

Re: Turning "professional" playing SnG NL Hold'em on the Net

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- *From:* Dr Zen <freddyvessant@xxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Tue, 12 Sep 2006 16:16:22 +1000
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On 11 Sep 2006 21:26:46 -0700, "jmm1951@xxxxxxxx" <jmm1951@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

Signal wrote:

"jmm1951@xxxxxxxx" <jmm1951@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

I started playing 5 1/2 months ago with the idea of seeing if I could make some money at this thing. I spent some money on books, computer programs etc. and invested \$100 in Neteller to use at various poker sites.

I deliberately did not keep strict records of winning and losing, because I wanted to be free to practice and enjoy the game without getting anxious about money. However I more or less broke even and did not need to add extra money, though I would often play in a higher game and win a bit, then play in more lower games, fool around, experiment, and lose what I had gained.

Today I finally decided this was it. I now needed to see if I could play profitably and made out a spreadsheet to keep a record of what I was doing.

I decided that playing a sample of 15 \$20 single-table tournaments on

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Party should give me some idea of how I might get on. If I lost all the money, then I could forget about trying to play for profit.

This required \$330 in entry fees. Having a bit more than that in my account, I decided to play a few \$6 games to warm up for the big event, so I played 6 \$6 games and did not get anywhere even close to the money, except one in which I finished 4th.

Not very promising, but at the appointed hour I sat down to play the \$20 SnG games resolved to concentrate properly and not do stupid shit. One of the problems in the \$6 games is that people tend to go all-in if they flop a full house or a straight, making you think they are bluffing. (Memo to self--they never bluff all-in).

If these people are clued up at all, they're probably putting in overbets intending to give the impression they're on a draw or a steal.

Anyhow here are the results of the first 6 games--not a statistically significant sample at all, I know.

2nd  
2nd  
3rd  
2nd  
4th  
1st.

Starting bankroll \$333, current bankroll \$521.

My records is eleven consecutive 1st place finishes at ten player tables. I've also bust out 10th a similar number of times in a row. When you have played a few hundred games \*then\* you will know where you stand. I suggest you play \$6 buy ins in your bank roll is \$500, step up to \$20 when you have \$2k. You stand a fair chance of going broke at this level no matter how good you are.

The thing that has really pleased me about my play is that I am not

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depending on getting megahands, and that even when I am down, I am getting back in the game. In three of these games I have been almost wiped out early on, and then recovered to get in the money.

The risk in playing marginal hands is offset by your ability to outplay your opponent(s) post flop. Is this what you are doing, or have you had a run of good luck?

Actually I deviate from Harrington, though I love his analysis of hands and all the strategic play stuff in his books. If I get good cards, I play them stongly, and if I don't get good cards I shoot them down with imaginary bullets.

No, you don't. You'd get killed if you did.

I like to play a mixture of AK, AQ and higher pairs, but also the odd mid level hand that will not likely be dominated (maybe 9 7) so that I can get a good read on whether the flop is helping the opponent. I always try to get a single opponent heads up after the flop when I have position. I try to avoid entering a pot that someone else has opened unless I have a reraising hand, or I'm in the blinds and have great pot odds. If there is one limper ahead of me I will try to isolate them and then mug them post flop.

You've been running hot.

You don't play enough hands to win.

I usually fold small pairs, unless in the blinds, unless reraising all in against two suspected overcards later in the game if I am short stacked.

That's dumb.

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Dr Zen  
King of the wild pixels.  
<http://gollyg.blogspot.com>

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