

MAY
2014

FREEROLL

POKER STRATEGY YOU CAN USE

ISSUE 6

WWW.FREEROLLMEDIA.COM

IN THIS ISSUE



page 3



page 6



page 4



page 2

FREEROLL
POKER STRATEGY YOU CAN USE

TELLS: IMMEDIATE VERBAL RESPONSES

A preview of a chapter from the soon-to-be-published book **Verbal Poker Tells**, by Zachary Elwood

Players who have made a significant bet and who make immediate verbal responses are more likely to have strong hands.

One sign of relaxed speech is that it flows freely, without hesitation. Anxious people are more likely to think for a moment before speaking because they have a reason to be concerned with how their speech will be interpreted. For this reason, a player who has made a significant bet and responds immediately to a question or statement is more likely to be relaxed and have a strong hand.

The more complex and potentially meaningful a verbal response is, the more an immediate response points to relaxation. Smaller and simpler responses, when said immediately, are not as meaningful as when more complex responses are said immediately. For example, a player goes all-in on the river and is asked, "Do you want a call?" He responds immediately, "Maybe."

Because this is an ambiguous response that doesn't contain much information, the immediacy of response in this case isn't very meaningful.

For comparison, let's suppose the bettor had answered immediately: "I definitely want a call." Because this statement contains a more complex idea and could theoretically contain information about the speaker's hand strength, it is unlikely that a bluffer would make such a statement without first considering what the repercussions would be. If the player had paused a second or two before responding "I definitely want a call", this response would be less meaningful because the player would have had time to consider whether saying such a thing was a good strategy.

An immediate response is more likely to indicate relaxation the more times it is exhibited. One immediate response isn't as meaningful as several quick verbal responses in a row, as sometimes happens in a back-and-forth conversation.

Here are a few examples from some poker hands (both televised and hands I've observed):

\$2-5 NLHE cash game, witnessed by author

On a turn board of 8♣ 9♠ 5♥ T♦, the aggressor bets

\$60 into a pot of \$90.

His opponent asks, "Are you bluffing?"

The bettor immediately nods his head, answering in the affirmative.

Results: The bettor has TJo, for top pair and a straight draw.

The immediacy of response is probably just as relevant as the content of this communication. (As we know, players betting weak hands are unlikely to imply they are weak.)

\$2-5 NLHE cash game, witnessed by author

(This hand previously discussed.) On a river board of 6♣ T♥ 4♥ 4♣ A♦, a player has 66 for the full house. She bets \$100 into a pot of \$200.

Her opponent asks her, "You have a full house?"

She immediately replies, "No."

The immediacy of this player's response makes it unlikely she's bluffing.

\$1-2 NLHE cash game, witnessed by author

It's a heads-up hand. The turn board is Q♥ T♠ 6♠ 5♠. The

aggressor goes all-in for \$80 into a pot of \$130.

After a few moments, his opponent asks, "You got pocket kings with the king of spades?"

The bettor says immediately, "Be a pretty good guess."

Results: The bettor's opponent folds. The bettor shows his KK, with the king of spades.

His opponent's length of time in considering the bet probably put the bettor at ease that his hand was best. His immediate response was likely a result of two things: him being relaxed enough to immediately respond, and his being impressed with the accurate guess.

2009 WSOP NLHE Main Event tournament

Andy Black raises pre-flop to 24,000. Scott Buller goes all-in, which would be 143,000 more for Black to call.

Black: "Would you like me to call, sir?"

(continued on page 7)

PLAY POKER LIKE A SHORTSTOP



Shortstops are at the heart of any great baseball defense. Always in the middle of the action, these athletes need a rare combination of physical tools and advanced baseball intelligence in order to play their position well.

Baseball's shortstops are required to make numerous split second decisions throughout the course of a game. The slightest hesitation allows the runners to reach their base safely, kills potential double plays and costs their teams valuable runs.

The key to playing shortstop is also a vital skill for poker players. The skill of anticipation must be mastered to become proficient at both.

How shortstops do it

Experience, baseball sense and focus enable elite shortstops to work out every meaningful scenario before the pitcher even starts his windup. They prioritize the most probable and most relevant possible outcomes and determine how they will act accordingly.

FREEROLL

POKER STRATEGY YOU CAN USE

Publisher: Doug Hull

Sales: Alyson Parker

Editor: Laura Freund

Designer: Anthony Pingicer

Layout: Doug Hull

Written by: Zachary Elwood, Jeff McIntyre, Andrew Seidman, Christian Soto, Jared Tandler

The Freeroll goes out to card rooms across the USA.

Interested authors should inquire about appearing in future editions.

Contact about advertising or carrying this free publication in your card room.

914.319.4331

sales@threeBarrelBluff.com

© Copyright 2013-2014 Freeroll.
All rights reserved.

A good shortstop will take a series of variables into consideration in order to anticipate how a play might develop. He constantly assesses:

- The pitch count
- The number of outs
- The score and inning
- The current hitter's tendencies
- The speed of the current base runners

Considering these variables, a shortstop works out how he will handle common and difficult situations:

- A sharply hit ground ball to his left
- A slow 2 bouncer hit to his right
- His pitcher throws a wild pitch
- A runner at first takes off to steal second
- A line drive hit directly at him

Anticipation helps shortstops work out these problems prior to the action and avoid the errors induced by time pressure. A great shortstop is very rarely caught off guard.

Anticipation in poker

Like shortstops, poker players must master the art of anticipation. Time pressure is less of a factor but poker forces players to make numerous difficult decisions under stressful conditions. Tricky players threaten their stack at every turn, an early street error is magnified in the late streets and every decision has a direct impact on the bottom line of their current session.

Pressure makes it difficult to focus and it clouds judgement. Once a player's judgement becomes clouded he is vulnerable to making huge errors. Instead of trying to chip away at small edges throughout the session the unfocused player needs to focus on avoiding making huge blunders.

The prepared player is ready to tackle this focus problem. Hand planning is a crucial skill that helps elite players avoid stress related errors. The first step to formulating a plan is through anticipation.

How poker players do it

Knowledge of opponent's tendencies, experience and a superior understanding of poker strategy enable advanced poker players to anticipate how the action will unfold. Just as in playing shortstop, there are numerous variables that must be monitored in order to anticipate the action:

- The pot size
- The effective stack size
- Position
- Table images
- Game flow considerations

Most struggling poker players lack in the skill of anticipation. These players tend to play the

streets of a hand "in a vacuum" instead of making decisions in a strategic sequence. This is a major leak that causes numerous hardships at the poker table. Anticipating the action and thinking about the sequence of plays to be made (also known as playing lines) reduces the chances of a good player to crack under the pressure.

A few examples where anticipation is valuable

When betting out in a heads up pot: Before betting out we need to estimate how often and with what range of holdings our opponent will call behind, raise and fold. In the instances we get called, what will we do on the turn? Will we double barrel most turns? Will we check fold? In the instances where we lead bet and get raised, will we call, fold or raise? Is getting raised bad for us? If so, do we get raised often enough to make checking better than betting out?

Knowing how close our opponents are to being pot committed: If we push the action, are we forcing our opponent(s) in a shove or fold predicament? If so, are we ok with playing for stacks? Keeping track of current stack sizes is crucial and knowing how pot committed our opponents are is a key reason.

When trying to control the pot size: When holding a hand with strong showdown value, (a marginal hand that has a decent chance of winning at showdown) it is beneficial to know how our opponents react to passive lines. Some opponents tend to pounce on early street checks but will call/fold against small bets. This means that at times making a small Cbet is better for pot control than checking into aggressive opponents.

A big river bluff: When contemplating a bluff on the river, we need to anticipate how our opponent will react. Do we ever get raise bluffed? Does he tend to make big lay downs? How does he view our table image? Anticipation is key to estimating fold equity and to bluffing profitably.

Far too often we get caught off guard at the poker table. Constant monitoring of game variables, observation of our opposition's tendencies and a feel for game flow allow us to anticipate how the action will go. Take advantage of these skills and play poker like a shortstop.

Jeff McIntyre



 **@PokerForValue** • **www.pokerforvalue.com**

Chapter Twelve of BalugaWhale's Easy Game

Poker isn't about making good decisions, it's about making the best decisions. Once you've determined that you are able to make a value-bet or a bluff, there is another step you need to take before you actually make that bet. Before you make a bet, you need to consider whether or not you'd accomplish more by waiting until later. The question that I'm always asking myself is: "Is it better now or later?"

A common example of this: we call a raise with 33 from the blinds and the flop comes down T93. Normally, we're in the habit of automatically checking to the preflop raiser, but let's break down the process for a moment. If I were to ask you, "could you bet for value?" (implying a donk-lead) you would undeniably say yes—plenty of worse hands will call (think pocket aces, T9, or a host of others). However, not only will all of those hands bet when checked to (and will call a check-raise), but he will bluff many hands on the flop that he would have otherwise folded to a donk-lead. In this example, we end up check-raising and getting much better value on the flop than if we would have donked.

Often, we'll ask ourselves if a bet is better now or later and we'll decide that it's better now. This is usually the case when we're the aggressor (i.e. it's usually better to continue betting the turn for value if you bet the flop as opposed to going for a check-raise or check-call), but it can also occur when we're not the preflop raiser. This topic is discussed in the chapter "Table Dynamics", but we'll look at it again quickly. A regular opens on the cutoff, a passive fish on the button calls, and we call in the big blind with 77. The flop is T97. Again, I ask myself, "Is it better now or later?" In this case, if I go for a check-raise, I risk it checking through and losing a street of value. On a board like T97, the regular isn't likely to bluff very often (especially with a fish behind who's likely

to call him down), so we can't count on his bluffs. Then, the fish (who in this example is passive) is unlikely to bet aggressively, even with something as strong as JT. However, a lead is likely to get calls from the regular (if he has a hand) and the fish (with most of his range). In this case, it's better now than later, so we skip the check-raise and lead the flop.

The process works for bluffing too. Let's say that we raise 97s in the cutoff and a reg in the BB calls. The flop is A84. Our opponents range consists of two things—hands that he'll fold to a bet (33, for example), and hands that he won't (AT, AJ, etc). So, we ask ourselves if bluffing works better now or later. Well, the hands he's likely to fold on the flop, he's likely to continue folding on the turn and river. When he checks with a hand like 33, it's because he's

giving up—not much will change that. So, we don't gain any value against those hands by bluffing the flop rather than a later street. However, when he has a hand like AT, he will often lead the turn for value (he won't lead 33 as a bluff nearly

as often). We can fold comfortably and actually save ourselves money in this case by waiting until later to make our bluff. This is used commonly and called a "delayed c-bet". But, despite the fact that people make these bets commonly, they usually don't realize that there's a process that explains them. Understanding that process will be useful in situations far more complex than deciding whether or not to make a flop c-bet.

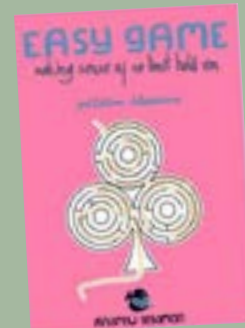
One such situation happened to me recently. I was sitting 200bb deep with an aggressive regular. He raised, and I reraised for value with A♠Q♠ on the button. He 4-bet (I expected him to reraise here with a wide range often) and I decided to flat (a detailed discussion of my choice to flat instead of 5-bet can be found in the chapter "Dealing with Polarized Ranges and Calling Big Bets OOP"). The flop was T♥7♥3♠. He c-bet, and I called (I was confident at

this point I could bluff him off AK at some point in the hand, but I decided that it was better to wait until later). The turn was a J♦. He thought for a while, and then checked. I considered strongly going all-in on the turn here as a bluff (I had about a pot-sized bet remaining). However, I again decided to wait until later (using the same process as I used in the A84 example above). The river was a blank, and he checked. Now, I confidently shoved and he quickly folded. I think there was a decent chance that he would have hero-called with AK on the turn. But, once AK has completely missed the river, my bluff has more fold equity. In this case, waiting until later was better.

In a world of increasing aggression, sometimes it's better to slow down and make your opponents play turns and rivers. People tend to feel increasingly uncomfortable as a hand progresses—they feel great about preflop, pretty good about the flop, so-so about the turn, and badly about the river. There are two reasons for this; first, they get more practice at preflop and the flop as fewer hands make it to the turn, and second, there are more variables on later streets that can confuse and bewilder them. With that in mind, it's important that we always ask ourselves, "Now or later?" Sometimes we'll find spots where "later" is definitely better. Those spots are what will make us creative and difficult to play against.

"He would have hero-called with AK on the turn. But, once AK has completely missed the river, my bluff has more fold equity."

Andrew "BalugaWhale" Seidman
Video Producer at Deuces Cracked



@BalugaWhaleDC • www.BalugaWhale.com

Autographed books from Freeroll authors

Free Shipping Mail checks to: Three Barrel Bluff, 618 Edmonds Road, Framingham, MA 01701

Order by phone: 508.904.9626 Allow two weeks for processing



<p>POKER PLAYS YOU CAN USE WRITTEN BY DOUG HULL EDITED BY ED MILLER</p>	<p>Playing the Player Moving Beyond ABC Poker to Dominate Your Opponents Ed Miller</p>	<p>READING POKER TELLS ZACHARY ELWOOD</p>	<p>HOW TO READ HANDS AT NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM ED MILLER</p>	<p>THE MENTAL GAME OF POKER JARED TENDLER, M.S. WITH BARRY CARTER</p>	<p>EASY GAME making sense of no limit hold em and follow-up adaptations Andrew Seidman</p>	<p>POKER'S 1% The One Big Secret that Keeps Elite Players on Top ED MILLER</p>
\$50	\$57	\$25	\$57	\$35	\$65	\$57

THE TWO FACES OF ACE KING

This is a premium article that was originally posted in the paid area of RedChipPoker.com

Coming from an online background, I am taken aback by these comments. Three, Four, and Five-bets are common place with AK on the virtual felt but it seems we have entered an alternate universe called live no limit.

Over time however, I learned something from my brick and mortar opponents. Flatting AK has its merits. If you are a live player, it is possible you already call open-raises with AK as a default strategy but may not comprehend the correct thought process behind doing so. If you are an online player, this may be uncharted territory.

I begin, as usual, by giving a hand example. Unfortunately, we are on the losing end of this one but the lessons learned are vast.

Stakes \$2/\$5

Folds to Hero A♥ Q♥ in MP (\$1K) who raises to \$25, CO (\$700) calls,

BB (\$500) calls

Flop (\$77) A♣ 7♠ 6♠

BB Checks

Hero Bets \$50

CO Calls \$50

BB Folds

This is a standard continuation bet, as I would bet this flop with strong made hands as well as some bluffs in a three way pot.

Turn (\$177) 2♥

Hero Bets \$115

CO Calls

River (\$407) 6♣

Hero Bets \$235

Given this run out, I expect to have the best hand often. I also do not expect my opponent to bet many worse Aces if I check to him, as many live players do not value bet thinly enough. Secondly, I am unsure how often he will bluff missed draws or if he even has draws often given the action. With these assumptions, the best course of action is to bet for value, and \$235 is a healthy size.

CO Calls

Hero Shows A♥ Q♥

CO Shows A♠ K♦ and wins the \$877 pot

Needless to say, when our opponent only calls the river, I am expecting to win a large percentage of the time.

It is important to note that if our opponent had 3bet us preflop, it is likely I would have folded Ace-Queen to our opponent's first 3bet. This is further solidified since we had no information to sway us in another direction. Instead by flatting in position, our opponent was able to win a big pot off someone who is capable of value betting thinly.

Flatting AK allows your opponent's dominated range to remain intact going into the flop. This is the same range they may fold facing a 3bet

It is important to understand that against most opponents if we are flatting AK preflop, we cannot always give up when do not hit. In No Limit Hold'em it is difficult to make a pair, and AK will remain the best hand after the flop a decent percentage of the time.

In other words, AK qualifies as a good floating hand. Hand examples always better help illustrate the concept.

Stakes \$2/\$5

EP (\$700) open-raise to \$25, Hero (covers) calls A♠

K♠ from the button, everyone else folds

Flop (\$57) 9♥ 6♣ 3♠

EP bets \$35

Hero ...

We missed, but this board is unlikely to hit our opponent either. Ace-King rates to be the best hand a reasonable percentage of the time.

A plan is needed if we want to continue, so we will go through the different branches of thought and available options:

RAISE?

Raising does not accomplish much. Our opponent folds all the hands we are beating and only continues with hands that have us beat. Rarely will our opponent fold better than AK since we do not represent many combinations of hands on this flop when we raise.

CALL?

Calling seems like a viable option. Our opponent is likely to be betting his entire range on this board and AKs performs well against his range as a whole. However, as you may have suspected, the calling branch simply does not end here. We will need a plan for the remainder of this hand.

Let's go through the different possibilities which we may encounter once we choose to float:

The board currently reads 9♥ 6♣ 3♠ and on the turn...

Our opponent checks: As a default, when our opponent checks we will be betting. Our float plan has come to fruition and we can expect our opponent to fold enough of the time for this bet to be profitable. It can be argued that since we rate to have the best hand often at this point, we can check and keep worse hands involved. However, this bet is

(continued on page 5)



ED MILLER



DOUG HULL



RED CHIP
POKER
POKER IS MORE FUN WHEN YOU WIN

SPLITSUIT



CHRISTIAN SOTO



One free video a month or all four for \$10



THE TWO FACES OF ACE KING CONTINUED

Ace King: continued from page 4

done to fold out equity from our opponent's hands. It also prevents us from making errors on the river. Occasionally, our opponent will fold a better hand like 44 once we bet.

Our opponent bets: If we fail to improve and our opponent bets, it is safe to say that we can fold out at this point. For example, the turn is a J♥ and our opponent bets. There is not much we can do at this point without a lot of information on our opponent's tendencies.

Our opponent bets on a spade: A turned spade gives us a backdoor flush draw. This is a perfect turn card to semi-bluff raise. A turn raise maximises fold equity. We can expect our opponent to fold enough of the time to make this play profitable given fold equity in addition to our equity in the pot. There is one exception; the six of spades may not be the best card to pull the trigger as it reduces the amount of possible combinations we may have and therefore reduces our fold equity.

Our opponent bets on an Ace or King: As the game continues to evolve, we can expect our opponent's to double barrel bluff with better frequencies. An Ace or King will hit the turn 12% of the time and against more advanced players we can be assured that they will use these cards to double barrel. When this happens and we have AK, we should only call and allow our opponent to continue unleashing barrels. If our opponent checks the river, we can safely value bet our hand.

The key to a float with AK, as with any float, is to plan ahead for future cards and actions. Success with this concept will consist of stepping outside of the hit or miss mentality and finding additional ways to win pots.

This article thus far has described different facets AK may be played. I have always been a proponent of playing AK aggressively. However, with some planning for both pre-flop and post, flatting AK may be a nice addition to your arsenal. There is more than one way to make money in poker, and it may be incorrect to continuously use the same default lines. With practice and study you will become more knowledgeable of which line is optimal for the situation at hand. These multi-layered thought processes will allow you to become a more difficult player to face on the both the virtual and live felt.

Christian Soto



[@christianPoker](#) • www.RedChipPoker.com



Mention this ad to save 10% on your purchase

Poker Tables



Shop from thousands of gambling items and books from the world's largest gambling superstore.

Custom Poker Chips



Home Poker Accessories



New Casino Dice



Shufflers and Shoes



Gambling Accessories



New and Used Books



Las Vegas Souvenirs



Home Poker Accessories



Gambling's Top Brands

Bee

BICYCLE

COPAG

THE U.S. PLAYING CARD CO.

MADE IN U.S.A.

WORLD SERIES POKER

Press



800 South Main Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101
Phone: (702) 382-9903



ADVERTISE WITH FREEROLL:
FREEROLLMEDIA.COM

USING A PROP BET TO INCREASE MOTIVATION

Poker players often resort to making prop bets to spark their motivation. Browse any poker forum, and you are likely to see a bunch of threads where players are proposing prop bets that they can lose a certain amount of weight, play a certain number of hands, make Super-Nova Elite, top a tournament leaderboard, or make a certain amount of profit. The nature of these prop bets is essentially players trying to use money as a source of inspiration to do something they want to be able to do normally, but don't have the motivation to see through. You might want to make Super-Nova Elite, but you don't think you can do it unless you have money dangling in front of you. Of course, there are many prop bets with the opposite intention in mind, where you are gambling on a perceived edge. If you are already a sick grinder, then a number of hands bet might be a very profitable proposition for you. But if you are using a prop bet to motivate you to do something you're not motivated to do, you are actually wagering a lot of money while being a big underdog. It's terrible game selection, and you are a prop bet fish. There seems to be a distinct shift between the more old-school gamblers—who would only bet on propositions they thought were sure things—and the online generation, who want to bet on outcomes they wish would happen. You only need to hear about Amarillo Slim's legendary exploits to know he only gambled on prospects where the sucker had no chance. In these motivational bets you are the sucker, though it doesn't stop you from putting your

money on the line. In the long term, no amount of money is going to resolve the underlying issues that are causing your motivational problem(s). Only by resolving these problems can you get the motivation you so desperately crave. **A Simple Way to Become Less Lazy** Saying you're lazy is an easy way of excusing yourself from having to do something. "I would have done X, but didn't feel like it. What can I say? I'm lazy." It's as if being lazy is an incurable disease, or a character trait encoded in your DNA. If you believe deep down that laziness is permanent, it would be illogical for you to try anything to change it. However, laziness is not a permanent trait. It takes some work to break out of it, but this section can make that task easier. Laziness is a skill, that for better or worse, has been learned. You have learned the skill of doing something else. You have learned how to grind a large volume of television or sleep, rather than learning how to knuckle down and play longer sessions and work on your game. Instead of learning how to be productive, you've learned how to be lazy—and you're quite good at it. It's impossible to have no motivation. Think of being lazy as having a strong motivation to sleep for hours, watch TV, or mindlessly surf the internet. While that might seem like just a changing around of words, stating it that way is important in understanding and fixing the problem. Laziness can happen for many reasons. It may

have developed early in your life if you weren't pushed to excel. Or maybe it developed after college when completely on your own, or after making good money because you no longer felt you had to make more. Here's an example to help explain how laziness can develop and how to solve it: Often people become lazy when the structure they are used to having in their lives is gone.

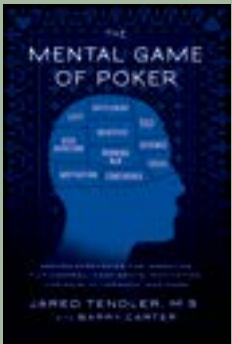
When living with parents, going to school, or working for someone else, you don't have to think much about what to do, you just have to do it. The value of having that structure provided for you often goes unrecognized until you're completely out on your own. Now you have to do both—decide what to do and do it. That extra layer may not seem like much, but it makes life, or poker, a lot harder and often leads to laziness. When beginning to work on your laziness or any other motivational problem, try approaching poker like you're running a small business. You're in charge of when and where to play, how much to play, what stakes and games to play in, when and what to study, and who to get help from. It's your responsibility to analyze your poker and mental games, stay up-to-date with the latest software and strategy, and more. There's a lot to decide and to do. If you're lacking the skills to successfully run your business, you appear lazy. Here are a few simple ways to improve these skills:

1. Identify all the good things that you're doing, no matter how insignificant they seem.
2. Write out a list of what you need to be doing.
3. Prioritize the most important things you need to be doing.
4. Make a reasonable plan for how to start doing them.
5. Write down the excuses you previously made to avoid doing them.
6. Write down why each excuse is flawed or false.
7. Commit to executing your plan and avoiding excuses.

Realizing there's something you can do about laziness means you at least have a chance of permanently staying out of the prison that laziness puts you in.

- Mental game coach to 300+ players
- Host of "The Mental Game" Podcast

Jared Tendler



@JaredTendler • MentalGameOfPoker.com



TELLS: IMMEDIATE VERBAL RESPONSES CONTINUED

Tells: continued from page 1

Buller (quickly): "You know, it doesn't really matter."

Black: "It doesn't matter cause it's late in the tournament or it doesn't matter because—"

Buller (cutting him off): "No. No. We're just getting started." Buller smiles.

Black: "On a scale of one to ten, how would you rate your hand?"

Buller shakes his head dismissively to that question.

Black laughs, looking at Buller for some sort of reaction. "I've got a big hand here, you know?... Give me something."

Buller is quiet.

Results: Black calls with AJo. Buller has AKo.

Buller's immediate responses and his willingness to cut Black off mid-sentence are strong indicators of relaxation.

2005 WSOP NLHE Main Event tournament

Tiffany Williamson 3-bets pre-flop to 290,000. Greg Raymer 4-bets all-in to 1.3M and the action returns to Williamson.

Williamson: "How much?"

Raymer (immediately): "One-point-three million exactly."

Williamson: "Could you count it, please?"

They get a count.

Williamson: "One-point-three? Altogether?"

Raymer (seeming frustrated): "Yes. Altogether I only have one-point-three."

Williamson: "What a story this would be."

Raymer (immediately): "Which way?"

Results: Williamson calls with AJo. Raymer has KK.

Raymer's immediate responses to Williamson would seem to indicate relaxation. (His willingness to show impatience and frustration also makes it more likely he has a strong hand.)

High Stakes Poker, high stakes NLHE cash game, \$2 E8, ~3:00

(This hand previously discussed.) Brad Booth has 8♦ 9♦ on a river board of T♦ J♦ 4♣ Q♦ 8♥. Negreanu bets \$16,000. Booth raises \$30,000 more.

Negreanu says, "I thought you might have

had the flush. I had the straight."

Booth replies immediately, "I got a straight flush."

Booth's immediate response is a strong indicator of his relaxation. If he were bluffing, he would be likely to consider for at least a second how such a statement might impact his opponent's decision.

The immediacy of Booth's response doesn't mean he's necessarily telling the truth; it is just a general indicator of relaxation and makes a bluff unlikely.

- Elwood's work-in-progress, *Verbal Poker Tells*, will be published by May 2014.

Zachary Elwood



@aPokerPlayer • ReadingPokerTells.com



Group poker coaching

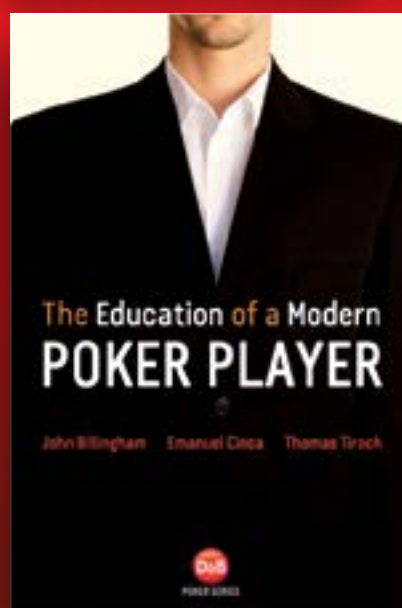
Treat your home game to a day with our coaches. We can come to your group with personalized training.

1 on 1 poker coaching

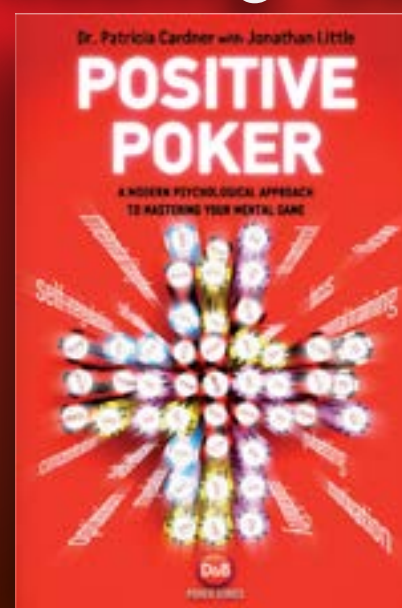
Doug Hull
Ed Miller
James Sweeney
Jared Tendler

sales@threeBarrelBluff.com

Essential reading. Out now.



Documents the efforts of a serious amateur as he pursues his ambition of rising through the stakes from NL10 (\$10 game) to NL100 (\$100 game) and beyond.



Outlines the mental skills you need to develop if you want to raise your game.



D&B books are available from all poker book retailers, ebooks are available from Kindle, iBookstore, Nook and Kobo, and from



POKER SERIES
www.dandbpoker.com

SPOIL YOURSELF WITH A POKER CRUISE

If you've never been on a poker cruise, you don't know what you are missing. There is no difference between a poker cruise and a non-poker cruise, as far as ship activities are concerned. All of the usual scheduled cruise events are offered such as movies, trivia, a full casino, a spa and fitness center, internet center, dance classes, sports activities, lectures, cooking lessons, poolside games, barbecues, Ping Pong, shuffleboard, a disco, nightly Las Vegas-style shows, and many other activities to suit everyone's interests. Most Royal Caribbean ships have rock climbing walls, ice skating rinks, and miniature golf, and some even have Surfriders, zip lines, carousels, Broadway theaters, and Aqua theaters. The ships have modern stabilizers so even those who are prone toward sea sickness rarely have a problem.

Play poker and enjoy the spectacular amenities offered by some of the most luxurious cruise liners on the seven seas. Travel to the most popular cruise destinations, meet new friends, and enjoy a unique vacation experience! Participate in extra activities such as free lessons for beginners, free poker seminars, exclusive private parties, and more.

Card Player Cruises (the number one name in the poker cruise business) co-owner Linda Johnson, aka "The First Lady of Poker" said, "A poker cruise is the best vacation you can give your loved ones and yourself. You can play as much or as little poker as you want. The poker room is closed while in port and during dinner so that players take time to enjoy the cruise experience. Some of the extra activities offered for our players are free lessons for the absolute beginners, free poker seminars, and exclusive private parties."

Card Player Cruises co-owner Jan Fisher was recently asked, "What's the biggest myth about cruising?" She replied, "Most people are shocked to hear that cruises aren't just for the rich. In fact, a 7-night poker cruise actually is less expensive than traveling to a destination resort! For about \$100 a day, you get the cabin berth, all the food you can eat including complimentary room service, nightly Las Vegas-style entertainment, and all of the usual cruise ship amenities.

Card Player Cruises has a wide variety of poker games and limits and offers cruisers wel-

come-aboard gifts, free lessons, free poker seminars, and exclusive private parties. They have been in business since 1992 and have hosted more than 25,000 poker players.

So, what are you waiting for? Surprise your loved ones by booking a cruise for a birthday, anniversary, family reunion, or "just because." Warning: Poker cruises are addicting. If you love poker and travel, you will have the trip of a lifetime!. Card Player Cruises is the premier

poker cruise company and offers the most poker action, most limits, and the best poker tournaments at sea.

Card Player Cruises has upcoming cruises that include the Card Player Poker Tour, the Heartland Poker Tour, and even a chess tournament along with exciting poker action. Please visit their website at www.cardplayercruises.com Don't miss the boat!

Spoil Yourself with a Poker Cruise from \$100 day!

Card Player Cruises has been in business since 1992 and is #1 in the poker cruise business! We cater to your every whim! We offer a wide variety of game choices. Enjoy parties, poker seminars, free poker instruction, tournaments, gifts, a friendly professional poker staff, and all the amenities of a luxury cruise ship! Cruisers enjoy a friendly, no-abuse cardroom. All domestic cruises have a minimum of 6 tournaments. Bring the entire family - the cruise line has all-day activity programs for children of all ages. Group discounts available!

Cruise today with Poker Hall of Famer Linda Johnson

AKA "The First Lady of Poker"!



Card Player Cruises



Experience the Awe and Wonder of Alaska!

7-night poker cruise roundtrip from Seattle

May 30, 2014 - Book NOW!

For more information call 888-999-4880 or visit our website at **www.CardPlayerCruises.com**

POKER CRUISE SCHEDULE

- **May 30, 2014:** 7-night Alaska cruise aboard the Celebrity Solstice, RT Seattle, WA. Please call for pricing and availability!
- **September 7, 2014:** 7-night Western Caribbean cruise aboard Royal Caribbean's Allure of the Seas, RT Ft. Lauderdale, FL. **This is a Card Player Poker Tour event. The winner will be featured in Card Player Magazine.** As LOW as **\$719.00*** **REDUCED!! BOOK NOW!!**
- **September 14, 2014:** 7-night Eastern Caribbean cruise aboard Royal Caribbean's Allure of the Seas, RT Ft. Lauderdale, FL. As LOW as **\$829.00*** **REDUCED!! BOOK NOW!!**
- **October 19, 2014:** 7-night Fall Foliage Canada/New England cruise aboard Royal Caribbean's Brilliance of the Seas, RT Boston, MA. As LOW as **\$719.00***
- **December 7, 2014:** 7-night Mexican Riviera cruise aboard Norwegian Cruise Line's Norwegian Star, RT Los Angeles, CA. As LOW as **\$549.00***
- **January 10, 2015:** **Heartland Poker Tour** 7-night Eastern Caribbean tournament at sea aboard Royal Caribbean's Oasis of the Seas, RT Ft. Lauderdale, FL. As LOW as **\$849.00*** **REDUCED!! BOOK NOW!!**
- **February 2, 2015:** 11-Night Eastern Caribbean Cruise aboard RCCL's newest, most phenomenal ship, the Quantum of the Seas. **There is more to do on this ship than any that has ever been built!** RT Cape Liberty in Bayonne, New Jersey. As LOW as **\$1,720.00***

*Prices are per person, double occupancy, cruise and port charges only and in U.S. dollars. Government taxes and fees are additional. Certain restrictions apply. Only passengers booked by Card Player Cruises are allowed to play in the poker room. All cruises and prices are subject to change without notice.

Freeroll not in your local card room?

Ask the floor to carry it or subscribe at FreerollMedia.com