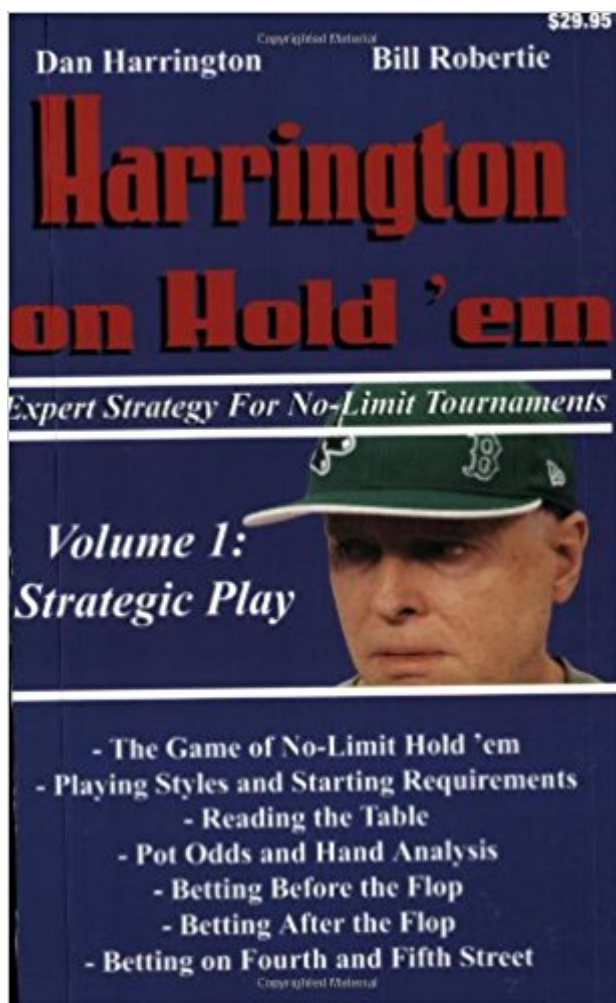


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# Harrington On Hold 'em Expert Strategy For No Limit Tournaments, Vol. 1: Strategic Play



## Synopsis

Poker has taken America by storm. But it's not just any form of poker that has people across the country so excited it's No-Limit Hold Em the main event game. And now thanks to televised tournaments tens of thousands of new players are eager to claim their share of poker glory. Harrington on Hold Em takes you to the part of the game the cameras ignore the tactics required to get through the hundreds and sometimes thousands of hands you must win to make it to the final table. Harrington's sophisticated and time-tested winning strategies, focusing on what it takes to survive the early and middle stages of a No-Limit Hold Em tournament, are appearing here for the first time in print. These are techniques that top players use again and again to get to make it to final tables around the globe. Now, learn from one of the world's most successful No-Limit Hold Em players how to vary your style, optimize your betting patterns, analyze hands, respond to a re-raise, play to win the most money possible, react when a bad card hits and much, much more. Dan Harrington won the gold bracelet and the World Champion title at the \$10,000 buy-in No-Limit Hold Em Championship at the 1995 World Series of Poker. And he was the only player to make it to the final table in 2003 (field of 839) and 2004 (field of 2576) considered by cognoscenti to be the greatest accomplishment in WSOP history. In Harrington on Hold Em, Harrington and 2-time World Backgammon Champion Bill Robertie have written the definitive book on No-Limit Hold Em for players who want to win ... and win big.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Dan Harrington began playing poker professionally in 1982. On the circuit he is known as Action Dan, an ironic reference to his solid but effective style. He has won several major no-limit hold em

tournaments including the European Poker Championships (1995), the \$2,500 No-Limit Hold em event at the 1995 World Series of Poker, and the Four Queens No-Limit Hold em Championship (1996). Dan began his serious games-playing with chess, where he quickly became a master and one of the strongest players in the New England area. In 1972 he won the Massachusetts Chess Championship, ahead of most of the top players in the area. In 1976 he started playing backgammon, a game which he also quickly mastered. He was soon one of the top money players in the Boston area, and in 1981 he won the World Cup of backgammon in Washington D.C., ahead of a field that included most of the world's top players. He first played in the \$10,000 No-Limit Hold em Championship Event of the World Series of Poker in 1987. He has played in the championship a total of 15 times and has reached the final table in four of those tournaments, an amazing record. Besides winning the World Championship in 1995, he finished sixth in 1987, third in 2003, and fourth in 2004. In 2006 he finished second at the Doyle Brunson North American Championships at the Bellagio, while in 2007 he won the Legends of Poker tournament at the Bicycle Club. He is widely recognized as one of the greatest and most respected no-limit hold em players, as well as a feared opponent in both no-limit and limit hold em side games. He lives in Santa Monica where he is a partner in Anchor Loans, a real estate business. Bill Robertie has spent his life playing and writing about chess, backgammon, and now poker. He began playing chess as a boy, inspired by Bobby Fischer's feats on the international chess scene. While attending Harvard as an undergraduate, he became a chess master and helped the Harvard chess team win several intercollegiate titles. After graduation, he won a number of chess tournaments, including the United States Championship at speed chess in 1970. He also established a reputation at blindfold chess, giving exhibitions on as many as eight boards simultaneously. In 1976 he switched from chess to backgammon, becoming one of the top players in the world. His major titles include the World Championship in Monte Carlo in 1983 and 1987, the Black & White Championship in Boston in 1979, the Las Vegas tournaments in 1980 and 2001, the Bahamas Pro-Am in 1993, and the Istanbul World Open in 1994. He has written several well-regarded backgammon books, the most noted of which are *Advanced Backgammon* (1991), a two-volume collection of 400 problems, and *Modern Backgammon* (2002), a new look at the underlying theory of the game. He has also written a set of three books for the beginning player: *Backgammon for Winners* (1994), *Backgammon for Serious Players* (1995), and *501 Essential Backgammon Problems* (1997). From 1991 to 1998 he edited the magazine *Inside Backgammon* with Kent Goulding. He owns a publishing company, the Gammon Press, and lives in Arlington, Massachusetts with his wife Patrice.

This is THE classic text on tournament Texas Hold 'em strategy! The game has changed a lot since its publication in 2004, but no one has written a better primer for absolute beginners. The most important strategic concepts – hand ranges, pot odds, implied odds – are all presented with exceptional clarity, and the copious example hands make the material engaging. This book is just plain fun to read. Harrington has since written a more in-depth book on the subject, *Harrington on Modern Tournament Poker*. The newer book reflects important changes in the strategic landscape, and is a must-read if you're playing seriously. But it's less beginner-friendly than the original. So, I recommend reading the old Harrington (Volumes 1 and 2) before delving into the new Harrington.

It is very well written and covers a lot of practical problems every player encounters at a poker table. The only thing which could be chances is the location of the problem chapters. It is easier to follow the author's ideas when a certain issue is followed by examples immediately and not at the end of a lengthy part of the book. All in all, however, a superb "textbook" prepared by a renowned professor for students who may never become professors but will certainly be able to cope with the tricky world of poker.

This book breaks down each scenario that could occur in the early stages of a poker tournament. The authors teach the reader how to calculate pot odds which I never knew before (which are how much it costs you to be part of a pot). This book has inspired me to try a poker tournament at my local casino. I believe anyone can learn to play hold 'em with this book and practice.

There is an old adage that says sequels are never as good as the original. For the most part this saying holds true but then there is the exception. Back in 1974 a sequel came out that broke the mold of how a second movie was expected to turn out. There will be endless discussions regarding which of the 2 films was superior, but there was no denying that when the second film was made, it not only was a success, but one of the greatest movies ever made. That film was *The Godfather, Part II*. With 'Harrington on Hold'em Volume II: Expert Strategy for No Limit Tournaments: Endgame', Action Dan has managed to make the impossible possible. He (along with Bill Robertie) have written a sequel so good that it is hard to distinguish the two books and easily point to a reason why the first book is better than the sequel. With the focus being how to play the middle to end stages of a tournament, Harrington has written a book that even the most experienced of players will be able to profit from. My favorite 2 points made in this book are as follows: 1. The concept of M and why it is

so important to always know where your stack is in relation to the antes and blinds.2. When heads up, nearly any 2 cards are worth playing and you are never that far behind.I really hope that Dan Harrington doesn't sell a lot of these books, because anyone that reads, learns, and follows the advice within is going to become a much better poker player. Employing a writing style that makes even the most difficult concepts easy to understand and follow, the end result is incredible.I said it when I reviewed the first book, these are the most important poker books written since Doyle Brunson's Super/System which came out in the 1970s, and it is REQUIRED reading for ALL Hold 'Em players.Wonderful, wonderful poker book by one of the best players in the world.\*\*\*\*\* HIGHEST POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION

This is part II of a three book series. It is more technical than the first. some serious spreadsheet analysis and computations.Doesnt mean if you didnt almost make it into MIT this book isnt for you. The techniques shown, the enormous amount of data and examples( I love the huge number of " real world" table examples Dan put into all these books, its very helpful to see what he is talking about, andhelps to correlate that with the play he is showing you ).You can skip the extremely deep math and just read over and over all the other info you have in this and the other books.You simply need to get all three, read them, then read them again, and again. They are that good, that helpful, and youcant avoid playing better if you only remember a fraction of the wealth of information Dan gives you.

This book and its companion Volume II are like my bibles. I have only being playing online poker tournaments and sit-and-go gamesfor three months and am already consistently winning money and getting to the final table in tournaments of 150 players or so, and have won a couple too.When I started I bought a number of books that were well reviewed on , but frankly the rest of them are not worth a hill of beans, whereas this one is worth its weight in gold. I will not go into a description of the contents, because so many reviews have already done so, but if you want to master tournament poker, or you want a great gift for your family poker player, then look no further.I should also say that the book is extemely well written, which is not always the case with poker books. The authorial voice is sometimes witty, and always a great friend and companion.This book is the definitive work on the subject of no limit hold'em tournament play. I just hope my opponents don't read it.

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