

Dealer Profile David Mock



Dave Mock is widely considered one of the better dealer/players at The Seabrook Poker Room. While his talents on both sides of the poker table are clear so is the fact that he's one of the busiest. The 20-year old is a proud father of a 2-year old who, besides dealing poker full-time, is also a full-time student working towards his degree in teaching and an assistant football coach at his alma mater, Beverly H.S.

Mock's been dealing winning, and losing, hands at The Seabrook Poker Room the past three years and has won more than his share of tournaments when he's played in them, as well. In fact, it was while he was playing when he was recruited to work at The 'Brook. About three years ago Mock was playing at The Seabrook Poker Room when Tournament Director, Nick Dichiara, noticed a young looking guy and asked for his ID. When Mock couldn't produce identification proving he was 18-years old Dichiara kindly informed him he would have to leave the premises and return when he was of legal age...which is exactly what Mock did. Dichiara noticed the enthusiasm, passion and politeness of Mock when he did come back to play that he offered him a job.

Though some fellow dealers could make an argument for their poker-playing prowess being as good, or better, than Mock's there is little debate he's the best all-around athlete on the dealer team. He played four years of football at Beverly High, earning all-conference honors, and was also all-conference, and all-state, in lacrosse.

We decided NOT to challenge Mock on the gridiron, for fear that he'd plant us into the ground like Bo Jackson did to Brian Bosworth on Monday Night Football back in the day, but we did feel safe to challenge him to answer our 10 Questions:

(SPR): What makes a good dealer?

(DM): It's a combination of a few things. One is good mechanics and another is having table presence and being able to control the game.

(SPR): Well, then, given those parameters who is the best dealer at The Seabrook Poker Room (present company included)?

(DM): I would have to say Adam Johnson because he has very good mechanics. Even though he's not always a ray of sunshine he's still one of the best.

(SPR): What dealer is the best poker player (present company included)?

(DM): I'm going to take myself out of the equation and honestly say Adam Johnson, again, and Sean Miller.

(SPR): If you weren't dealing poker professionally at The Seabrook Poker Room what would you be doing for a living?

(DM): Well, I'm currently going to back to school to be a teacher. (We're assuming it's not to be a teacher of poker, though any high school that does start offering that course in their curriculum would be very forward thinking).

(SPR): Can you watch poker on TV or do you watch it with such a critical eye that it's unenjoyable?

(DM): I enjoy watching poker on TV but do feel that every hand seems staged.

(SPR): As a dealer what is your biggest pet peeve at the table?

(DM): When two players are sitting side-by-side and the first to act throws out four black chips. It's obviously four hundred dollars. The player sitting right next to the first bettor looks at the bet and then looks at me and asks, "Dealer...how much is that?"

(SPR): If you could change one thing at The 'Brook, what would it be?

(DM): I would change the limits. I know it's not the poker room, it's the state, but, man, it would just benefit everybody.

(SPR): What makes a player one of your favorites to deal to?

(DM): When a player has a good attitude. When it's somebody you can relate to in stuff outside of poker. And I really like dealing to a player and who has poker skills good enough where we can relate.

(SPR): When do you get tired of being around poker?

(DM): When it's your job AND your hobby there's usually a point everyday when it becomes annoying. But, in the long run, it's just something I love doing so I get over it.

(SPR): Do you have any poker-related goals?

(DM): Dealing-wise I would like to deal in the World Series (talk to your co-worker, Jimmy, he does it every year). And playing-wise I feel like I'm good enough to supplement any income I earn with playing poker.