



## FANTINI'S GAMING REPORT®

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### Special Reporting Service

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Frank Fantini – *Publisher*

Ashley Diem – *Associate Publisher and Executive Editor*

Blake Weishaar – *Editor*

### *Fantini's COVID-19 Gaming Daily*

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**NOTE:** *As states are beginning to lessen restrictions and casinos are planning re-openings, we welcome all news and developments for these and anything COVID-19 related. Send your news releases to [Editor@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:Editor@FantiniResearch.com). In addition, you may reach Editor Blake Weishaar at [BWeishaar@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:BWeishaar@FantiniResearch.com) or by phone at +1 302 730 3793.*

#### STOCKS JUMP ON NEVADA'S OPENING RULES

Las Vegas-oriented casino stocks jumped Thursday afternoon as the Nevada Gaming Commission approved its health and safety guidelines, paving the way for casinos to begin reopening.

Boyd shot up 12.72 percent, Golden Entertainment 7.08 percent and Red Rock Resorts 10.39.

Under the guidelines, casinos will have to submit reopening plans to the board seven days in advance and limit capacity to 50 percent.

Social distancing will limit craps tables to six players, roulette and poker tables to four and blackjack tables to three.

An opening date is still uncertain, but Gov. Steve Sisolak said Phase One of his broader business reopening plan will start before May 15. He was expected to make further announcements Thursday evening.

There have been anecdotal reports of pent up business demand with hotel bookings rising through the summer and conventions rebooking into the autumn and next year.

A Las Vegas Review-Journal poll, however, found visitation might take a while to rebuild:

- 17 percent of respondents would visit a casino immediately upon reopening.
- 22 percent would return within a few weeks to a month.
- 40 percent would return in a few months.
- 21 percent might never return.

#### RE-OPENINGS: AZ, AR, MI, NEW CALEDONIA, S KOREA, STRONACH

- ARIZONA. Fort McDowell casino will open on May 15 but a date has not been set for the We-Ko-Pa Resort, The Fountain Hills Times reported.

- ARKANSAS casinos can reopen May 18 at one-third capacity with social distancing requirements, the Hot Springs Sentinel-Record reported.

- MICHIGAN. Island Casino will reopen May 16 rather than Thursday due to what the casino called unforeseen circumstances.

- NEW CALEDONIA. Grand Casino and Casino Royal have reopened in the French territory in the South Pacific.

- SOUTH KOREA, Kangwon Land will reopen Friday. Grand Korea Leisure opened Wednesday.

- STRONACH GROUP's Golden Gate Fields racetrack in Los Angeles will resume live horse racing on May 14 but without spectators.

#### DRIVE-TO DEMAND UP

In what could be a good omen for regional casinos, weekend hotel occupancy for drive-to leisure markets increased 17 percent last weekend over the prior weekend while full-week occupancy was up 4 percent, Smith Travel Research reported.

#### COMPANIES: GENTING MALAY, MGM

- GENTING MALAYSIA's Resorts World Genting will remain closed despite the local government easing the country's lockdown this week, GGRAsia reported.

The property's closure is set to run until next Tuesday.

- MGM RESORTS said it could lay off 2,632 employees at MGM Grand Detroit after Mayor Mike Duggan said that it could take six months to a year for casinos to fully recover.

US: MD

- MARYLAND. The Preakness could be held October 3, WBAL reported. The race was originally scheduled to take place May 16.

However, Stronach Group issued a statement that a definitive date has not yet been set.

INTERNATIONAL: WALES

- WALES' Betting and Gaming Council is asking the Welsh government to allow aid to gaming companies in its COVID-19 relief plan.

There are 300 betting shops and four casinos in Wales.

FANTINI'S VIRTUAL TRADE SHOW

As COVID-19 has caused the cancellation of many trade shows, now is the time to turn to a virtual show to display and advertise all your product lines and news events too. To exhibit your company, contact Dee Wild-Shyver at [DWild@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:DWild@FantiniResearch.com).

See products, demos, and news from exhibitors at [www.FantinisGamingShow.com](http://www.FantinisGamingShow.com).

CONVENTIONS, TRADE SHOWS, CONFERENCES, EXPOS

Shows and conferences have been canceled or postponed due to the coronavirus outbreak. As new dates become available or for those that transition to webinars, they will be listed in our online calendar at <https://www.fantiniresearch.com/conventions.html>.

## **ABOUT THIS REPORT:**

*In Fantini's COVID-19 Gaming Daily report we consolidate all developments about the virus that have business and investment implications for the gaming industry. We will post them on our website until further notice. Fantini's COVID-19 Gaming Daily is a Special Report that is included with all levels of Fantini's Gaming Report subscriptions.*

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## **STAFF/CONTACT US:**

Frank Fantini, publisher. [FFantini@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:FFantini@FantiniResearch.com)

Ashley Diem, associate publisher and executive editor. [ADiem@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:ADiem@FantiniResearch.com)

Dee Wild-Shyver, associate editor and VP of Virtual Trade Show. [DWild@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:DWild@FantiniResearch.com)

Laura Briggs, public policy editor. [LBriggs@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:LBriggs@FantiniResearch.com)

Blake Weishaar, editor. [BWeishaar@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:BWeishaar@FantiniResearch.com)

Hannah Wilmarth, writer. [HWilmarth@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:HWilmarth@FantiniResearch.com)

Dylan Kaplan, writer and project team member. [DKaplan@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:DKaplan@FantiniResearch.com)

Alex Capitle, marketing specialist. [ACapitle@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:ACapitle@FantiniResearch.com)

Cindy Konowitz, office manager. [CKonowitz@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:CKonowitz@FantiniResearch.com)

Subscription inquiries: [Subscriptions@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:Subscriptions@FantiniResearch.com)

Analyst notes: [Analysts@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:Analysts@FantiniResearch.com)

News releases: [Editor@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:Editor@FantiniResearch.com)