



Daily Results – December 2nd, 2006

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\$6000+ \$300 No Limit Hold'em Main Event, December 2nd, 12:00pm FINAL TABLE



The stage has been set, the players are there and the press is seated... *Let the games begin.*

With blinds 4K-8K and a 1K ante, no one is truly shortstacked just yet. And despite the only 6-handed game, I expect things to start off rather slowly. The first two pots have indeed been won by uncontested raises - the chips going to Rakesh Gupta (making a big raise from the big blind against lone caller Martin Wiklund who was in the small blind) and to the same Martin, who successfully stole Ryan Boon's big blind.

With the 75-minute levels that we are playing now, the blinds have just been moved up to 5K-10K with a 1K ante. At the first hand of this level, Rakesh Gupta made an unusually small raise from under the gun to 21K. Maybe it was a mistake, and had he not seen the blinds had moved up, maybe it had a strategic reason - I don't know. Either way, both cutoff Fredrik Haugen & button Frederik Lofgren called, and also small blind Pete Willy came along for the ride. Rakesh was now in the unfortunate position of having two players behind him, and one potential sandbagger in front of him - and everyone had him covered. But with a flop QT4, he simply bullied his way out of trouble, saying "All-in", and winning the pot uncontested. Off to a bad start is chipleader Pete Willy. Raising from the cutoff to 35K as the first one in, button Martin Wiklund flatcalled behind him - and then raised Pete off his hand after a flop A76 and a 50K bet by the Dane. This means that Martin has closed the gap to chipleader Pete, who - as in previous days - will again have someone in his back who has him covered. He has survived well in this situation though in the past two days - let's see if he can also pull this off now that things matter most. We have our first victim. When Rakesh Gupta moved all-in for 170K, he shouted: "I want a caller! I want a caller!" In the end, he got what he wanted, as Pete Willy called him. When Rakesh showed pocket deuces, it was clear that he had not wanted that call really, but as it turned out he was a slight favorite to Pete's AJ. Rakesh kept the lead until the river, but then a jack popped up after all to eliminate the Indian.

This got Pete back in the saddle as chipleader, doing what he did so well in previous days: Winning quite a few pots uncontested, and getting lucky in his showdowns. And after successfully reraising Lofgren on the next hand, Pete has well over 800K again. Right after Rakesh Gupta's elimination, we have also lost our second Scot. In a blinds only confrontation and a board 77JT, Ryan Boon decided to make a move with a Q8, reraising Fredrik Haugen all-in for 82K more. With quite a bit of money in the middle already, Fredrik decided that his J9 was good. He called, and when a blank came on the river, Boon was out. Another decent-sized pot for Pete Willy. In a raised pot, he successfully check-raised under the gun raiser Martin Wiklund off his hand, after the Swede had bet 80K.

But Martin has recovered very well! He raised from the button with what turned out to be A♥ Q♣, and then small blind Fredrik Haugen called. The flop came Q♥ 9♣ 7♣, and Haugen now bet 65K into the preflop raiser. Martin responded by raising 100K extra with his top pair / top kicker, only to see Haugen move in for all his money. After some deliberation, Martin called all-in for 200K extra - and was very happy to see his opponent's K♣ Q♣. Two running tens meant that Martin's kicker ace played - earning him the biggest pot of the night.

We are down to three. Facing a 85K total all-in bet from small blind Frederik Lofgren, big blind Pete Willy had an easy call with K7. He even dominated his opponent's K2, and a seven on the flop clinched things. Lofgren had become shortstacked about ten minutes before, when he went for an obvious bluff on the turn J87J, where there had been no flop action, and Martin Wiklund simply check-raised Lofgren off his hand. But Martin also lost these chips again to Fredrik Haugen, who successfully reraised Martin's 50K total raise to win the pot there and then. Either way, the chips get redistributed at rapid pace - and Pete Willy is mostly on the receiving end of things.

The chip stacks are getting closer, now that Fredrik Haugen is battling his way back into the tournament. He has won another decent-sized pot because of an uncontested reraise, and is now not that far anymore from Pete Willy (1.16 million) and Martin Wiklund (735K). Possibly because of the fact that there are no real short stacks anymore now, the first deal talks have started. And with result: It has been agreed that Pete has locked up \$165,000, Martin \$135,000 and Fredrik \$115,000 - with \$20K left to be played for.

Pete Willy has made a massive step forward to becoming the 2006 Caribbean Poker Classic Champion. He had already won two small pots, when he got involved in a big pot. Fredrik Haugen had made it 40K on the button, Pete called from the small blind, and then Martin raised 120K more. Fredrik folded, and then Pete made what looked like a bit of a bad call: Calling the 120K extra from out of position, while Martin had 'just' 540K behind. On a flop 964, Pete quickly check-called Martin's 120K bet, and when after a king on the turn Martin checked it back, the pot seemed up for grabs. Pete indeed chose to do the grabbing, betting 150K to win uncontested. The Dane now has a commanding chiplead, carrying 1.55 million, as opposed to the 420K for Martin and 330K for Fredrik.

But Fredrik hasn't given up just yet, and neither has Martin. Having raised to 40K, and then having bet 55K on the flop Q♣ 4♣ 5♥, Fredrik then bet the remaining 205K all-in after the turn 2♥. Despite the fact that Pete started yapping "Flush draw?", Fredrik didn't blink - and in the end Pete folded. And right after this hand Pete lost another pot. In a hand that had been checked on all streets, Martin bet 60K on the river, only to get raised by the Dane, 100K more. Martin made a courageous call with just a king high, and was correct. Pete had been bluffing with an even worse hand: 96 for a nine-high. Fredrik Haugen is back in action! Holding queens on the button versus small blind Pete's pocket nines, Fredrik had raised to 50K and Pete had flatcalled. On a flop J72, the Dane then moved all-in, and Fredrik insta-called for 384K total. Pete was drawing to two outs, but a ten on the turn gave him a gutshot, and thus some added chance to - again - get lucky. But a blank came on the river to give Haugen a 900K pot. He now even had Pete covered, the Dane down to just 830K now.

And that was not it yet. Right after this pot, the same two players again battled heads. With 280K in the middle and a final board 4♦ 9♦ 8♣ K♣ 9♣, small blind Fredrik checked, and then took some time before calling Pete's 200K bet. Fredrik had read the situation correctly, having called with an 87, and catching Pete on a total bluff with the 6♥ 5♥. We have an amazing turnaround, as now it is suddenly clear chipleader Pete Willy who has become the short stack, while short stack Fredrik Haugen now is the chipleader by far.

Martin Wiklund has just helped Pete Willy back in the saddle. With blinds 4K-8K and a 1500 ante, small blind Pete had made it 45K to go. Big blind Martin, holding a 63 offsuit, basically had three options now: First, call to use his position post-flop. Second, fold, simply because he didn't have anything. Or third: Reraise all-in to try to win the pot there and then, on the assumption that Pete wouldn't be able to stand the heat. But as it happened, Martin chose the fourth - and almost certainly worst - option. He reraised 100K extra, thereby giving Pete the chance to come over the top for 260K more all-in. Now Martin couldn't call obviously, and he had invested 137K with a trash hand, without even getting to see a flop.

Things change very quickly here at this CPC final. Having just gotten a bit of a present from Martin, Pete now lost almost his entire stack against this exact same player. Holding a T♥ 4♥ in the big blind on a KKT flop, Pete moved in for well over 400K, only to find out that his opponent (on the button) had hit the whopper with a K8. A 1 million pot went to Wiklund, while Pete Willy suddenly just had 50K left.



Pete Willy finds his nemesis in Martin Wiklund



Fredrik Haugen & Pete Willy

And despite doubling up once with 88 versus a 65, the second time Pete went all-in it was all over for him. He moved all-in from the button with a T♥ 8♥ and got called by small blind Martin's K♦ Q♦. The flop came with a king *and* two hearts, for quite a bit of excitement. But no help for the Dane, who had played so strong the past few days, but who was unfortunate to lose his commanding chiplead so soon. On the other hand, the deal that these three players had made could also have had something to do with it. After all, the assurance of a good payday *could* have led his opponents to call his bluffs a bit more liberally. Ah well, we will never know. Fact is that Pete had been in charge throughout this event - but now that the real decision time is there, he is out. Estimated chip count at the start of the heads up stage: Fredrik 1.14 million, Martin 1.21 million.

We have started the heads up stage here at the Caribbean Poker Classic. A big event by all accounts, with a buy-in of no less than \$6000 + 300. Plus, an event with a relatively slow structure - so, one that *should* help especially the experienced pros. So much for theory. In the end, we have a heads up final between two very young Swedes - both of whom are playing their first-ever major tournament, and not all that familiar with playing brick and mortar poker on top of that.

So, who are they? Well, Martin is a 20-year old from Norrkoping, who plays online for a living, and who has qualified through Sun Poker. He is facing Interpoker qualifier Fredrik Haugen, who is even two years younger than his opponent. Living in Gothenburg, he is a student Society & Economy at high school, and regularly plays \$0.25-0.50 blinds no-limit hold'em games online. So, as he told me: "This is a *very* big tournament for me." Even with this being the case, Fredrik plays in what I view to be an impressingly calm manner - quite a feat for a guy this young, and in an event this big. Fredrik has gotten off to a flying start heads up. Having already won two decent-sized pots, he added a third and bigger one to that. On a board 9♣ 3♣ 2♣ J♣ J♣, big blind Martin had first called a preflop raise with pocket sixes, and then also called bets of 80K on the flop and 140K on the turn, thinking there was a good chance Fredrik was bluffing and / or playing his position. (He was the small blind / button, meaning he has last position on all streets.) Fredrik indeed had a horrible hand, a 94 offsuit, but it was still good enough to earn him a very good pot and to give him a clear chiplead.

Another big turnaround! The biggest pot of the night, 1.4 million total, has just gone to Martin Wiklund. On a flop J♣ K♣ T♣, he had bet 30K with his J♦ 6♦, and then called Fredrik's 30K mini-raise. The turn was a jack, and now Wiklund checked. When Fredrik bet 125K, he then check-raised all-in to over 500K with his trips. After some deliberation, Fredrik decided to make the call with Q♣ 6♣ for a premium draw. But a blank came on the river to not just keep Martin alive - no, to even give him over 60% of the total chips in play. Blinds now: 10K-20K with a 2K ante.

The chiplead just continues to change. In a pot where big blind Martin had called a raise, he then bet 100K into the preflop raiser after the flop Q52. A suspicious smoothcall from Fredrik didn't stop Martin from betting an additional 175K after the turn J. But after a fake fold by Fredrik, followed by a raise to half a million total, Martin decided that his hand just could not be any good, and folded.

Fredrik now had 1.4 million, but he would accumulate even more chips. Having bet on the turn 5737 with a seven in his hand, he got called by Martin. So, when another trey came on the river, he bet an additional 250K and again got called. Fredrik's sevens full proved good, and this increased his chiplead even further to 1.9 million.

We have our champion! When Martin reraised all-in with QQ for about 400K total, Fredrik decided to make the call with a K♠ Q♠. He was clearly trailing, but after a king came on the flop, it was suddenly Martin who had almost no outs. Indeed, two blanks came, meaning that we have a new champion here at the Caribbean Poker Classic - an 18-year old from Gothenburg, Sweden, who regularly plays \$.25-.50 blinds no-limit games online, and who now has a major brick and mortar title to his credit. His name: Fredrik Haugen.

Official results:

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|---------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| 1. Fredrik Haugen | (Sweden) | \$221,000 |
| 2. Martin Wiklund | (Sweden) | \$135,300 |
| 3. Pete Willy | (Denmark) | \$81,200 |
| 4. Frederik Lofgren | (Sweden) | \$65,850 |
| 5. Ryan Boon | (Scotland) | \$52,300 |
| 6. Rakesh Gupta | (Scotland / India) | \$42,400 |



The Caribbean Poker Classic 2006 Champion: Fredrik Haugen!



Lovely king on the flop decides spectacular event



Exciting heads up stage at the Caribbean Poker Classic



Lots of dollars at stake here at St. Kitts