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The _____ MICHIGAN GAMING _____ Newsletter



MGCB's Henry Williams is the 2024 American Gambling Awards Regulator of the Year

The Michigan Gaming Control Board ("MGCB") proudly [announces](#) that Executive Director Henry Williams has received the prestigious title of Regulator of the Year at the [2024 American Gambling Awards](#). This accolade, presented by Gambling.com Group, celebrates leaders who are shaping the U.S. online gambling landscape.

"I am deeply honored to receive this recognition from the American Gambling Awards," MGCB Executive Director Henry Williams said. "This achievement reflects not just my efforts, but the collective dedication of the entire Michigan Gaming Control Board. Together, we are committed to creating a transparent and fair gaming environment that prioritizes consumer protection and responsible gaming. As we move forward, I look forward to collaborating with stakeholders to ensure Michigan continues to lead in regulatory innovation and consumer advocacy."

Under Williams' leadership, the MGCB has actively addressed unregulated gambling issues in Michigan, implementing strict measures against illegal operators, including cease-and-desist actions and working closely with the Attorney General's Office on enforcement.

"We are thrilled to recognize Henry Williams as the 2024 American Gambling Awards Regulator of the Year," said Gambling.com Group co-founder & Chief Executive Officer, Charles Gillespie. "Under Henry's leadership, the Michigan Gaming Control Board has set a gold standard

for regulatory excellence, creating a safe, transparent, and thriving market. Henry's proactive approach to combating illegal gambling—from issuing cease-and-desist letters to pursuing criminal prosecutions—is the example we need to continue reclaiming this industry back from offshore operators.”

Michigan's gaming market includes tribal and commercial casinos alongside a thriving online sports betting and iGaming market. The MGCB’s aggressive regulatory oversight protects consumers from illegal gambling while promoting a responsible gaming environment.

For more information about responsible gaming, Michigan residents can visit the [MGCB website](#).

Michigan iGaming, Sports Betting Operators Report \$261.0 Million in September Revenue

As [reported](#) by the Michigan Gaming Control Board (“MGCB”), Michigan commercial and tribal internet gaming (“iGaming”) and sports betting operators reported a combined \$261.0 million total gross receipts in September. September receipts increased 16.5% when compared to last month’s results.

September iGaming gross receipts were \$202.6 million. Gross sports betting receipts totaled \$58.4 million. In August 2024, iGaming gross receipts were \$196.66 million and gross sports betting receipts were \$27.36 million.

The combined total adjusted gross receipts of \$209.9 million were reported for September, including \$182.3 million from iGaming and \$27.6 million from internet

sports betting – representing an iGaming increase of 3.1% and an increase of 68.7% for sports betting when compared to August.

Total September internet sports betting handle was \$501.8 million, an increase of 79.2% from the \$280.1 million recorded in August 2024.

The operators delivered \$39.5 million in taxes and payments to the State of Michigan during September, with iGaming taxes and fees contributing \$38.1 million and internet sports betting taxes and fees contributing \$1.4 million.

The three Detroit Casinos – MotorCity Casino, MGM Grand Detroit, and Greektown Casino – reported city wagering taxes and municipal service fees of \$9.84 million, with iGaming taxes and fees contributing \$9.3 million and internet sports betting taxes and fees contributing \$535,504 for the month of September.

Tribal operators reported making total payments of \$4.8 million of wagering payments to the tribes’ governing bodies in September according to the MGCB.

An online gaming and sports betting revenue distribution [table](#) is available on the agency’s website.

As of September, a total of 15 commercial and tribal operators have been authorized to launch iGaming and/or internet sports betting. Currently, 12 commercial and tribal operators offer internet sports betting, and 15 operators offer iGaming. Details for each operator’s internet gaming and internet sports betting [results](#) are available and published on the MGCB website.

The Innovations Group Shares Insights from G2E 2024

G2E 2024 proved to be a dynamic gathering, highlighting significant transformations in the gaming industry. Here are [the Innovation Group's](#) key [insights](#):

1. Industry Transformation and Technological Advancement

This year's conference showcased the integration of traditional and digital gaming, reflecting a shift toward a more diverse audience of attendees and innovators. While the presence of tech experts has surged, product innovation remains somewhat stagnant, with many new offerings resembling past concepts.

2. Regulatory Challenges with New Gaming Forms

As online gaming expands, regulatory hurdles become more prominent, particularly with sweepstakes casinos, which blur the lines of legality. These platforms raise debates over whether they constitute unregulated gambling, leading to significant industry discussions on the need for clear regulations.

3. Evolution of Native American Casinos

Brick-and-mortar casinos continue to play a vital role, especially in Indian Country, where there is a push towards developing integrated resorts and entertainment complexes to attract younger visitors. However, some regions are experiencing stagnant revenues, signaling a need for revitalization.

4. Responsible Gaming and Demographic Shifts

The industry is increasingly prioritizing responsible gaming, with an emphasis on attracting younger audiences. Key initiatives include integrating responsible gaming features, enhancing player tracking systems, and collaborating with health professionals to promote safer gaming practices.

5. Financial Landscape and Cross-Platform Synergies

The financial outlook is improving, with favorable debt markets supporting growth. Operators are exploring synergies between land-based and online platforms, fueling M&A activity and creating opportunities for consolidation in the gaming sector.

G2E 2024 illustrated the gaming industry's evolving landscape, driven by technological innovation and a growing focus on responsible practices.

Southern Gaming Experts to Discuss the Gaming Landscape in the South

The National Council of Legislators from Gaming States ("NCLGS") will convene in New Orleans for the NCLGS Winter Meeting, December 12-15 at Caesars New Orleans.

The Winter Meeting will explore the dynamic history and future of casino gaming and feature discussions led by regulatory, political, and operational leaders on the region's significant gaming growth.

From the early days of riverboat gambling to the emergence of award-winning resorts and attractions, the Southern gaming landscape has undergone remarkable transformation.

The General Session, titled “Southern Living!” will be chaired by Delegate Shawn Fluharty, NCLGS President, and will include insights from notable speakers such as:

- John Alario - Former Speaker of the House, Louisiana
- Chris Hebert - Chairman, Louisiana Gaming Control Board
- Jay McDaniel - Executive Director, Mississippi Gaming Commission
- Robert Urland - Regional President, Caesars

NCLGS has been a platform for state lawmakers to discuss gaming regulations and best practices for over 25 years. The organization does not take a stance for or against gaming but emphasizes proper governance within the industry.

[Register here](#), and a limited group room block at Caesars New Orleans is open until November 10.

The full agenda is available [here](#). For sponsorship inquiries or renewals, contact [Josh Faber](#) or [Allison McCoy](#). Legislators and others seeking membership information should reach out to [Wayne Marlin](#).