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## **USA Masters Games Concludes with a Flourish**

**Greensboro, NC (August 1, 2016):** The 2016 USA Masters Games came to the end of its 11-day run yesterday, wrapping up with the completion of nine sports and crowd-pleasing Closing Ceremony.

In Swimming competition earlier in the week, athletes set 11 new World Records and 14 new American Records. Meanwhile, as **Track & Field** came to a close yesterday at NC A&T State University's Irwin Belk Track, Henry Ellard, formerly of the NFL Los Angeles Rams broke the American Record twice in the Triple Jump. Over at **Table Tennis** in the Special Events Center of the Greensboro Coliseum Complex, Jishan Liang, one of the country's Top 5-ranked players had competitors and spectators alike in awe in the Open Division.

At the Greensboro Aquatic Center, the **Diving** competition, which was also the USA Masters Diving National Championships, was highlighted by the ever-popular synchronized diving event while **Synchronized Swimming** concluded with the Free Team event. **Basketball** wrapped up competition in the Coed Division and three different age divisions. **Ice Hockey** completed its run in the Greensboro Coliseum while **Baseball** gold medal-winning teams at the UNC-Greensboro Baseball Stadium included the Tigers in the 21+ Division and the Fireballs in the 35+ Division. **Soccer** concluded play in the 21+ division at the Bryan Park Soccer Complex, and in the **10k Road Race**, the overall winner was David Gile of Greensboro with a time of 38:45.

Overall, 11 World Records, 15 American Records, and 43 State Records were broken at the USA Masters Games.

The Closing Ceremony which took place at White Oak Amphitheater on the Greensboro Coliseum Complex campus, featuring the music of the Sleeping Booty Band and a first-of-its-kind flyover, saw special presentations to the Greensboro Convention & Visitors Bureau, Greensboro Coliseum Complex, and City of Greensboro for their award-winning team effort that made the inaugural USA Masters Games such a success. Jim Belk, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Greensboro Convention & Visitors Bureau, and Scott Johnson, Deputy General Manager of the Greensboro Coliseum Complex, accepted gold medals and special banners for Greensboro's team effort in hosting the Games.

In addition, the 2018 USA Masters Games Host City was announced as San Diego. Touting San Diego's attractions, year-round temperate and sunny weather, and long history of hosting major sports events, particularly multi-sport events, was Sandi Hill, Executive Director of the California State Games and point person for the San Diego 2018 USA Masters Games Organizing Committee.

"The Games ended on that perfect high note we were seeking," said Hill Carrow, Founder and CEO of the USA Masters Games." The large crowd, including athletes from most of the Games sports, that attended the Closing Ceremony loved the event and told us how much they enjoyed participating in the Games. They were excited to have been a part of the creation of the Games and they all look forward to future editions. Greensboro set a very high bar for the launch of the Games, and we look forward to San Diego taking the USA Masters Games to new heights."

For more information on the 2016 USA Masters Games, go to [www.usamastersgames.com](http://www.usamastersgames.com).

**About the 2016 USA Masters Games:** The USA Masters Games is the National Sports Festival for Adult Athletes, ages 21 and over. The Games feature 24 sports, Opening & Closing Ceremonies, a Health & Fitness Expo, Games Village, social activities and live entertainment. The inaugural USA Masters Games is Thursday, July 21 to Sunday, July 31, 2016 in Greensboro, NC, with Opening Ceremonies on Friday, July 22 and Closing Ceremonies Sunday, July 31. The Greensboro Coliseum Complex serves as the hub for the Games, hosting half of the Games sports and also serving as the site of the Games Village. For more information on the USA Masters Games, visit [www.usamastersgames.com](http://www.usamastersgames.com)

**About the 2018 USA Masters Games:** The 2018 USA Masters Games will be held in the city of San Diego, California, during the summer of 2018 (dates likely to be in June but currently TBD). The 2018 Games Local Organizing Committee is a collaborative effort among the California State Games, the San Diego Tourism Authority, and the San Diego Exploratory Committee. For more information on the 2018 USA Masters Games, visit [www.usamastersgames.com](http://www.usamastersgames.com).

