



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. In addition, you may reach Editor Blake Weishaar at BWeishaar@FantiniResearch.com or by phone at +1 302 730 3793.*

PENNSYLVANIA INTRODUCES PROTOCOLS

Poker will not be initially allowed when Pennsylvania's casinos open, per the state Gaming Control Board's reopening protocols.

Poker operations will be re-evaluated based on guidance from health officials.

Casino customers and employees must wear facemasks and casinos will have plexiglass installed at table games. Some slots will be shut down to ensure social distancing.

Casinos will be permitted to reopen in Gov. Tom Wolf's green phase of his three-phase plan.

Pennsylvania is still in the red phase in which essential businesses are allowed to remain open and stay at home orders are in place.

The yellow phase lifts stay at home orders and allows gatherings of more than 25 people.

The green phase allows all businesses to reopen following Center for Disease Control guidelines.

Protocols: https://gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov/files/communications/COVID-19_Casino_Reopening_Protocols.pdf.

Other reopening plans:

- GOLDEN ENTERTAINMENT announced a health and safety plan including a maximum capacity of 50 percent for properties, temperature checks at entrances and COVID-19 testing for staff.

Golden Commitment plan: <https://goldenent.com/commitment.html>.

- MERUELO GROUP released health and safety protocols to be implemented upon the reopening of SAHARA Las Vegas.

Protocols include additional cleaning, improved air quality, plexiglass at the front desk, casino cage and sportsbook as well as temperature checks for all customers and staff when entering the property.

Health plan: <https://saharalasvegas.com/saharacares/>.

- OKLAHOMA. The Cherokee Nation published a responsible hospitality reopening plan for its 10 casinos in the state, the Siloam Springs Herald-Tribune reported.

Smaller properties will open first with the rest to open in phases with social distancing and sanitization protocols put in place according to state and Center for Disease Control recommendations.

Dates could be provided by the end of the week.

- RED ROCK RESORTS will open four restaurants at Red Rock in Las Vegas Tuesday and T-Bones Chophouse at the property on May 29.

Bottiglia Cucina and Borracha Mexican Cantina at Green Valley Ranch will open Tuesday, and Pizza Rock will offer curbside starting the same day. Hank's Fine Steaks will open May 29.

Santa Fe Station will open its restaurant for curbside on Tuesday.

CASINO RE-OPENINGS: CA, KS, WA, WI

- CALIFORNIA. Sycuan Casino reopened on Monday.

All patrons must have their temperature checked at the door and wear a mask at all times.

Hard Rock Sacramento at Fire Mountain reopened Thursday.

- KANSAS. Boyd's Kansas Star is reopening Saturday in phases.

Table games and poker will not be open during phase one.

- WASHINGTON. Muckleshoot Casino reopens Tuesday.

- WISCONSIN. Ho-Chunk in Madison reopens Wednesday.

AGA SEEKS HIGHER WIN THRESHOLD

The American Gaming Association is once again asking to raise the reporting threshold for slot jackpots to \$5,000 from \$1,200 at a time when regulatory reforms are being sought to save the federal government money.

The current slot jackpot reporting threshold is outdated and imposes significant compliance burdens on the IRS and gaming industry, AGA CEO Bill Miller said.

This change was already long overdue prior to the pandemic and now has additional importance as the gaming industry emerges from COVID-19, he added.

The AGA asked the Department of Treasury to update the reporting threshold to \$5,000 last year. That is equivalent to \$1,200 when it was imposed in 1977.

UNIONS PUSH SAFETY PLANS

The Culinary and other Nevada unions are asking state legislators, Las Vegas and Clark County to ensure casino workers have the highest standard of personal protective equipment through regulations.

They also want the Gaming Control Board to release casino reopening plans.

The board says it does not have authorization to release the confidential plans but says casinos are free to release their own plans.

The union's press release: <https://www.culinaryunion226.org/news/press/culinary-union-seiu-1107-national-nurses-united-ufcw-711-demand-ppe-for-all-workers>.

PENNSYLVANIA, NEW JERSEY ONLINE GROWING

May's online casino revenue for Pennsylvania should increase 25 to 50 percent vs. April while New Jersey should rise 10 to 20 percent, Chris Grove of Eilers & Krejcik Gaming estimates.

That growth has been reflected in daily online casino app downloads in New Jersey, which has been growing 44 percent while online poker app downloads have grown 60 percent vs. pre-COVID-19 daily averages.

Sports betting should begin to recover in Indiana, Iowa, New Jersey and West Virginia with the resumption of UFC and NASCAR, he said.

Grove's Sports & Emerging Verticals COVID Companion is available from Alex Capitle at ACapitle@FantiniResearch.com or +1 302 730 3793.

COMPANIES: MLCO, MOHEGAN

- MELCO RESORTS' City of Dreams Manila is giving non-management employees a month of paid leave.

Management took a voluntary pay cut in mid-April.

- MOHEGAN GAMING is trying to garner another \$100 million loan to ensure financial flexibility after missing a self-imposed deadline for a loan last week, Bloomberg reported.

Mohegan had also offered to pay 14 percent interest for a new loan maturing next year in order to fund expansion and repay \$400 million in debt due next year.

US: AC, NM

- ATLANTIC CITY. Gov. Phil Murphy and Senate President Steve Sweeney differ on opening of casinos in the Garden State, with the latter saying the governor is sitting on a reopening plan.

Here's the Press of Atlantic City take on their differences:
https://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/casinos_tourism/how-do-murphy-sweeney-view-reopening-atlantic-city-casinos/article_19f8e28a-7621-5c4d-bb7b-e721f6dad018.html.

- NEW MEXICO casinos will stay closed until June 7.

MACAU VISITATION TUMBLES

Macau's year-over-year visitation flopped 99.7 percent to just 11,041 in April and down 94.8 percent from March.

There were 6,383 overnight visitors and 4,658 day trippers.

Mainland Chinese comprised of 10,500 visitors, Hong Kong 328 and Taiwan 210.

Year-to-date visitation through April dropped 76.6 percent to 3.230 million.

Full report: <https://bit.ly/3cUgC6s>.

UK CHANGES CRITICIZED

European law firm Mishcon de Reya is criticizing proposed UK Gambling Commission regulations aimed at problem gambling arising in the COVID-19 pandemic.

The provisions would require operators to pay heightened attention to possible problem gambling indications during the pandemic will present operational challenges and the industry was neither consulted nor given proper advanced warning for implementation, de Reya said.

The commission should consider the new guidance not to be mandatory as changes require three months' notice and consultation, the firm said.

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.

See products, demos, and news from exhibitors at 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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