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# Delaware North Companies Gaming & Entertainment



Symposium on Racing & Gaming 2005



## Why an Elder?

#### (certainly not age)

- In racino business since 1994
- One thoroughbred, five greyhound tracks (Arizona, Florida, Arkansas, New York, West Virginia)
- Management contracts for Racino operations at Saratoga Raceway & Gaming and Fairgrounds Raceway & Gaming
- International consulting





## The Evolution of the Racino Industry

- -Legislative changes over the years have opened the doors in many states, allowing for the addition of VLTs to existing racetracks.
- -In many cases these horse and dog racetracks have been in business for years with an established, although dwindling clientele.
- -The addition of gaming to a racetrack venue, which is a spectator sport, can be a challenge both in terms of the physical plant, but also in ensuring that all customers' needs are met.



#### Models

#### **Government/Private Model**

- -Example—New York
- -Government owns/leases machines and central systems. Track markets and operates.
- -Operator needs government approval before machine expansions can be implemented.
- -Such approvals can be difficult to obtain
- -Failure to gain approval, or delays in approvals can have a significant impact on the operators ability to grow.



#### Models

#### **Private Model**

- -Example—West Virginia
- -Under the private model, the operator is less restricted in the expansion of machines.
- -Typically only regulatory approval for raising the maximum limit of machines is needed.
- -A strong business case will usually win such approval.
- -Greater flexibility to alter machine counts and types of machines allows private model operators to grow the business in response to changing market conditions.



#### **Private Model Market Conditions**

- -With racinos, market conditions may change frequently.
- -The flexibility of the private market model allows operators to adjust the business strategy to account for:

- -Expanding Market
- -Change in Competitive Landscape
- -Addition of New Amenities (hotel, restaurants, entertainment)
- -Newly Available and Licensed Gaming Products



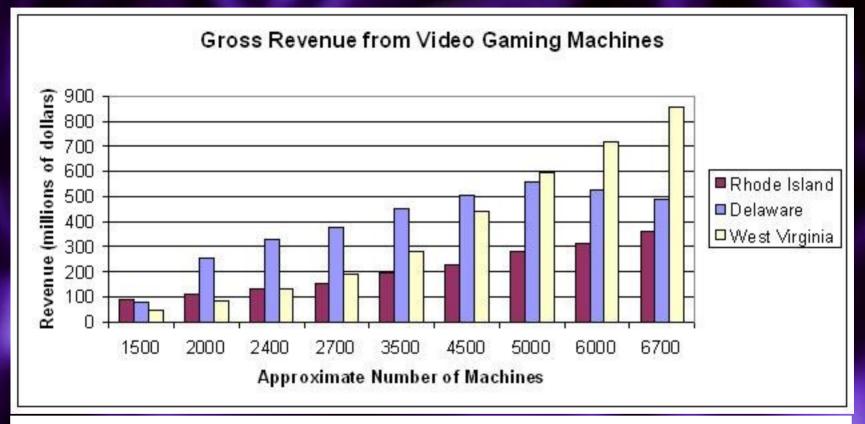
## Taxation, Marketing and Investment

- -Higher taxation rates in either model lead to lower levels of investment due to marginal returns on investment.
- -There are narrower operating margins due to high taxation and lower margins lead to lower return on investment—meaning limited investment potential.
- -Higher taxation rates also limit the percentage of gross gaming revenues that can be dedicated to marketing strategies.
- -Limits on marketing spending decrease the upside potential of the gaming operation and the higher gross gaming revenue that benefits both operator and state.



#### **Market Comparison of Racinos**

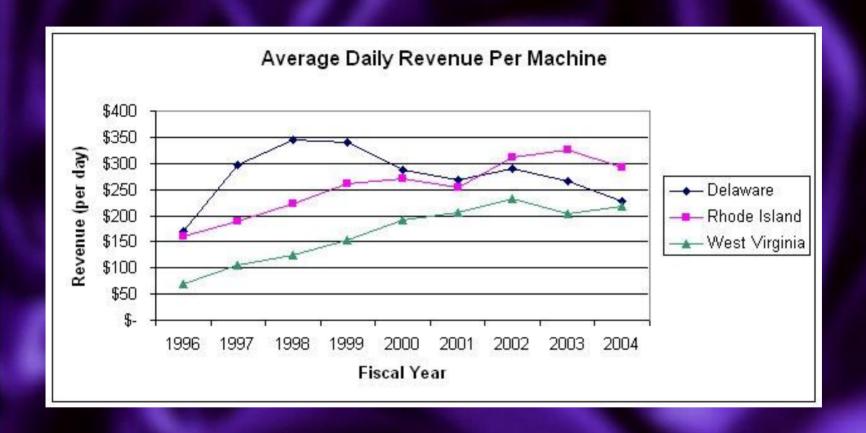
Most racino jurisdictions began with a small number of gaming machines, and later allowed racetrack owners to add additional machines.



1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004



#### **Further Comparisons**





#### The Conversion from a Racetrack to a Racino

The conversion is driven by several key factors:

- 1. Legislation
  - may contain restrictions on development
  - defines types of machines allowed
  - taxation rates
- 2. The potential revenue and market size
- 3. The physical structure and existing space at the track
- 4. ROI and expectations
- 5. Two different models—fixed number of machines versus the ability to expand as market demands or legislation allows



# Case Studies-Different Approaches

Wheeling, West Virginia—Private Model

New York—Government/Private Model

Finger Lakes

Saratoga

Fairgrounds Raceway



#### Wheeling Island: Leading Regional and Gaming/ Entertainment Facility



- 174,000- square-foot facility
- 70 Acres and 2,000 +parking spaces
- 1/4 mile racetrack with 2,400 seat grandstand
- Complementary business segments

**Gaming operations** 

**Pari-mutuel operations** 

**Hospitality Amenities** 

- -Food and beverage operations
- -Hotel
- -Entertainment
- -Retail



## Wheeling Island Expansion Timeline

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1994 $1.25 million renovation to add 400 VLTs
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1995 550 VLTs
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- 2000 "Island Room" opening, \$12 million expansion buffet, bar and 1,280 VLTs
- 2001 1,537 VLTs
- 2002 1,623 VLTs
- 2003 Major expansion, \$69 million including kennel compound relocation, and 2,362 VLTs

MORE THAN \$100 MILLION IN TOTAL INVESTMENT



## Wheeling Island Expansion Project

- Gaming and hotel expansion adjacent to existing facility
  - 30,000 additional square feet of gaming area
  - 2,200 VLTs (now 2,362 VLTs)
  - 151-room hotel
  - 600-seat multi-purpose showroom
  - 180 covered parking spaces, plus additional surface parking
  - Fine dining restaurant, casual dining restaurant and bar and lounge area
  - Meeting and convention space



















#### New York

- -New York currently has more than 5,000 VLTs in operation. In April, Governor Pataki signed a revised bill into law, paving the way for the addition of VLTs to Yonkers and Aqueduct—both stalled since last year's ruling.
- -On May 6, a State Court of Appeals upheld the constitutionality of gaming at Native American casinos and racetracks currently offering VLT gaming.
- -Recent changes will include higher division of revenue plus access to a marketing fund. Terms state that racetracks will retain 32% of the first \$50 million in revenue, 29% of the next \$100 million and 26% above that figure.



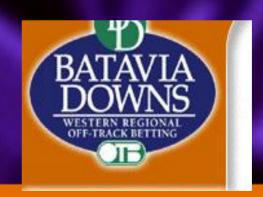
# VLT Locations in New York













## **Project Requirements**

**New York Lottery** Central system / VLTs

Operators Facility renovation

Full operation except for machine techs

Marketing

Operations

New York Lottery Requirements

Business plan

Marketing plan

Jobs compendium

Organizational charts

Internal control submission



# New York VLTs- original

% of GGR	Years	1-3	4-5	6-10
State		61%	61%	61%
Lottery		10%	10%	10%
Tracks		20.24%	20.01%	17.49%
Purses		7.51%	7.74%	10.01%
Breeders		1.25%	1.25%	1.51%
Total		100%	100%	100%

New—Tracks will get 32% of the first \$50 million plus 8% marketing allowance on first \$100 million and 5% thereafter tax.



#### Finger Lakes Gaming & Racetrack



- Delaware North owned facility
- 1,010 Video Lottery Terminals
- 28,967 sq. ft. gaming floor
- 126-seat food court with themed eateries

Lefty's Grille Americo's Jake's Coffee

- 107-seat sports bar with view of racetrack
- Employment: additional 160 FTEs are projected
- Construction began early October 2003
- Opened mid-February 2004
- \$10.5 million cost project costs



#### Finger Lakes Floor Plan with VLT Machine Layout





#### Finger Lakes Opening Day





#### Finger Lakes Gaming Floor





#### Finger Lakes Lounge





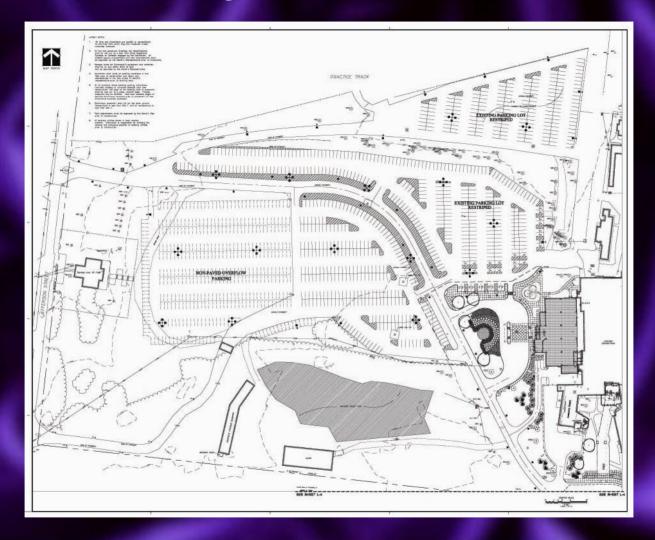
# Saratoga Gaming & Raceway



- Added 1,324 VLTs
- 35,000 sq. ft. in renovations
  - •Food court and bar area
- 180 full time employees
- 15,000 sq. ft. of new construction
- Opened Jan. 2004
- \$15 million in project costs



#### Saratoga Overall Site Plan





#### Saratoga Gaming Floor





#### Saratoga Dining Area



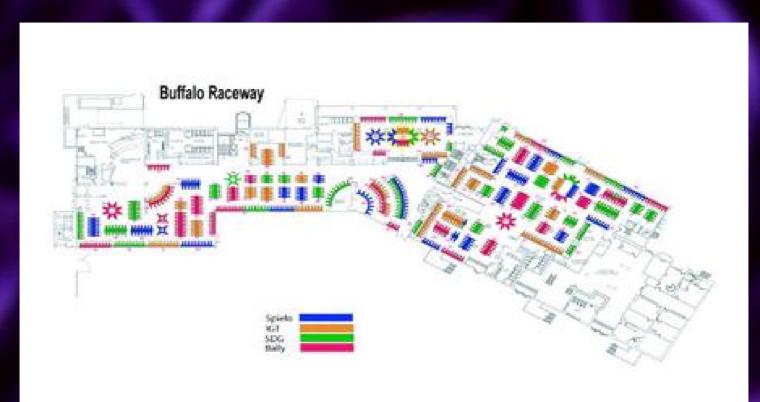


- At Buffalo Raceway
- \$7.8 million renovation project
- 990 video lottery terminals
- More than 150 full time employees
- 27,000-square-foot gaming renovation
- The facility opened mid-March









Floor Plan with VLT Machines







# Impacts on Racing

#### **Positives**

- -Increased purses
- -Renovated facilities including backside improvements
- -Increased starters per race
- -Better product—increased simulcasting opportunities
- -Increased pool size



# Impacts on Racing

#### **Neutrals**

- -Little impact to on-track handle and to racing attendance
- -No increased pari-mutuel taxes
- -Little impact on racing from gaming promotions



# Impacts on Racing

#### **Examples of Racing Impacts**

- -Mountaineer Park signal
- -Wheeling kennel compound
- -Backside commitments
- -Stall applications
- -Number of performances
- -Joint marketing efforts



# Summary

- -Models are very different.
- -Best approach is to balance tax rate, market and competition, available space and customer amenity considerations, and ROI.
- -Impacts on racing, as we have seen, can be both direct and indirect.
- -Overall impact on racing and on facilities in all racino states has been exceptionally positive both for the states and the racetracks.





# Thank you.



