



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What time do the games start? Where are we playing? (3/29/05)

The exact times and locations will be announced at least one week closer to the respective dates. Although, I can say that on weeknights we will probably start in the early evening (~7:00) and on weekends the first game will start in the early afternoon (~2:00) and the second game will begin approximately two hours after the first. On the first night, April 13, we hope to play 3 tables concurrently, but this will be the only day that we do this – afterwards there will always only be one table going at any one time so as to maximize the number of times players may enter and re-enter. As for the location, we will be playing at a few different sites inside Loop 610 here in Houston.

How will seats and tables be assigned? (3/29/05)

Seats will be determined by random draw prior to the start of each table. For the first night when we have multiple tables starting at the same time, we will also have a random draw to assign tables as well. For each of the other dates, the tables and seats will be assigned on a first-come first-served basis depending on the order of pre-registration. On days when there are two sequential tables in an afternoon, the first ten players to register for that date will be assigned to the first time slot and the second ten players will be assigned to the second time slot. If you have a preference for a time slot, please tell me that and I will try and accommodate you, but I cannot make any promises. Also, please be aware that you may pre-register for *both* slots on a weekend day. If you are unlucky on the first one you can try again right away. Just be sure to tell me when you register that you want to play both times.

How many players at a table? What's the blind structure? When is the final table? (3/29/05)

Scroll to the top of this post and read both the online information and the full rules. It's all in there.

10 minute blinds sure do move fast. Can you change that and make the tournament last longer? (3/29/05)

No, I'm sorry but I can't. The whole point is that this is a satellite tournament (technically, it's 10 "super" satellites + 1 satellite) and thus we have a lot of players to move in and out. When it comes to satellite tournaments, speed is the name of the game (go watch an official one at Binion's prior to the WSOP or read McManus's book if you don't believe me). We have to get 11 tournament tables squeezed in between now and the first week of June and making each one longer than 120-150 minutes would be just too much work for me and too much of a commitment for you. However, keep in mind that you may enter as many times as you wish and that you only have to outlast 18 other players to turn \$120 into \$12,000. If you would still rather play in a large and more conventionally structured tournament, [we run one every fall](#) and we would be happy to have you. In fact, if the Satellite event proves popular this year we might just do it again next year and tie the two tournaments together, maybe guaranteeing the November winner a seat at the Satellite final table the next spring.

What happens if we don't get enough players to fund a complete \$10,000 WSOP entry? (3/29/05)

First, I want to say that I really think we will get all of the spots filled and this won't be a relevant question, but if we don't then the rules currently call for us to eventually play shorthanded and then the winner takes everything. I think now, though, that it might be fairer to split the pot into payouts and have a more conventional final table. I am open to suggestions. Another idea, if we are only short one player, would be to have all of the final table participants equally contribute to buy out that empty seat and supplement the prize pool up to the necessary amount. Whatever the solution, it's certainly going to be up to the final table participants to make the decision, but again I'm very confident that we're going to fill all of the seats and not have to worry about this.

How does the WSOP entry work? (3/29/05)

At the conclusion of the tournament, I will sit down with the winner in front of a computer and help him register for the WSOP. Then I will give him all of the money and tell him to go to the bank the next day and to follow the

instructions for funding the pre-registration, either through wire transfer or a cashier's check from his bank. This is why we hope to finish this thing a month in advance of the WSOP so that there will still be time to get the champion entered and not risk being shut out by Harrah's when the entry cap is reached.

Can the payout structure be changed at least a little bit at the final table? It seems a shame to finish second and get nothing for all of the hard work. (4/10/05)

Yep. I agree. The rules will be modified. It won't be much, but it will be something.

I am OK with the first round blind structure, but can the final table at least be a little bit longer? It seems a waste that the final round of something so significant might just come down to a "move-in contest". (4/12/05)

It took a little convincing to get me to agree to it, but I think we are indeed going to make the final table a little bit longer than the other opening round tables. The blind structure will be modified so that instead of 90 to 120 minutes (like the first round tables) the final table will last at least twice as long if not a little bit longer. I will be sure to modify the rules before the first night kicks off so that everyone starts and plays with the same expectations for the final round.