

2016 USA Masters Games July 2015 Newsletter

Those of you receiving this newsletter for the first time were likely included because of your connection to the US Figure Skating Championships or other major events in Greensboro, or because of your involvement in one of the sports of the USA Masters Games. We welcome you and hope you'll continue to follow the development of this exciting new national multi-sport event for adult athletes in the months to come.

Masters Summer Doldrums?!



When it comes to Masters sports, there is no such thing as the Summer doldrums. In fact, the summer season is one of the busiest times of the year for Masters sports national championship competitions or the equivalent. Consider that in July alone, the month started with the final days of the World Police and Fire Games in Fairfax County, Virginia, and the opening of the 2015 National Senior Games in Minneapolis/St. Paul. The following week the Table Tennis U.S. Open was held in Las Vegas followed shortly by the Veterans Cup adult soccer national championships in Virginia Beach, VA. The USA Track & Field Outdoor Nationals were held in Jacksonville, FL last week, while the month concludes with both the State Games of America in Lincoln Nebraska, and the Canoe/Kayak Masters National Championships in Chula Vista, California.

Senior Competitors Show They've Still Got It

Almost 10,700 adult athletes converged on the Greater Minneapolis/St. Paul region from July 3 to July 12 to go for the gold in 21 sports. The Minneapolis Convention Center was the epicenter of the Games, hosting the Vendor Village and athlete credentialing, along with 5 sports: Badminton, Pickleball, Shuffleboard, Table Tennis, and Volleyball. Other sports sites included the University of Minnesota, Southtown Lanes, and the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, among others.

USA Masters Games representatives were there throughout, enjoying the great competition and promoting the 2016 USA Masters Games. Our USAMG booth was located in the heart of the Vendor Village, accessible to the thousands of athletes who came to Athlete Registration as well as those competing in sports at the Convention Center. Maintaining the 2016 USA Masters Games presence were staff members Adam Brogden, Maggie Knight, Rachel Musselwhite, David Nanney, Colin Perry, and Rabiya Syed.



"We got a very warm reception from Senior Games competitors for the USA Masters Games concept," said Rachel Musselwhite. "Previously there have been no large, national multi-sport events for adult athletes in the even years. Both the National Senior Games and the State Games of America are every other year in the odd years. Senior Games athletes loved the fact that the Masters Games, which are slated to be every two years in the even years, complement those other events and enable active athletes to participate in a significant national multi-sport event every year."

Track & Field Takes to the Outdoors

The USA Track & Field Outdoor Nationals were held at the impressive facilities at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, at Hodges Stadium and the adjoining secondary track. Hosted by the USA Track & Field Florida Association and Visit



Jacksonville, the Nationals featured more than 1000 athletes competing in 33 events over a four day period last week.

On site representing the USA Masters Games were Dee Mittman of the Greensboro Convention & Visitors Bureau and David Nanney of our USAMG staff. David reported that "We manned a highly-visible location near athlete entry and registration that drew a lot of attention. It was nice to hear from those who stopped by our table, that most had already heard about the USA Masters Games; they were familiar with our great track at NC A&T State University; and many were already planning to attend and compete!"

David Nanney and Dee Mittman promote the Games and Greensboro in Jacksonville

Adult Soccer Kicks Off in Virginia Beach

USA Masters Games reps Maggie Knight and Adam Brogden visited the annual adult soccer championships, the 2015 Veterans Cup, held at the Hampton Roads Soccer Complex in Virginia Beach, VA, July 14 to 19. More than 90 soccer teams from around the US and foreign countries contended for the gold in 14 different age group divisions.



Selection of Games Sports in Process

Organizers of the inaugural USA Masters Games have held three major meetings among local and regional representatives of sports interested in, or being considered for, inclusion in the 2016 Games. Substantial progress has been made not only on the potential lineup of sports in the Games, but also the specifics of the conduct of those sports most likely to be included.

"The Games Local Organizing Committee has had a target of determining the sports of the Games and opening the registration process this summer," said Hill Carrow, CEO of the USA Masters Games. "While this is quite an undertaking, thanks to the help of approximately 50 sports leaders from central North Carolina and from the various national sport governing bodies, we are well on the way to meeting this goal."

Formal announcement of the opening of our sports registration and Host Hotel accommodations processes will be featured in this e-newsletter, so stay tuned.



Local sports leaders work on sport options for the 2016 Games

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