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



## **MGCB EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS ON ONLINE GAMING AND SPORTS BETTING RULES PROGRESS**

The Michigan Gaming Control Board (MGCB) held a public hearing on Wednesday on the proposed rules for internet gaming and internet sports betting. Both sets of draft rules were published in late July using other states' rules as a model for Michigan's approach. This week's hearing gave the public an opportunity to comment and give feedback on the rules as currently drafted. The MGCB will review the comments that were received and will assess some of the proposed changes.

Once the MGCB completes a final draft of the rules in the next several days, the MGCB will submit them to the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR) and Legislative Service Bureau for final review and certification. It is expected that MOAHR will submit the rules to the Michigan Legislature's Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) in October. The rules must be before JCAR for 15 session days unless the requirement is waived. JCAR must either approve the rules or object to them during this time. If JCAR objects to the rules then it must introduce legislation within another 15 session days to stop or delay the rules. Once the rules are approved by JCAR, the MGCB will submit a Certificate of Adoption to MOAHR confirming its intent to adopt the rules. The rules will be finalized and become effective on the date specified in the rules (at this point, 7 days after filing the final rules).

"Before online gaming can start, the agency must license applicants," said MGCB Executive Director Richard Kalm in a statement issued after the public hearing on Wednesday. "The MGCB has limited ability to license before the rules go into effect. The licensing timetable also depends on the applicants and their diversity of complete and timely applications to us. Michigan must have at least one tribal and one commercial license approved before launch, which I hope can happen by late fall."

## **AGA RELEASES PAPER: “REGULATORY REFORM IN THE COVID-19 ERA”**

The American Gaming Association (AGA) introduced its “Next Generation Gaming Initiative” in 2017 as a resource to help modernize gaming policy and regulations. Since then, the AGA has released many white papers and resources to educate the industry about regulatory reforms that can improve efficiency, drive down costs, and support gaming integrity. This week, the AGA released a new resource for regulatory reform: “Regulatory Reform in the COVID-19 Era.”

This paper highlights how many of the previously suggested regulatory reforms offer essential opportunities to support the gaming industry’s recovery from COVID-19 challenges. The paper looks at how some of the modern technologies and tools that have been used to navigate COVID-19 in the past several months could be implemented permanently to improve licensing and reporting.

The suggested reforms include:

- Moving to fully digital licensing and renewal processes, including digital filing and storage of documents, and modifications to the fingerprinting and notarization requirements;
- Adopting videoconferencing technology permanently for interviews and agency meetings;
- Modifying licensing and registration requirements for institutional investors, along with extending the approval period for certain public offering and debt transactions; and
- Streamlining the testing process for new products.

To read the paper, please click [here](#).

## **G2E VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE REGISTRATION OPENS**

This year’s Global Gaming Expo (G2E) opened registration and unveiled education programming

for its virtual event held October 27 and 28. Preceding the virtual event will be a kickoff program held on October 14 that will be focused on “Leading Through COVID-19: Real Conversations on Resilience,” and will be moderated by social influencer Brian Christopher. The discussion will feature three gaming leaders who helped their properties to responsibly reopen, including:

- Justin Carter – General Manager, Hollywood Casino Toledo, OH
- Kathy George – CEO, FireKeepers Casino Hotel, Battle Creek, MI
- Laura Stensgar – CEO, Coeur d’Alene Casino Resort and Hotel, ID

“From the kickoff keynote to our last networking session, the goal for G2E 2020 is to provide insights, connections, and business opportunities that participants cannot find elsewhere and directly support our industry’s recovery,” said Cait DeBaun, Senior Director of Strategic Communications and Responsibility for the American Gaming Association (AGA).

The two-day event will offer networking, business opportunities, and feature content that highlights gaming trends and reflects challenges facing the industry.

“Every year, G2E spotlights the latest trends through education and product discovery, and facilitates personal connections that empower gaming companies and industry leaders for success,” said Korbi Carrison, Event Director of G2E. “This year will be no exception. We’re excited for the opportunity G2E’s virtual format gives us to expand the universe of speakers and reach larger audiences worldwide.”

The sessions from G2E and content partners include:

- COVID-19 and responsible reopening
- Gaming leadership
- iGaming
- Payments and modernization
- Sports betting
- Tribal gaming

- Women in gaming

The full event schedule can be found [here](#). Those interested in registering for G2E can do so [here](#).

## **CAESARS WINDSOR TO REOPEN TO INVITED GUESTS OCTOBER 8**

Caesars Windsor announced that it will reopen to invited guests on October 8 under Ontario's Stage 3 reopening guidelines. The reopening will be limited to slot machines and a maximum of 50 guests at any time, pursuant to the indoor gathering restrictions. The casino will open to invited Caesars Rewards members only during this phase of reopening. Invited members will receive an email and will be required to make a reservation in advance. Four sessions will be available each day, and guests will be allowed to reserve up to two sessions per day. Caesars Windsor will remain closed to the general public until restrictions are expanded.

"With an emphasis on our enhanced health and safety protocols, this initial phase of reopening provides an opportunity to recall additional team members and reconnect with our Caesars Rewards customers," said Kevin Laforet, President of Caesars Windsor. "We look forward to welcoming back more of our valued guests and team members when we are able to expand our capacity on property."

Caesars Windsor is following the Municipal, Provincial, and Federal public health guidelines, and has implemented Caesars Entertainment's new health and safety protocols. These protocols enhance Caesars' existing practices while maintaining high standards of sanitization and physical distancing practices.

Guests will find the following practices upon reopening:

- All employees and guests will be required to wear masks that cover their nose and mouth;
- Slot machines are spaced based on physical distancing guidelines. Table games, poker rooms, restaurants, bars, and hotels will not

be open at this time;

- Hand sanitizing stations are positioned throughout the casino and increased cleaning and sanitization will be part of enhanced protocols throughout the entire property, including back of house areas;
- Plexiglass barriers have been installed between employees and guests;
- Employees and guests will complete a health questionnaire before entering the casino;
- All employees will be required to take temperature checks upon reporting to work.

For more information on the reopening of Caesars Windsor, click [here](#).