



2011 National Veterans Wheelchair Games

31st National Veterans Wheelchair Games Fact Sheet

What: The National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG) is a multi-event sports and rehabilitation program for military service Veterans who use wheelchairs for sports competition due to spinal cord injuries, amputations or certain neurological problems. Attracting more than 500 athletes each year, NVWG is the largest annual wheelchair sports event in the world. It is an event that is held in a different United States city every year. The 31st Games will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Where: Events will take place at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, University of Pittsburgh's Trees Hall, Princess Lanes Bowling Center, Clairton Sportsmen's Club, and Fox Chapel High School Track & Field. Hotel accommodations include the Westin, Omni William Penn and Hilton downtown hotels.

When: August 1-6, 2011

Why: The presenters of this event are committed to improving the quality of life for veterans with disabilities and fostering better health through sports competition. While past Games have produced a number of national and world-class champions, the Games also provide opportunities for newly disabled veterans to gain sports skills and be exposed to other wheelchair athletes. As a rule, one quarter of the competitors have never participated in any type of organized wheelchair sports competition.

Sponsors: Department of Veterans Affairs and Paralyzed Veterans of America, with financial assistance from corporate, civic, and veterans service organizations.

Hosts: VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System and the Keystone Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Events: There are seventeen competitive events planned for 31st National Veterans Wheelchair Games; the events are air guns, archery, basketball, nine-ball, bowling, handcycling, a motorized wheelchair rally, quad rugby, wheelchair slalom, power soccer, swimming, table tennis, track, field events, trapshooting, weightlifting and softball. There will also be at least one exhibition event. Athletes compete in all events against others with similar athletic ability, competitive experience or age.

Admission: Free. The public is most welcome and highly encouraged to attend!

Volunteer Opportunities

Contact: Karen.Cinnamon@va.gov or 412-822-3096

More Info: www.wheelchairgames.va.gov