The Softest Poker Format

Attracts the most recreational players.

Mainstream coverage and the chance of a big win draw newcomers to tournaments.

Strategy is misunderstood – even by regulars.

Strategy changes with stack depth, table size and ICM considerations.

With tournament poker having much more mainstream exposure than cash-games, newcomers often start with tournaments.

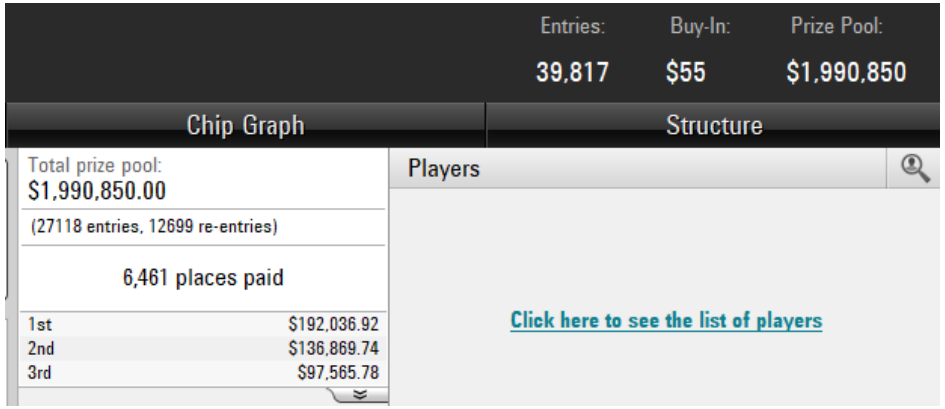


Potential for Big Earnings

MTTs offer the opportunity for a big return on a small investment.

The example has a $55 buy-in, 39,817 entries and a $1,990,850 prize pool.

Large fields and top-heavy payouts also mean substantial variance.



Exciting!

MTTs provide an unparalleled adrenaline rush in the context of poker.

A tournament can move from a short stack to a big stack, through the bubble, a final table and heads-up.

This is why they are far more popular with viewers than cash-games – think of WSOP on ESPN and tournament presence on Twitch.

Cons of MTTs

High variance (more on this later).

Even a good player can lose over a short period because luck affects results.

Tiring schedule – long days, short breaks.

Online sessions often mean 55 minutes of play followed by a five-minute break.

Unsociable – Sunday is the best day in the tournament calendar!

The biggest Sunday schedule can conflict with time for friends and family.