

# ANTE UP

YOUR POKER MAGAZINE™

**COREY**

a.k.a. comandr\_cool

**BURBICK**

Florida pro wins  
Jacksonville's  
Chad Brown  
No Limit  
Texas Hold'em  
Championship



**+ CONNECTICUT**  
NOV. NINE REUNION

**MISSISSIPPI**  
WPT SOUTHERN RECAP

**NEW JERSEY**  
BORGATA WINTER OPEN

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
NEW COLUMN DEBUTS

# Jax \$50K cash game, TV lure big names

Some big cash games have broken out around the state of Florida, thanks to limits being removed in July, but none as big as what fans witnessed at Orange Park Kennel Club near Jacksonville on Jan. 31. In conjunction with the second annual Chad Brown No Limit Texas Hold'em Championship, the folks at Orange Park, led by new director of poker operations Deb Giardina, arranged for the Jax \$50K, Florida's first televised high-stakes cash game.

"We had some real high-profile players who came here for the high-stakes cash game," said host Chad Brown, who likely would have sat in had he not had to play at his own tournament's final table early the next day.

Players included World Series of Poker runner-up John Racener, WSOP bracelet-winner Jason Mercier, Bayou Challenge champ Tyler Smith, online star Andrew "good-2cu" Robl and millionaire amateur Rick Raheem, who many got to know last season on PokerStars' *The Big Game* on Fox. Each had to buy in for the minimum \$50,000, though some bought in for more. Play lasted in front of the cameras for about six hours before the game needed to be moved out to the main floor, where fans got to rail them until the wee hours.

There's talk of making this cash game a monthly event. Airtimes for the initial event have yet to be set, but will be posted on anteupmagazine.com when confirmed.

— Christopher Cosenza



John Racener

Jason Mercier



Rick Raheem



Andrew Robl

Photos by Dan Kossorf

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