



FANTINI'S GAMING REPORT®

*More Important Than Your Morning Coffee...
... And Now More Important Than Ever™*

Special Reporting Service

June 7, 2020

Frank Fantini – *Publisher*

Ashley Diem – *Associate Publisher and Executive Editor*

Blake Weishaar – *Editor*

Fantini's COVID-19 Gaming Daily – Weekend Update

INDEX

LV REOPENING SEEMS TYPICAL

OHIO, INDIANA TO REOPEN

ELSEWHERE IN THE US: AZ, AR, AC, CA, IL, LA, NM, RENO, WV, WI

INTERNATIONAL OPENINGS: AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, CWN, INDIA, LATVIA

SPORTS STARTING TO RESUME

COMPANIES: WIN SYSTEMS

INTERNATIONAL: CHILE, INDIA

DOING GOOD: GRAND KOREA

FANTINI'S VIRTUAL TRADE SHOW

CONVENTIONS, TRADE SHOWS, CONFERENCES, EXPOS

NOTE: Just over half of the casinos in the US have reopened – 519 to 470 closed, the American Gaming Association reports. For a full list of re-openings and the status of gaming in every state visit: <https://www.fantiniresearch.com/gaming/fantini-s-covid-19-gaming-daily.html>.

LV REOPENING SEEMS TYPICAL

The reopening of casinos in Las Vegas appears anecdotally to have followed the pattern elsewhere – customers line up in advance to be among the first to enter. They cheer and applaud when the doors are thrown open, then it's down to business with smaller crowds than normal, whether through capacity constraints, paucity of customers or both.

Below are some reports. Keep in mind that observations of being packed and waiting lines are in properties operating at 50 percent of capacity. In general, reports are of a successful opening in which demand met the limited capacity.

- Casinos. Caesars' Flamingo was filled with gamblers at slots and bars at 1 p.m. Thursday after the property opened at midnight. The property's swimming pools reached capacity and lines of customers waited for others to leave so they could enter.

Caesars Palace and MGM Resorts' Bellagio were also reportedly busy.

On the other hand, Harrah's patronage appeared light when it reopened at 11 a.m. Friday with employees outnumbering customers, the Las Vegas Review-Journal said.

Likewise, Golden Nugget owner Tilman Fertitta told investors on a private conference call that business is slow, Bloomberg reported.

High-end gamblers have yet to return, room rates are far from pre-COVID-19 levels and occupancy rates remain low, Bloomberg quoted Fertitta.

- McCarran International Airport had 192 flights scheduled for Thursday and saw a surge of travelers, though the airport is far below its capacity.

Here's a chronology of Las Vegas opening in photographs from the Las Vegas Review-Journal: <https://bit.ly/2APkZ4A>.

- In Laughlin, lines waited to enter Golden Entertainment's Aquarius, Mohave Daily News reported and casinos were fed by a Sun Country flight from Minneapolis and a Harrah's charter flight: <https://bit.ly/3h7SnVc>.

- JACKPOT! And in the kind of news casinos love, various news outlets couldn't resist reporting big jackpot hits – \$673,637 by a Caesars Palace customer on a Let It Ride progressive and \$200,000 by a customer of Monarch's Atlantis Casino in Reno.

OHIO, INDIANA TO REOPEN

It's official, Ohio and Indiana casinos have reopening dates.

Indiana casinos and racetracks will open their doors next Sunday and Ohio's four casinos and seven racinos will reopen on June 19.

Indiana's casinos will be limited to 50 percent capacity.

Racetracks will be allowed to permit spectators on July 4.

ELSEWHERE IN THE US: AZ, AR, AC, CA, IL, LA, NM, RENO, WV, WI

- ARIZONA, NEW MEXICO. The Navajo Nation will not reopen casinos until at least July 5 citing COVID-19 cases.

The Navajo had hoped to open their casinos in Arizona and New Mexico by mid-June.

- ARKANSAS. Delaware North's Southland Park in Arkansas will reopen blackjack and other table games Monday, though craps and roulette will remain closed.

The casino opened May 18 with slots only.

- ATLANTIC CITY. Resorts has developed a Play Safe, Work Safe reopening plan and is organizing significant capital investments to improve air quality and cleanliness.

Casino and hotel elevators will have maximum occupancy of four people and restaurant seating will be reduced.

Resorts' plan: <https://resortsac.com/covid-19-statement/>.

Atlantic City's casinos hope to reopen for the July 4 weekend. Horse racing was allowed to begin in the state's three racetracks this past weekend but without spectators. Monmouth Park has scheduled its first race for July 3.

Gov. Phil Murphy extended executive stay-at-home orders for another month, running through early July, asking residents to stay home as much as possible. Phased re-openings, however, are still taking place, but no timeline has been given for casinos.

- CALIFORNIA. Chumash Casino reopens Wednesday.

San Manuel will reopen next Monday by invitation only through June 14, and then to the public the following day.

- ILLINOIS. Fairmount Park near St. Louis resumes racing on Tuesday, but without spectators.

- LOUISIANA. Boyd's Evangeline Downs in Louisiana began racing Friday in a 50-date meet, cut down from 84.

- RENO. The end of the Harrah's name in Reno is coming earlier than intended.

Caesars announced that it is not reopening the property, which is being sold to a developer who plans to convert it into 541 residential units.

The name of gaming pioneer Bill Harrah still lives, however, in other Harrah's casinos across the country from Las Vegas to Atlantic City.

- WEST VIRGINIA. Century Casinos' Mountaineer in West Virginia had more than 1,700 visitors inside the casino after it opened Friday, WTOV-TV reported.

Hundreds more waited outside, with some lining up as early as 4 a.m.

The casino was limited to 50 percent capacity when opened and restaurant seating will be reduced.

- WISCONSIN. Potawatomi Casino in Milwaukee will unlock its doors at 9 a.m. Monday to invited guests in a phased reopening that begins with players club members and a guest starting Wednesday.

The casino will operate limited hours, 9 a.m. to midnight, require customers to wear masks and limit visitation to 600 people at any one time.

The hotel will be capped at 25 percent capacity, only slot machines will be available and amenities such as the spa will remain closed.

INTERNATIONAL OPENINGS: AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, CWN, INDIA, LATVIA

- AUSTRALIA. CROWN RESORTS' Crown Perth in Australia has reopened some of its bars and restaurants but has no date for reopening the casino.

- BELGIUM. Casinos will reopen next month.

- INDIA. Casinos in Goa should be granted a three-year income tax holiday and the state government should pay employee benefits because of the casino lockdown, Casino Pride Director Shrinivas Naik is proposing.

- LATVIA will allow iGaming to resume Monday.

SPORTS STARTING TO RESUME

The NBA will resume play at Walt Disney's Wide World of Sports in Orlando with tournament finals starting July 31.

England's Premiership Rugby League resumes August 15.

The NHL is allowing players to return for workouts and will resume games sometime after early July, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reported.

Formula 1 racing season resumes July 3.

COMPANIES: WIN SYSTEMS

- WIN SYSTEMS' casino management system WIGOS launched PlaySafe to help casinos reopen with all player positions while maintaining social distancing.

PlaySafe automatically disables machines adjacent to in-use slots, turns off the machine when the player leaves and notifies staff for sanitization.

INTERNATIONAL: CHILE

- CHILE. Gambling regulator Superintendency of Gambling Casinos is calling for the legalization of online gaming to help casino operators since business has been suspended since March, G3Newswire reported.

DOING GOOD: GRAND KOREA

- GRAND KOREA LEISURE delivered 200 COVID-19 prevention sharing boxes with soap, hand cleaner and masks through its volunteer group.

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.

SUBSCRIBER RIGHTS AND CONDITIONS:

Copyright®: Fantini's Gaming Report® and Fantini Research are divisions of Morning Report Research, Inc. All rights reserved. Our reports and content are protected by copyright and we reserve all rights except for as granted in this paragraph, and subject to the conditions stated below. We grant each subscriber and secondary recipient the right to receive, read, and utilize the reports and report contents for their individual use only. Your Subscriber Rights and Conditions give subscribers and secondary recipients the right to receive, read, and utilize the copyrighted reports and report contents for their individual use only. This right of individual use does not authorize providing whole or partial copies to others (even in your company) in any way, such as forwarding, posting, printing, file sharing, scanning, making photocopies, circulating, selling, publishing or otherwise. The right does not authorize any use by a person before he or she becomes a subscriber or secondary recipient. Any other right must be granted in writing by Morning Report Research, Inc. You agree to inform paid subscribers and recipients of the conditions on their use, and you authorize us, in our discretion, to employ tracking services to check their compliance. Unauthorized copying or distribution violates copyright law and may carry serious consequences.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Subscriptions to Fantini's Gaming Report are available for \$7,099 a year for the Full Service Suite, \$1,999 for the Enhanced Service, and \$1,099 for the Basic level. Subscriptions are limited to one primary subscriber who may, with permission, add a secondary recipient at the same company and URL at no additional charge, with Morning Report Research, Inc. first giving you written permission to do so. Affordable multi-user licenses are available and can be customized for any number of designated recipients. See Subscriber Rights and Conditions above. For additional information, call +1-302-730-3793. Subscriptions can be ordered by phone or online at <http://www.FantiniResearch.com>. Credit card payments and bank transfers are available or send payment to Morning Report Research, Inc., P.O. Box 1676, Dover, DE, USA 19903-1676.

T050320/ds

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