



## FANTINI'S GAMING REPORT®

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### Special Reporting Service

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

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**NOTE:** *As casinos are making plans and reopening we welcome all news and developments for these and anything COVID-19 related. Send your news releases to us at [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.*

**NOTE 2:** An interactive map of casino re-openings is at <https://www.fantiniresearch.com/gaming/fantini-s-covid-19-gaming-daily.html>.

#### MORE RE-OPENINGS

AR, AC, CA, FL, MA, MN, NY, OR, WV

With Louisiana having reopened on Monday and numerous Native American casinos having opened in the past two weeks, it appears the entire US casino industry will be in operation when the calendar turns to June.

Here's the latest:

- ARKANSAS. Delaware North's Southland Park reopened with a no smoking policy and guests being required to wear facemasks.

- ATLANTIC CITY casinos are accepting tentative hotel reservations starting June 1, Philadelphia Magazine reported.

Borgata is charging around \$123 a night, but that will increase as the July 4th holiday approaches.

New Jersey's regulators have yet to set an opening date.

- CALIFORNIA. Soboba Casino in San Diego County will reopen Wednesday with two bars and three restaurants but no hotel.

Customer capacity will be limited to an unspecified number and plexiglass barriers will be installed at table games.

- FLORIDA. Hard Rock International will open Seminole Hard Rock in Tampa on Thursday.

The Miccosukee casino south of Miami reopened with a lower maximum capacity of 500 people and every third machine in operation.

Guests' temperatures must be taken and gaming machines will be wiped down after each use.

- MASSACHUSETTS. Wynn's Encore Boston Harbor will not offer poker when it reopens as part of its crowd control, Bloomberg reported.

Craps will only be available in the high-limit area where crowds are typically smaller.

- MINNESOTA. Prairie's Edge casino in Granite Falls has reopened at 50 percent capacity. Some slots are unavailable and blackjack and poker tables are closed.

Plexiglass will be installed between slots and some slots will not be available.

The casino will require staff to wear masks, monitor temperatures and will ask guests to wear masks too.

- NEW YORK. Slots-only Lakeside Entertainment in Union Springs has reopened with 31 machines, down from 84.

Temperatures are being taken and facemasks must be worn at all times.

- OREGON. Mill Casino in North Bend and Chinook Winds Casino in Lincoln City will reopen late this week, KGW-TV reported.

Mill Casino will put up sneeze guards, and employees will wear facemasks. Guests will have their temperatures taken and will also be asked to wear masks.

- WEST VIRGINIA casinos can reopen June 5.

## PENNSYLVANIA iGAMING GROWS

Pennsylvania's iGaming revenue boomed in April, more than doubling that of March, at a record of \$43.068 million.

However, that failed to generate anything close to last year when land-based casinos were open, generating \$270 million.

Online poker beat New Jersey's bringing in \$5.253 million.

Sports betting revenue was carried by online betting, which amounted to \$3.226 million on handle of \$46.016 million.

Daily fantasy sports revenue plummeted 76.9 percent month-over-month and 90.97 percent from last year to \$167,254.

DraftKings took the market share by 73.99 percent while Flutter's FanDuel only accounted for 26.01 percent of revenues. They were the only two operators to generate revenue last month.

## GDEN PERMANENTLY CLOSES CASINO

COVID-19 has claimed its third commercial casino.

Golden Entertainment will permanently close Colorado Belle in Laughlin due to uncertainty about the return of the market 90 miles south of Las Vegas.

GDEN bought the property and neighboring Edgewater casino from Marnell Gaming last year. The acquisition doubled GDEN's presence in Laughlin to 2,600 slots, 70 table games and 4,150 hotel rooms, about 40 percent of the market.

The Belle operated 750 slots, 16 table games and 1,168 hotel rooms. It had 400 employees.

Although closing, GDEN does not intend to sell the property. "Future plans for the Colorado Belle will be highly dependent on the business volume at our other Laughlin properties and the Laughlin market in general," the Las Vegas Review-Journal quoted CFO Charles Protell.

GDEN also owns Aquarius casino. It, Edgewater and the Belle are adjacent properties along the Colorado River.

The closing is the third permanent casino closing caused by COVID-19, joining Diamondjacks in Bossier City, Louisiana, and Lakeside in Stateline at Lake Tahoe.

## MACAU REVENUES IMPROVE

Macau gaming revenue rose 80 percent in the week ended May 17 from the prior week to US\$9 million.

Revenue was down 94 percent through the first 17 days of the month.

Results last week were aided by May Labor Day and strong VIP play, with VIP hold higher than normal, Vitaly Umansky of Bernstein said.

Umansky expects the full year to fall 41 percent and next year to grow 88 percent. May should slump 90 to 95 percent, he said.

Andrew Lee of Jefferies expects a 93 percent decline for May while Edward Engel of Macquarie expects a 94 percent drop.

## LOTTERY SALES RECOVERING

Many markets began showing signs of recovery in April in terms of lottery sales, Todd Eilers of Eilers & Krejcik Gaming said.

By the week ending April 25, 13 states showed two weeks of week-over-week growth, and 10 experiencing three straight weeks of growth. Those 10 states will likely have nearly flat instant ticket sales, he said.

Partial results from 13 states indicate the potential for a full recovery, which could be in line with last year, he said.

Sales in Arkansas, Ohio and Texas rose while South Carolina declined.

Those sales could indicate that there is broad pent-up demand for gaming, particularly for slots, Eilers said.

First quarter sales across 46 tracked US jurisdictions fell 2.1 percent to \$20.3 billion as previously reported by Eilers & Krejcik Gaming.

The Early Read on April Instant Ticket Lottery Sales note is available from Alex Capitle at [ACapitle@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:ACapitle@FantiniResearch.com).

## COMPANIES: ARISTOCRAT, PHILWEB, RRR, SVH, TCSJOHNHUXLEY

- ARISTOCRAT priced a \$500 million term loan due 2024.

ALL's total loan debt will bear interest at LIBOR plus 2.18 percent.

- PHILWEB extended leave for employees for another month.
- RED ROCK RESORTS launched health and safety protocols for reopening, including thermal scanners, testing all staff and enhanced cleaning.
- SILVER HERITAGE entered voluntary administration saying it is likely to become insolvent due to complications arising from COVID-19.

SVH had previously initiated cost reduction strategies to mitigate the virus impact.

Primary lender OCP recently notified SVH that it was unwilling to provide additional funding.

Ryan Eagle and Amanda Coneyworth of KPMG were appointed administrators.

- TCSJOHNHUXLEY launched the Care & Protect product line to support safe table game operations as casinos reopen.

The first product released is the Chip Sanitizer.

#### INTERNATIONAL: LAOS

- LAOS lifted travel restrictions throughout the country but will continue casino closings until June 1.

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The information in these special COVID-19 reports is being shared free of charge during these difficult times. This is our way of helping everyone with vested interests in the industry stay on top of the current news.

In addition to the coronavirus coverage, there is a lot more news and financial matters in the complete daily reports that would also be of great use to you. For information on how to subscribe, contact Alex Capitle at [ACapitle@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:ACapitle@FantiniResearch.com) or visit [www.FantiniResearch.com](http://www.FantiniResearch.com).

#### 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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