



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 – Weekend Update

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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.*

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

COASTAL CASINOS REOPENING; NOT DIAMONDBACKS

Mississippi casinos can reopen Thursday just before Memorial Day Weekend joining neighboring Louisiana, where hotels were allowed to open Friday then casinos reopening on Monday at 25 percent capacity.

However, COVID-19 has claimed its first casino victim. Diamondjacks Casino in Bossier City, Louisiana, who has announced it is closing permanently.

Elsewhere:

- ARIZONA. Talking Stick and Casino Arizona near Scottsdale will open June 1.

Desert Diamond West Valley will remain closed through May and hasn't announced a reopening date, KNXV-TV reported.

- COLORADO. Cripple Creek has suspended its \$300,000 monthly device fee charged to casinos for May.

- FLORIDA. Miccosukee Casino, south of Miami, opened Sunday.

- MISSOURI casinos will remain closed through May 31.

- NEVADA. Restaurants in casinos can reopen. Gaming licensees must inform the Nevada Gaming Control Board whether guests would have to enter the gaming floor to access the restaurant entrance or a restroom.

Properties in Clark and Washoe counties must submit plans to the board on how they will prevent crowding.

Peppermill Casino in Reno plans to reopen Friday with limited hours of operation.

- NEW YORK horseracing can resume June 1, sans spectators.

- OKLAHOMA. Grand Casino in Shawnee will open Friday joining a number of other casinos that are opening.

- ONTARIO. Great Canadian's Casino Woodbine resumes racing Tuesday.

- OREGON casinos have begun reopening with modified hours of operation. Chinook Winds will also be non-smoking.

- WISCONSIN. Oneida Indian casinos plan to reopen in phases starting May 26. Slots will open first. Table games and bingo remain closed. Beverages will no longer be self-serve and food service will be grab-and-go.

- INTERNATIONAL. Irish horse racing will resume June 8 while in Japan, Osaka pachinko halls with floor space of less than 3,280 square feet can reopen.

GUVS TO TRIBES: DON'T OPEN

A number of casinos in southern California and Washington are reopening and governors Gavin Newsom and Jay Inslee don't like it.

The eight tribal casinos in San Diego County had informed Newsom they intend to start reopening but on Friday he asked them not to.

Four casinos have scheduled their re-openings – Viejas Monday, Sycuan on Wednesday, Jamul Thursday and Valley View on Friday.

In Riverside County, Cahuilla and Soboba will open May 27 and Pechanga June 1.

Win-River on Redding in northern California has beaten them all having opened last weekend.

In Washington, Spokane Tribe Casino, Angel of the Winds Casino in Arlington and Northern Heights Casino in Airway Heights have opened. Emerald Queen Casino in Fife, Red Wind in Olympia and Little Creek in Shelton will open Monday.

Inslee said casinos are in Phase Three and Four of his reopening plan and the state is still in Phase One.

Casinos not on tribal lands cannot reopen until Phase Three, Inslee says.

INITIAL REPORTS: DEMAND HIGH

Meanwhile, anecdotal reports continue of high demand at casinos that have reopened. though the real test comes in the major commercial jurisdictions of Louisiana and Mississippi and after the first rush of pent-up demand wanes.

In Oklahoma, Thunderbird in Norman and Osage in Tulsa opened Friday to long lines of customers. Osage filled to 1,200-person capacity within two hours of its 8 a.m. opening.

In the Phoenix area, casinos Fort McDowell, Harrah's Ak-Chin, Lone Butte, Wild Horse Pass and Vee Quiva also experienced lines of patrons waiting to get in on Friday.

FLYING AND SAFETY

McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas is the first US airport to sell personal protective equipment.

Travelers can purchase hand sanitizer and face masks at three vending machines at the airport.

ONLINE BENEFITING

April's online poker and casino revenue jumped 30 to 50 percent in Pennsylvania and 10 to 20 percent in New Jersey in May from April, Chris Grove of Eilers & Krejcik Gaming estimates.

Online sports betting revenue in Indiana, Iowa, New Jersey and West Virginia should decline 60 to 80 percent but should start to rebound with UFC and NASCAR resuming, he said.

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

COMPANIES: GATEWAY, PENN

- GATEWAY CASINOS has halted construction on Cascades Casino in North Bay, Ontario, and can't commit to when work will resume, Bay Today reported.

The company is focusing on its dozen existing properties during the COVID crisis, North Bay quoted Director of Construction Rob Mitchell.

- PENN NATIONAL canceled the Penn Mile Stakes and three other races this month at Penn National Racecourse as racing in Pennsylvania remains closed.

INTERNATIONAL: AUSTRALIA

- AUSTRALIA. Lottery sales fell 11 percent through April, with online up 10 percent and land-based down 15 percent, Larry Gandler of Credit Suisse said.

Online lottery is estimated to account for 30 percent of total lottery sales, up from 27 percent for the full year last year, he 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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STAFF/CONTACT US:

Frank Fantini, publisher. FFantini@FantiniResearch.com
Ashley Diem, associate publisher and executive editor. ADiem@FantiniResearch.com
Dee Wild-Shyver, associate editor and VP of Virtual Trade Show. DWild@FantiniResearch.com
Laura Briggs, public policy editor. LBriggs@FantiniResearch.com
Blake Weishaar, editor. BWeishaar@FantiniResearch.com
Hannah Wilmarth, writer. HWilmarth@FantiniResearch.com
Dylan Kaplan, writer and project team member. DKaplan@FantiniResearch.com
Alex Capitle, marketing specialist. ACapitle@FantiniResearch.com
Cindy Konowitz, office manager. CKonowitz@FantiniResearch.com

Subscription inquiries: Subscriptions@FantiniResearch.com

Analyst notes: Analysts@FantiniResearch.com

News releases: Editor@FantiniResearch.com