



Thousands to visit Pendleton for Spring Poker Round-Up

Wildhorse Resort and Casino will again host the Spring Poker Round-Up, April 14-25. The event always brings a sizable crowd to the area over the 12 days of play. Close to 4,500 participants are expected which means great things for the local economy, hotels and restaurants.

The tournament will not only be profitable for the local economy, it will be very profitable for the participants as well. Prize money for the latest rendition of the bi-annual event is estimated at over \$1 million, with \$90,000 added by Wildhorse. Each winner will also walk away with a seven-day Alaska Cruise for two.

The Spring Poker Round-Up is a series of 13 events over a 12 day period, including the popular No-Limit Hold'em, H.O.R.S.E, Omaha High-Low Split 8, Limit Hold'em, and Ladies No-Limit Hold'em. As with all Poker Round-Ups held at Wildhorse, one day will be dedicated to the Bob Thompson Seniors No-Limit event, raising funds for many worthy charities. Two Super Satellite Tournaments will also be held, one Wednesday, April 14th, the other Wednesday April 21st. Buy-in for events range from \$100-\$500 with a \$15 entry fee. Players register daily prior to the start of the tournament.

The tournament attracts an increasing number of the best players from around the world including places such as England, Ireland, Germany, Australia, Puerto Rico and Canada. A Pendleton Woolen Mills blanket is given to the player who comes from the furthest away. Participants include poker writers and winners from some of the world's largest poker competitions. Names such as Howard "Tahoe" Andrew, Marsha Waggoner, Linda Johnson and Oklahoma Johnny Hale will be on hand as well as Barbara Enright, the only woman in the World Series of Poker Hall of Fame and Tom McEvoy, four time World Series of Poker Champion and winner of the inaugural, invitation-only "Champion of Champions" event. Most of the participants, however, are poker aficionados from the Pacific Northwest.

Tournament Director, Roland Waters noted that many of the players have become friends through this tournament. "A lot of our players take vacations to come here," said Waters at the tournament last fall, as he gazed over a 10,000 square foot room filled with poker tables populated by players who varied from the intense to the laid-back and garrulous. "It's a very social tournament with players enjoying getting together to visit."

For more information call 541-966-1573 or visit www.wildhorseresort.com. For hotel reservations call 541-966-1549.

Wildhorse Resort & Casino is the Pacific Northwest's highest paying casino, with a record \$9.1 million slot jackpot. The Resort includes a 24-hour casino, hotel, RV Park, 5 restaurants, a sports bar, 18-hole golf course and Tribal museum. It is located just minutes off I-84 at Exit 216, four miles east of Pendleton. For more information: 1-800-654-9453 or www.wildhorseresort.com. Wildhorse is owned and operated by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.