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# The \_\_\_\_\_ MICHIGAN GAMING \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter



## **GOVERNOR ORDER ALLOWS COMMERCIAL CASINOS AND RACETRACKS TO OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS ON AUGUST 5<sup>TH</sup>**

On Wednesday of this week, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued Executive Order 2020-160 which permits the three Detroit casinos and Michigan's only licensed track to open, on a limited basis, to the public on August 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Pursuant to a separate Order (2020—161) casinos must limit and enforce patron occupancy of 15% of total occupancy limits established by the fire marshal. Additionally, the casinos are complying with a number of safety protocols some of which were detailed by the Governor's Order. Racetracks are required to follow all orders from the Executive Director of the MGCB.

## **MGCB REQUESTS INTERNET GAMING AND/OR SPORTS BETTING ICS BY AUGUST 31**

On July 29<sup>th</sup> the Michigan Gaming Control Board ("MGCB") issued a notice to all potential applicants and licensees emphasizing the need for all operators to submit their license applications no later than July 31, and requests suppliers and vendors to submit their applications by August 14.

The MGCB further noted that operators and platform providers who will accept wagers on an operator's behalf should submit their internal control standard (ICS) for internet gaming and/or internet sports betting for MGCB review and approval by **August 31, 2020**.

Pursuant to the MGCB notice, each operator and platform provider should prepare ICS based on its role and responsibilities. The state noted that it anticipates platform providers to be responsible primarily for the processes identified in the ICS requirements. However, the Board emphasized that

operators also are expected to submit ICS based on their role and responsibilities (e.g., calculation of adjusted gross receipts/adjusted gross sports betting receipts and taxes/payments remitted, and procedures performed to monitor its platform provider to ensure compliance with the acts, rules, ICS and terms of its agreement).

Please do the following to facilitate an efficient review process:

- Submit separate internet gaming and internet sports betting ICS if participating in both
- Submit ICS using Microsoft Word as the file format
- Use the reference numbers in [Attachment A](#) and [Attachment B](#) to identify the location of each ICS requirement
- Provide a written explanation of any requirements not addressed in your submission
- Follow the same order format as outlined in Attachments A and B, if possible (this may not be feasible in all cases)

The MGCB noted that “operators and platform providers who submit a materially complete set of ICS by August 31, 2020 will increase their likelihood of “going live” during the initial launch in Michigan.”

## **IAGA TO HOST FREE WEBINAR ON HOW GAMING REGULATORS HAVE ADDRESSED COVID-19 CLOSURES**

Since the beginning of 2020, the US gaming industry believed that with a new market opportunity of sports betting and online casinos there would be unprecedented success and progress to move forward; however, everything came to a halt when the COVID-19 pandemic came to the US. For gaming operators and regulators, new challenges arose as they adjusted to working from home, furloughing employees, creating reopening plans with concerns of the safety of their staff and patrons, and state tax revenue drastically impacted. In the upcoming webinar titled **The Pandemic Pivot: How Gaming Regulators Have Changed Dance Steps Amid Closures**, regulators will talk about their thought

processes and ways of thinking to get the gaming industry out of this rut and solutions to pandemic-related challenges.

The webinar will take place on Wednesday, August 5 at 8:00 a.m. PST. The webinar will be moderated by Laura McAllister Cox, Vice President of Regulatory Compliance and Legal Counsel for Rush Street Gaming. The panelists for the webinar are:

- **Robert Fontaine**, Deputy General Counsel for Gaming, Virginia Lottery Board
- **Marcus Fruchter**, Administrator, Illinois Gaming Board
- **Dan Hartman**, Director, Colorado Division of Gaming
- **Rick Kalm**, Executive Director, Michigan Gaming Control Board

To register for this webinar, click [here](#).

## **MGCB NEXT MEETING ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2020**

The Michigan Gaming Control Board will hold their next regular public meeting virtually on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will comply with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer’s and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services’ recommendations to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Executive Order 2020-154 states that public bodies may use telephone or video conferencing technology to hold meetings and conduct business according to the Open Meetings Act.

The meeting can be accessed through this [link](#).

If a person wishes to address the Board during the public comment portion, the MGCB asks you to submit the form in this [Public Notice](#) to [MGCBweb@michigan.gov](mailto:MGCBweb@michigan.gov) by 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, August 11. If you need additional assistance, please contact the Board via email at [MGCBweb@michigan.gov](mailto:MGCBweb@michigan.gov) regarding your request at least 48 hours in advance.

## **NCPG ANNOUNCES NEW OFFICERS & RECIPIENTS OF NATIONAL AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING WORK IN PROBLEM GAMBLING**

The National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) announced Wednesday the recipients for the 2020 National Awards in Problem Gambling. The Awards ceremony followed the conclusion of the NCPG's Digital Symposium and were announced Friday, July 24.

The event featured dozens of diverse presenters and was attended by over 340 members of the problem gambling and responsible gambling fields. NCPG Board Member Chip Polston and Executive Director Keith Whyte emceed the event. NCPG extended their deepest thanks to all of the sponsors who made the Digital Symposium and the National Awards Ceremony possible.

The Awards Recipients are:

- **NCPG Media Award**  
NBC-4 of Columbus, Ohio
- **NCPG Corporate Newsletter Award**  
Oregon State Lottery
- **NCPG Affiliate Website Award**  
California Council on Problem Gambling
- **NCPG Corporate Website Award**  
Ohio for Responsible Gambling
- **NCPG Public Awareness Award**  
Oklahoma Association on Problem and Compulsive Gambling
- **NCPG Corporate Public Awareness Award**  
Ohio for Responsible Gambling
- **Holiday Responsible Gaming Campaign Award**  
The Illinois Lottery
- **NCPG Corporate Social Responsibility Award**  
HardRock International and Seminole Gaming
- **NCPG Annual Research Award**  
Spencer Murch, University of British Columbia
- **NCPG Jim Wuelfing Award for Prevention**  
Epic Risk Management
- **NCPG Don Hulen Award for Advocacy**  
Chip Polston, Kentucky Lottery, Kentucky Council on Problem Gambling

- **NCPG Joanna Franklin Award for Direct Service**  
CP Mirarchi, ICGG-II, BACC, JD
- **NCPG Jeffrey M. Beck Recovery Ambassador Award**  
Marc Lefkowitz

On Friday, July 24, NCPG announced the re-election of three officers to their Board of Directors: Robert Jacobson was re-elected as President, Stacy Shaw was re-elected as Vice President, and Julie Hynes was re-elected as Secretary. Board member Brad Longcake of the Montana Council on Problem Gambling was newly elected Treasurer.