



FANTINI'S GAMING REPORT[©]

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Special Reporting Service

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Fantini's COVID-19 Gaming Daily – Weekend Update

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

SOUTHERN CAL OPENING UP

Casinos in Southern California are rapidly planning to reopen.

The eight casinos in San Diego County and neighboring Pechanga Resort in Riverside County plan to reopen May 18.

The San Diego casinos will implement what is rapidly becoming the standard safety precautions of social distancing, temperature taking and sanitizing, plus customers will have to wear facemasks.

High-traffic areas such as nightclubs will remain closed.

The San Diego casinos include some of California's largest. They are Viejas, Barona, Pala, Sycuan, Harrah's Southern California, Valley View, Casino Pauma and Golden Acorn.

In the Palm Springs area, Fantasy Springs Casino will remain closed but is starting to reschedule concerts that had been postponed.

In northern California, Win River near Redding will reopen May 15.

In Southern California outside of San Diego County, many of the largest casinos remain closed, such as Morongo, which is closed until further notice, and San Manuel, which is shut through May 31.

OPENINGS ELSEWHERE: IN, KY, NH, NC, ND, OK, WA

- INDIANA horse racing will relaunch June 14 without spectators.
- KENTUCKY. Ellis Park will resume horseracing without fans on June 28.
- NEW HAMPSHIRE. Charity gaming operators are reopening their restaurants though casino areas remain closed.
- NORTH CAROLINA. Harrah's Cherokee casinos will reopen May 18.
- NORTH DAKOTA. Prairie Knights Casino near Fort Yates will open May 15.

Every other slot machine will be shut and card and table games will be closed.

- OKLAHOMA. Stables Casino in Oklahoma's northeast corner near Kansas and Missouri will reopen May 25.

Employees and vendors are required to wear facemasks and customers will be encouraged to also wear them.

Osage Casino in Ponca City near Kansas will open Friday.

Seven Clans casinos are tentatively set to reopen on Thursday.

- WASHINGTON. Angel of the Winds casino in Arlington will reopen May 13 at half capacity with only baccarat and slots.

Guest temperature checks and facemasks will be required.

CLOSINGS: CT, IN, LV, MI, MS

- CONNECTICUT. Mohegan Sun will remain closed until at least May 12, while Foxwoods has canceled all reservations through May 24.

- INDIANA's casinos will remain closed until mid-June.
- LAS VEGAS. Treasure Island in Las Vegas has delayed taking hotel reservations from May 15 to the 22nd.
- MICHIGAN. The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe and Kewadin Casinos extended their closings until June 1.

Elsewhere, tribal casinos that choose to open ahead of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's approval could face backlash from the state, Michigan's Bridge Magazine reported.

Island Resort in Harris backed off plans to reopen after Atty. Gen. Dana Nessel warned its patrons could be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

Island has rescheduled its opening to May 16 along with six other tribes.

Whitmer has closed the state's commercial gaming operations until at least May 28.

- MISSISSIPPI's casinos are doubtful about opening Memorial Day weekend due to COVID-19 numbers still increasing.

HK-MACAU TRAVEL BUBBLE PROPOSED

Hong Kong residents might soon be able to travel conveniently to Macau.

Hong Kong Executive Council Member Lam Ching Choi is proposing that the 14-day quarantine for travel between the two cities be lifted.

There have been no new COVID-19 cases in Macau since April 7, and few new cases in Hong Kong.

Meanwhile, the Golden Bus service between the cities has resumed with limited operations.

Hong Kong is Macau's second largest feeder market after Mainland China.

ONLINE TO BENEFIT

More states may legalize online gambling as they seek to grow tax revenues, Barry Jonas of SunTrust says.

iGaming revenue could grow an additional \$400 million if states that proposed iGaming legislation last year legalize and launch, he said. Those states are Connecticut, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New York and Virginia.

Pennsylvania is expected to report more than \$40 million in iGaming revenue in April, 60 percent over March, Thomas Allen of Morgan Stanley said.

He expects the state to generate \$205 million in revenue this year growing to \$547 million in 2023.

Michigan and West Virginia could launch iGaming this year with West Virginia perhaps going live this summer as the state lottery commission has already approved rules, Allen said.

Chris Grove of Eilers & Krejcik Gaming estimates April online poker and casino revenue increased 30 to 50 percent in Pennsylvania and 15 to 30 percent in New Jersey from March.

Grove's Sports & Emerging Verticals COVID Companion is available from Alex Capitle at ACapitle@FantiniResearch.com.

REVENUE FORECAST DECLINES

Global gaming revenue is now expected to be £375.9 billion this year, down from its earlier forecast of £381.6 billion, H2 Gambling Capital says.

That forecast is down nearly £100 billion vs. H2's pre-COVID-19 forecast.

COMPANIES: CZR, EVO, MLCO

- CAESARS' Horseshoe Baltimore in Maryland, laid off 1,230 employees.
- EVOLUTION GAMING received permission to expand capacity of its live dealer studio in Tbilisi, Georgia, to 100 tables.

The studio closed March 23 and reopened with limited capacity on April 4.

- MELCO RESORTS resumed construction on the €550 million City of Dreams Mediterranean in Cyprus after initially stopping due to COVID-19.

The company is adhering to strict guidelines to protect workers and is requiring all workers to submit health declarations and have body temperatures checked at construction site entrances.

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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