



For Immediate Release

Grand Island Casino Resort Opens Temporary Casino

(Grand Island, NE) – [Grand Island Casino Resort](#) opened its temporary casino facility today at a ribbon-cutting ceremony with several state and local officials in attendance.

A line started to form early in the morning as guests gathered in anticipation of the opening. Guests enjoyed refreshments while eagerly waiting for the casino doors to open.

Fonner Park CEO, Chris Kotulak and Elite Casino Resorts CEO, Dan Kehl delivered remarks before making way for excited guests to be the first to enter the new temporary casino.

Dan Kehl, CEO of Elite Casino Resorts said, “We are excited to partner with Fonner Park to add this temporary casino and, ultimately, a first-class casino resort to this race track.” Kehl added, “We are just excited about the Grand Island Community. We look forward to providing excellent service and demonstrating our company values not only to our guests, but to the entire community.”

“My mission is to provide for the horses, horsemen, staff and the guests of Fonner Park. The introduction of casino revenue puts us on a path of regenerating a once thriving Thoroughbred racing industry in Nebraska,” said Fonner Park CEO, Chris Kotulak.

The temporary casino is in the concourse of Fonner Park adjacent to the Van Berg Racing Collection and the Nebraska Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame display, and features approximately 300 slot machines, kiosks for horse betting, and a snack bar.

The temporary casino will operate until the full resort is completed. Construction on the full resort is expected to begin in the fall of 2023 and will feature 650 slot machines, 20 table games, a sports book, a variety of dining options including top floor dining at Ruthie’s Steak & Seafood, live weekend entertainment on the show lounge, sports bar, a 116-room boutique hotel, a salon and spa, gift shop, and indoor and outdoor pool with an expansive deck.

Grand Island Casino is open seven days a week starting at 8 AM and until midnight Sunday through Thursday and until 3 AM on Friday and Saturday. Holiday Hours may be extended. Guests are required to present a valid ID to gain entry to the casino in accordance with Nebraska Racing and Gaming Commission regulations.

Visit grandislandresort.com for more information.