

POT LIMIT - CALCULATION.v.MHB 3.1.2014

Note: The “ GAME “ being played does not make a difference in “ POT LIMIT “ calculations.

As of this date, the most popular forms of Pot Limit are Texas Hold-em and Omaha

TOURNAMENTS

“ TRUE POT – LIMIT “

All chips are of actual value.

Ex: S.B. = 150 & B.B. = 300

When calculating the value of the pot,
the small blind is of true or actual value.

Therefore, the value of the blinds equals 450

The attached examples are for TOURNAMENT POKER

CASH GAME

“ ASSUMED COMPLETION “

In cash games, the small blind is assumed to be
completed to the value of the big blind.

Ex: S.B. = 150 & B.B. = 300

When calculating the value of the pot,
each of the blinds is counted as 300.

Therefore, the value of the blinds equals 600

The purpose is to assist in the calculation of the pot
and for the speed of the game.

POT – LIMIT CALCULATION FORMULA

The **key** to a dealer successfully calculating a POT LIMIT declaration is to complete the calculation using the same **system or formula** in **all** situations; this will **reduce the calculation to habit.**

The formula that will work in “ **ALL** “ situations is:

**Isolate the Player declaring “ POT “, then
THREE (3) times the LAST ACTION (Bet, Call or Raise) + the TRAIL**
commonly termed the “ **HOW** “ system.

The TRAIL is the total of all chips that exist on the table behind last action; comprised of bets, calls, or raises including all chips which are in the pot from previous betting rounds.

Pot Limit calculations are most difficult during the early levels of a tournament while the 25 unit chip remains in play. To simplify THREE times a bet such as 625; multiply three times 600 = 1800 then add the total of the three 25 unit chips equal to 75 for a TOTAL POT BET OF 1875; + the TRAIL.

For the SMALL BLIND, who already has a half bet in the pot: “ISOLATE” then, Three (3) times the last action + the trail will be the TOTAL bet for the player. Deduct the amount of the small blind and the player will have to add that much MORE to complete the bet.

For the BIG BLIND, who already has a full bet in the pot: “ISOLATE” then, Three (3) times the last action + the trail will be the TOTAL bet for the player. Deduct the amount of the big blind and the player will have to add that much MORE to complete the bet.

There are two correct answers for a player in either the Small or Big Blind: MORE or TOTAL. Please refer to the attached examples.

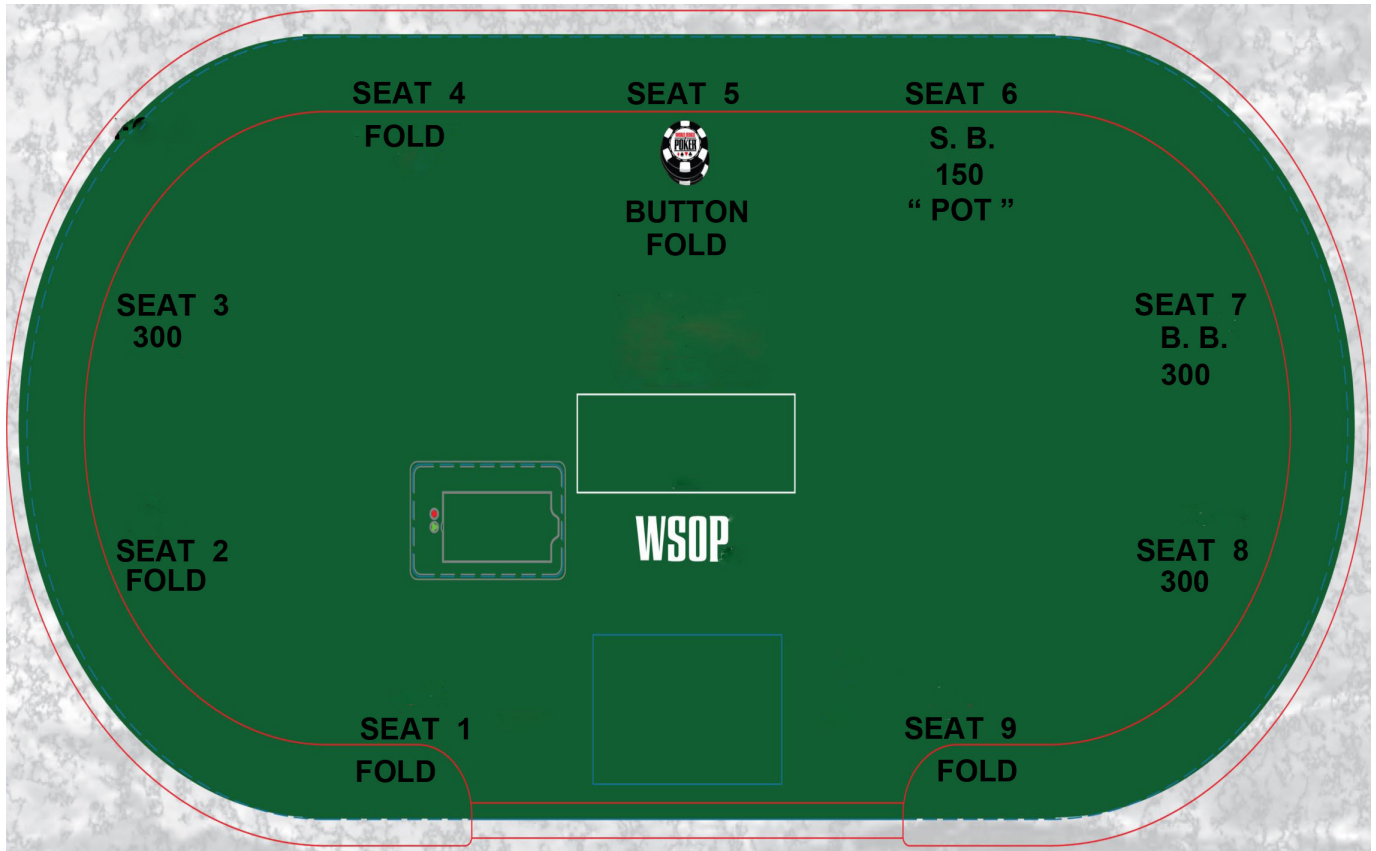
For a player who already has chips in the pot, ex. S.B., B.B. or any player from previous action, remember, to “ ISOLATE “ and “ DEDUCT “

“ A PLAYER CANNOT RAISE HIMSELF “

POT - LIMIT

SMALL BLIND “ POT ”

150 – 300 BLINDS



EXAMPLE: “ SMALL BLIND ” POT

POT – LIMIT

SMALL BLIND “ POT “

150 – 300 BLINDS

“ HOW “

The “ 3 Times “ Rule

3 times the last action; bet, call or raise + the trail

Explanation:

3 times the last action; bet, call, or raise on the table

+ the trail. The trail includes all chips behind the last bet including previous action in the existing round plus any chips that have been brought into the pot from prior rounds.

For this method of calculation, the last bet is never a part of the trail

Example:

SEAT 6: S.B.	=	150	(ISOLATE and DEDUCT)
SEAT 3: CALL	=	300	
SEAT 8: CALL	=	300	
SEAT 7: B.B.	=	300	
SEAT 6: S.B.	=	” POT “	

3 times the last bet, call or raise	SEAT 3 call of 300	=	900
Trail = 300 + 300		=	600

SMALL BLIND:	=	1,500 TOTAL
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SMALL BLIND: Deduct the “ Chips in Pot ”	= 150	=	1,350 MORE
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POT – LIMIT

SMALL BLIND “ POT “

150 – 300 BLINDS

“ WHY “

WHY does the “ HOW “ calculation work

The player has declared “ POT “

There is no question with either the dealer or any other player at the table that the players decision is to complete a pot bet. Be absolutely sure that the players request was a statement or declaration and not a question or in the format of a question such as; How much is in the pot? or Pot?

Example:

SEAT 6: S.B. = (150)

SEAT 3: “CALL” = 300

SEAT 8: “CALL” = 300

SEAT 7: B.B. = 300

SEAT 6: S.B. = “ POT “

SEAT 6: S.B. = 150 Complete the Bet to 300

What is the total of all chips on the table?

SEAT 3: = 300

SEAT 8: = 300

SEAT 7: B.B. = 300

SEAT 6: S.B. = 300

TOTAL = 1,200 = 1,350 “ MORE “ to S.B.

TOTAL BET for S.B.: = 1,500 “ TOTAL “ to S.B

Look back to the “ HOW “

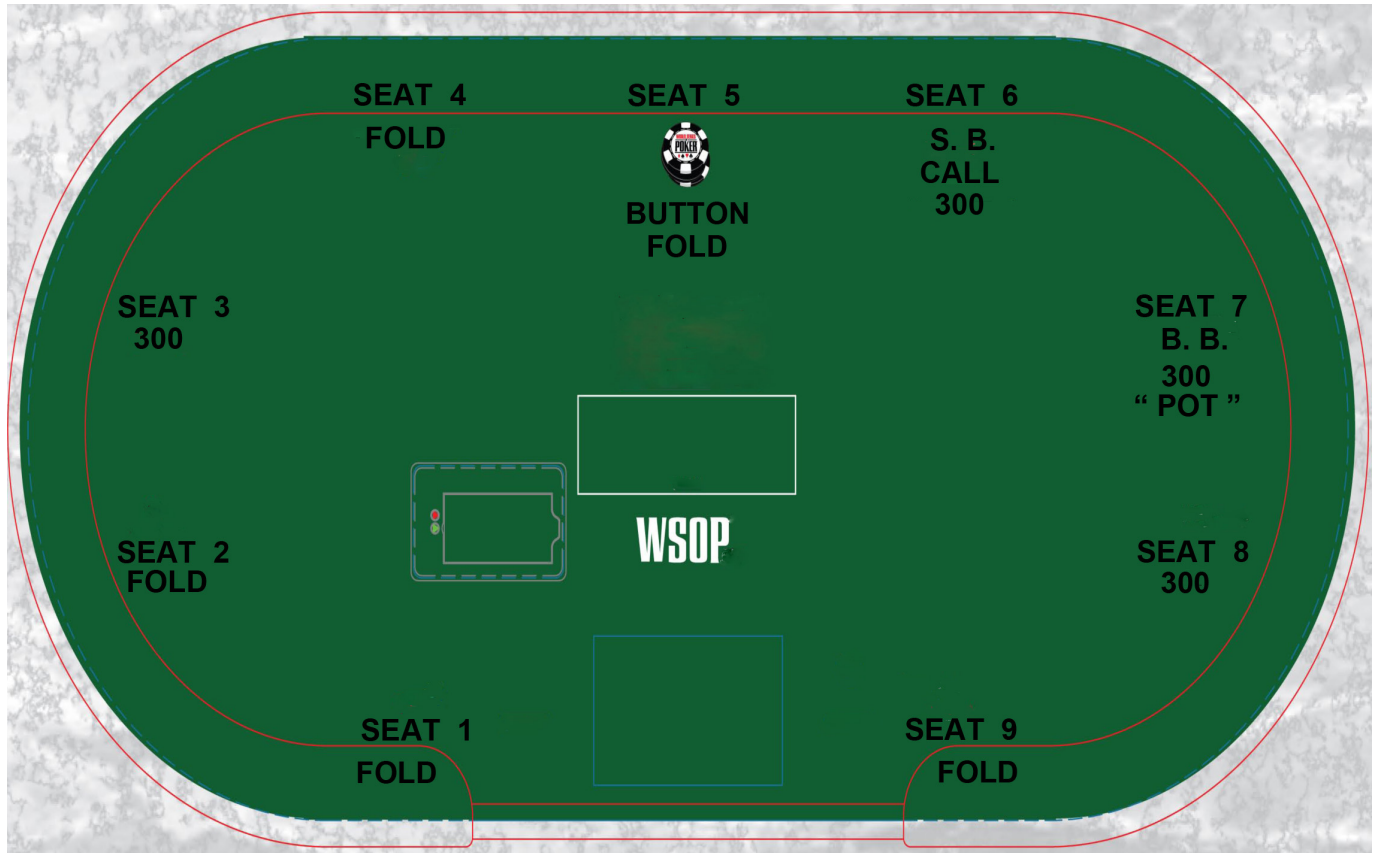
Using the 3 times the last “ ACTION “ method, the total pot bet is = 1,500

Using the WHY explanation above, the total pot bet is = 1,500

POT - LIMIT

BIG BLIND “POT”

150 – 300 BLINDS



EXAMPLE: “BIG BLIND” POT

POT – LIMIT BIG BLIND “ POT “

150 – 300 BLINDS

“ HOW “

The “ 3 Times “ Rule

3 times the last action; bet, call or raise + the trail

Explanation:

3 times the last action; bet, call, or raise on the table

+ the trail. The trail includes all chips behind the last bet including previous action in the existing round plus any chips that have been brought into the pot from prior rounds.

For this method of calculation, the last bet is never a part of the trail

Example:

SEAT 7: B.B. - “ POT “	=	300	(ISOLATE and DEDUCT)
SEAT 6: S.B. - CALL	=	300	
SEAT 3: CALL	=	300	
SEAT 8: CALL	=	300	

3 times the last action; bet, call or raise SEAT 6 - call of 300 = 900

Trail = 300 + 300 = 600

BIG BLIND: = 1,500 TOTAL

BIG BLIND: Deduct the “ Chips in Pot ” = 300 = 1,200 MORE

POT – LIMIT

BIG BLIND “ POT “

150 – 300 BLINDS

“ WHY “

WHY does the “ HOW “ calculation work

The player has declared “ POT “

There is no question with either the dealer or any other player at the table that the players decision is to complete a pot bet. Be absolutely sure that the players request was a statement or declaration and not a question or in the format of a question such as; How much is in the pot? or Pot?

Example:

SEAT 7: B.B. = (300)

SEAT 6: S.B. – “CALL” = 300

SEAT 3: “CALL” = 300

SEAT 8: “CALL” = 300

SEAT 7: B.B. = “ POT “ How Much?

SEAT 7: = 300

What is the total of all chips on the table?

SEAT 6: S.B. = 300

SEAT 3: = 300

SEAT 8: = 300

SEAT 7: B.B. = 300

TOTAL = 1,200 = 1,200 “ MORE “ to B.B.

TOTAL BET for B.B.: = 1,500 “ TOTAL “ to B.B

Look back to the “ HOW “

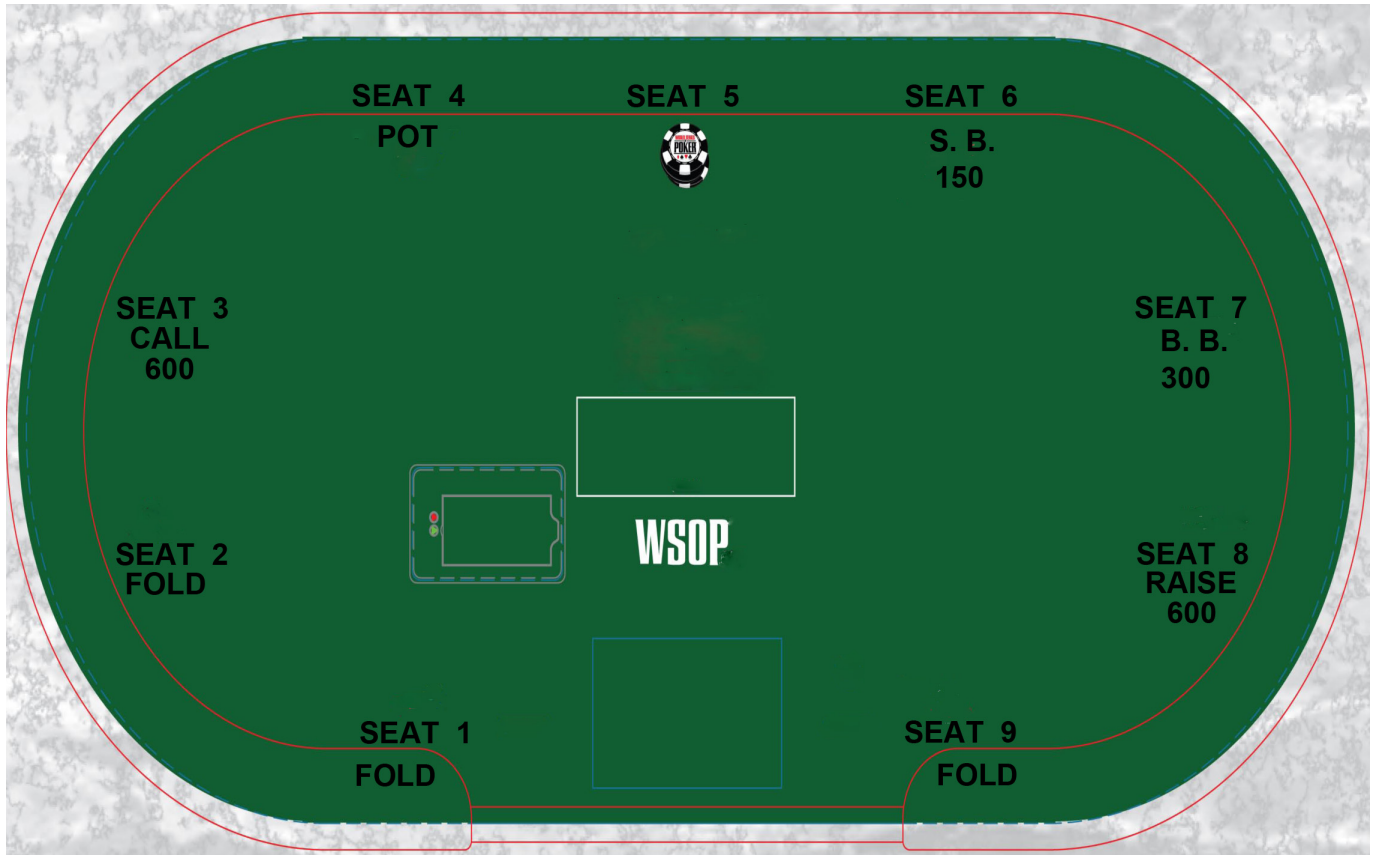
Using the 3 times the last “ ACTION “ method, the total pot bet is = 1,500

Using the WHY explanation above, the total pot bet is = 1,500

POT - LIMIT

PRE – FLOP

150 – 300 BLINDS



PRE-FLOP EX: “ HOW ” (3 TIMES PROCEDURE) and “ WHY ” (CALL and MATCH)

POT – LIMIT

PRE – FLOP

150 – 300 BLINDS

“ HOW “

The “ 3 Times “ Rule

3 times the last action; bet, call or raise + the trail

Explanation:

3 times the last action bet, call, or raise on the table

+ the trail. The trail includes all chips behind the last bet including previous action in the existing round plus any chips that have been brought into the pot from prior rounds.

For this method of calculation, the last bet is never a part of the trail

Example:

SEAT 4:	=	(0) (ISOLATE and DEDUCT)
SEAT 3: CALL	=	600
SEAT 8: RAISE	=	600
SEAT 7: B.B.	=	300
SEAT 6: S.B.	=	150

SEAT 4:	“ POT “	How Much?
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3 times the last bet, call or raise	SEAT 3 call of 600	=	1,800
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Trail = 600 + 300 + 150	=	1,050
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TOTAL	=	2,850
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DEDUCT (0)	=	(0)
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SEAT 4:	TOTAL	=	2,850
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POT - LIMIT

PRE – FLOP

150 – 300 BLINDS

“ WHY “

WHY does the “ HOW “ calculation work

The player has declared “ POT “

There is no question with either the dealer or any other player at the table that the players decision is to complete a pot bet. Be absolutely sure that the players request was a statement or declaration and not a question or in the format of a question such as; How much is in the pot? or Pot?

Example:

SEAT 4: = (0) (ISOLATE and DEDUCT)

SEAT 3: “CALL” = 600

SEAT 8: “RAISE” = 600

SEAT 7: B.B. = 300

SEAT 6: S.B. = 150

SEAT 4: “ POT “ How Much?

SEAT 4 – Call the last “ ACTION “ = 600

What is the total of all chips on the table?

SEAT 4: = 600

SEAT 3: = 600

SEAT 8: = 600

SEAT 7: = 300

SEAT 6: = 150

TOTAL = 2,250 = 2,250 “ MORE “ to SEAT 4

TOTAL BET for SEAT 4: = 2,850 “ TOTAL “ to SEAT 4

Look back to the “ HOW “

Using the 3 times the last “ ACTION “ method, the total pot bet was = 2,850

Using the WHY explanation above, the total pot bet was = 2,850

POT – LIMIT

PRE – FLOP SUMMARY

TOTAL CHIPS in POT

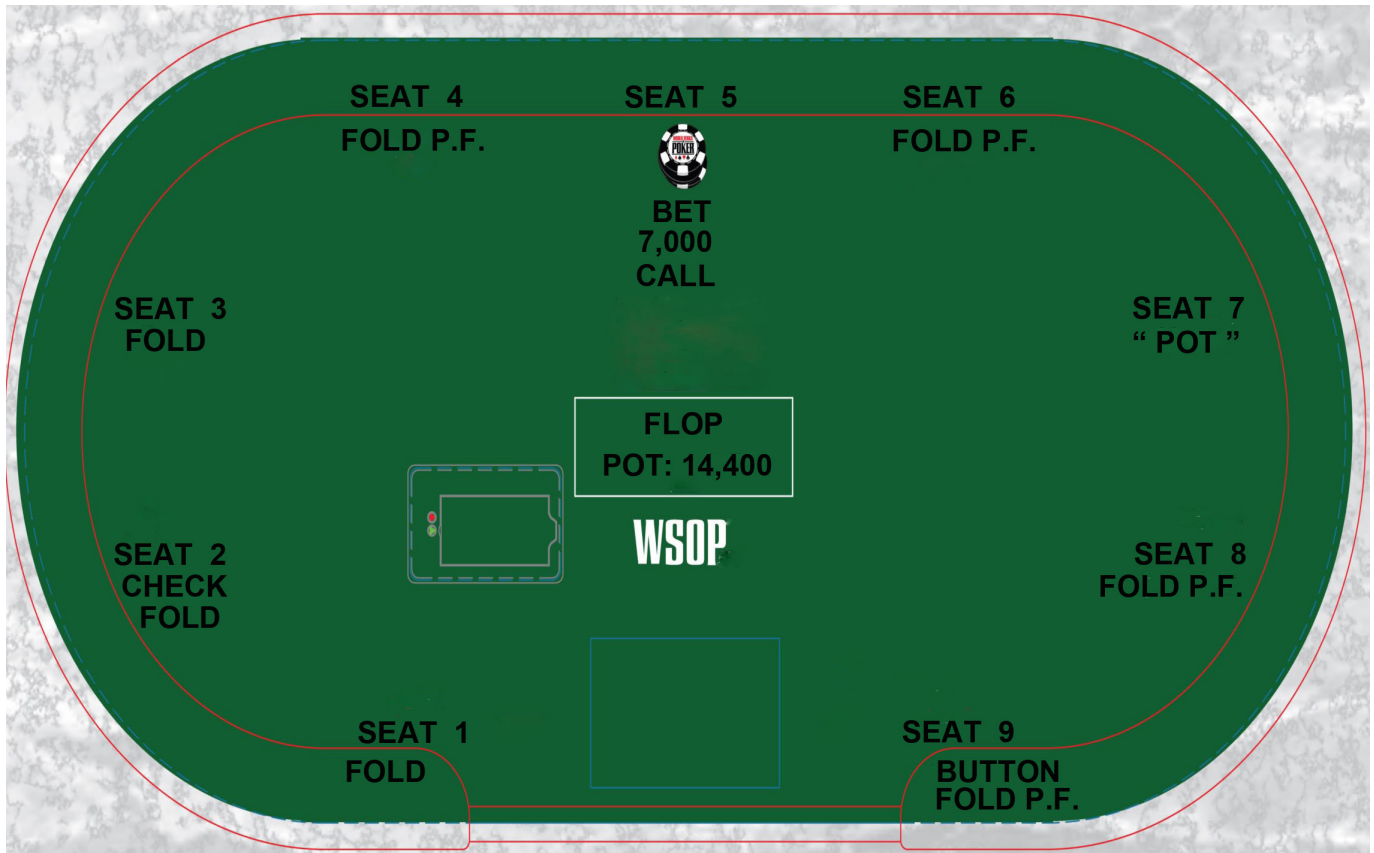
SEAT 4: (POT DECLARATION):	=	2,850	
SEAT 6: (S.B – FOLD)	=	150	(DEAD MONEY)
SEAT 7: (B.B. - CALL)	=	2,850	(2,550 MORE)
SEAT 8: (CALL)	=	2,850	(2,250 MORE)
SEAT 3: (CALL)	=	2,850	(2,250 MORE)
TOTAL CHIPS in POT	=	11,550	

POT - LIMIT

POST – FLOP

(After Color – Up - 25)

POT – 14,400



POST-FLOP EX: " HOW " (3 TIMES PROCEDURE) and " WHY " (CALL and MATCH)

POT - LIMIT

POST - FLOP

(AFTER COLOR – UP 25)
(BLIND LEVEL: S.B. 400, B.B. 800)

PRE – FLOP SUMMARY:

SEAT 1:	S.B.	400
SEAT 2:	B.B.	800
SEAT 3:	CALL	800
SEAT 5:	CALL	800
SEAT 7:	POT	“ HOW MUCH “

“ HOW “

The 3 Times Rule

3 times the last action; bet, call or raise	SEAT 5:	800	=	2,400
+ Trail	SEAT 3:		=	800
	SEAT 2:		=	800
	SEAT 1:		=	400

SEAT 7: TOTAL POT BET	=	4,400
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SEAT 1: FOLD	“ DEAD MONEY “	=	400
SEAT 2: CALL		=	4,400
SEAT 3: FOLD	“ DEAD MONEY “	=	800
SEAT 5: CALL		=	4,400

TOTAL CHIPS IN POT - after pre-flop action	=	14,400
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POT - LIMIT

POST - FLOP

“ HOW “

The 3 Times Rule

3 times the last action; bet, call or raise + the trail

Explanation:

3 times the last bet, call or raise on the table

+ the trail. The trail includes all chips behind the last bet including previous action in the existing round plus any chips that have been brought into the pot from prior rounds.

For this method of calculation, the last bet is never a part of the trail

Example:

SEAT 2: CHECK

SEAT 5: BET = 7,000

SEAT 7: “ POT “ = “ HOW MUCH “

3 times the last bet, call or raise	SEAT 5 – 7,000	=	21,000
SEAT 2:	FOLD	=	- 0 -
Chips in Pot		=	14,400
SEAT 7:	TOTAL	=	35,400
SEAT 7: (0 Chips in Pot)	MORE	=	35,400

POT - LIMIT

POST - FLOP

“ WHY “

WHY does the “ HOW “ calculation work

The player has declared “ POT “

There is no question with either the dealer or any other player at the table that the players decision is to complete a pot bet. Be absolutely sure that the players request was a statement or declaration and not a question or in the format of a question such as; How much is in the pot? or Pot?

Example:

SEAT 7: “ POT “ = (0) (ISOLATE and DEDUCT)

SEAT 5: BET = 7,000

SEAT 2: FOLD = - 0 -

SEAT 7: “ POT “ How Much?

SEAT 7 Call the last Action = 7,000

What is the total of all chips on the table?

SEAT 7: = 7,000

SEAT 5: = 7,000

Chips in Pot = 14,400

SEAT 7: = 28,400 MORE

SEAT 7: = 35,400 TOTAL

Look back to the “ HOW “

Using the 3 times the last bet method, the total pot bet was = 35,400

Using the WHY explanation above, the total pot bet was = 35,400

POT – LIMIT

POST – FLOP SUMMARY

TOTAL CHIPS in POT

SEAT 7: (POT DECLARATION): = 35,400

SEAT 5: CALL = 35,400

CHIPS in POT = 14,400

TOTAL CHIPS in POT = 85,200