT World Championship had a record 452 players, including all of the WPT Season 3 champions. Each entrant put up \$25,000 that added up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest prize pool in the history of tournament poker.

The biggest tournament of the year provided some of the biggest names at the final table. Tuan Le, Paul Maxfield, Hasan Habib, John Phan, Rob Hollink, and Phil Ivey made the final day about as entertaining as anyone could've hoped for.

Habib was aggressive right out of the gates determined to establish himself as the boss of the table. Ivey was the first to get in Habib's way and was eliminated in 6<sup>th</sup> place. Hollink was eliminated soon after in 5<sup>th</sup> place. The man who eliminated Hollink, John Phan found himself crippled after his Ks-Qd ran into the A-K of Maxfield. He was out soon after in 4<sup>th</sup> place. With 3 left, Habib found himself all-in with Qc-8c versus Le's Kd-Jc. The board didn't help Habib and he was eliminated in 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

From the moment heads-up play began Le was aggressive. Maxfield finally decided to take a stand with Ks-5d only to see Le holding a dominating Kd-Jd. The board came Kh-Th-3s-Qh-7h and Le took down his 2<sup>nd</sup> WPT title of the year and an amazing \$2.8 million.