NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES
August 8–13, 2021 • New York City, NY

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

WheelchairGames.org
2021 PLANNING

Important Note: Due to the uncertainty surrounding the global COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on large events like the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, we cannot predict what federal, state, or local restrictions will be in place when the Wheelchair Games are scheduled to occur. It is possible that in order to ensure the safety of all who are in attendance, there may be restrictions in place that limit the number of participants and attendees allowed into the venues where the events will occur. Registration at this time will not guarantee a place in the competition. We do track the order in which completed registrations are received. We advise you to get your registration and all required forms submitted as soon as possible. The deadline for registration is April 2, 2021. We anticipate that no decisions in this regard will be made until the late Spring of 2021. Be assured that we are monitoring the situation and taking every action to ensure the health and safety of all those that attend the NVWG. We will notify each registrant of all relevant decisions as they are made. Please stay informed by downloading the NVWG app and visiting wheelchairgames.org for additional updates.

ELIGIBILITY

Participation is open to Veterans having spinal cord injuries, amputations, multiple sclerosis, or other neurological conditions. Physical disabilities must be permanent and measurable. All Veterans registering for the National Veterans Wheelchair Games must be eligible to receive care at a VA medical facility. When a Veteran’s diagnosis and eligibility to compete is in question, we will refer to the eligibility criteria appropriate for that person to participate in other community wheelchair sports organizations.

NEW FOR 2021

• Disc Golf: New event and limited to 36 Veterans total for Classes (II,III,IV,V) and 36 Veterans for Classes (1A,1B,1C). For 2021 only, this event does not count against the five event limit.

• Adaptive E-Sports: Online gaming competition. Does not count against the five event limit.

• Sniper Competition: In lieu of registering for the regular Air Rifle competition, we are introducing a Sniper Competition. We recommend this event for competitors with an average score of 500 or better. This event counts towards the five event rule. Veterans cannot register for both Air Rifle and Sniper. There will be a cap on the number of Sniper competitors.

• Super Q: We are adding a competition for the top Quad Class finishers, including Motor Slalom.

DIVISION CHANGE FOR 2021:

• Novice: Recommended for first-time Veterans to the Wheelchair Games. Novice Veterans may opt out to compete as Open, Masters, Senior, effective for all their events.

• Open: Any competitor may select to sign up as Open for all events. Age recommendation 45 and under.

• Masters: Ages 46-65

• Seniors: Ages 66 and above

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Reservations will not be open until May 1, 2021. All reservations must be made by May 31, 2021. See page 3 for more detailed hotel information.

REGISTRATION (DEADLINE: APRIL 2, 2021)

Registration changes: Registration is open from January 11, 2021 through April 2, 2021. No events will be assigned until required online items AND medical forms are received. Waivers and photo releases should be submitted with all materials.

All athletes and coaches must register by submitting the registration forms attached. Caregivers that are VA EMPLOYEES must also register using Coach Form. Non-VA employees that are caregivers do not register.

The following documents must be completed, signed, and submitted to:

Kristie Goedhard
40th NVWG Registration
VA Puget Sound HCS (NVWG - Oxbow)
1660 South Columbian Way
Seattle, WA 98108
Incomplete forms will automatically be returned if any of the following information is missing:

• VA ID Card. Do not send 10-10 EZ Form.
  *Must include your Member ID number.

• Physician Clearance (VA Form 0925b; 2 pages)

• Photo Consent (VA Form 10-3203; 2 pages)

• Damage Provisions Signature Page (1 page)

• Waiver and Release of Liability (2 pages)

• Concussion Awareness Information (2 pages)

Online Registration, VA ID Card and Physician Clearance must be received by April 2, 2021 in order to finalize your registration and secure your events. All photo consent, damage provision, waivers or concussion awareness forms must be signed in order to be allowed to compete.

For events that have participant caps, we will maintain a standby list of those registrations in the order completed. As cancellations open in a particular event, Veterans will be entered in order of their position on the standby list. For team events, all players have to report at the published event time. If no-show after 5 mins, their place on the team will be forfeited to the next person on the standby list that is present. If not, the next person on the list will be selected.

Registration is limited to 600 athletes. Completed registration forms are accepted in the order they are entered, with priority given to novice athletes. Registration closes April 2, 2021. No new registrations will be accepted after that date.

One coach per five athletes may register by completing all the appropriate information on the registration forms. All registration deadlines apply to coaches and athletes.

Athlete and coach registration information will be stored in the Wheelchair Games database for purposes of historical information.

For VA employees using VA travel to attend the Wheelchair Games, one VA coach may register up to five novice and/or experienced athletes with established rehabilitation goals relevant to their participation at the Wheelchair Games. VA caregivers, such as VA nurses, are permitted to support only those Veterans meeting this criteria. We recognize that the level of care determines the staffing ratio and leave that determination to the individual VAMC, although this may be reviewed and justification required. Registration is required for both VA caregivers and coaches.

Athletes needing a caregiver must arrange that support on their own. Wheelchair Games Medical Staff is not available to provide attendant support.

ATHLETE CLASSIFICATION

Athletes who require classification will be given a medical exam and classified to ensure fair competition among those with similar degrees of disability. Quadriplegics will be classified into three classes (IA, IB, IC) and paraplegics into four (II, III, IV, V). Amputees will be classified based on the level of amputation. Disabilities arising from stroke, multiple sclerosis, or other conditions will be classified based on level of impairment. The Wheelchair Games will attempt where possible to support the community classification standard in specific events. The NVWG reserves the right to modify event class and rules as we determine.

A physician must complete the Physical Exam Forms (C & D) for an athlete to be eligible to register and compete. Any application without the required completed forms will be returned and must be resubmitted by the registration deadline, April 2, 2021.

Classification will be completed during the Early Classification on August 7 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Oregon Convention Center, and at the Disabled Sports, Recreation & Fitness Expo on August 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at New York Hilton. Air Guns Pre-Classification will be held on both days.

Only competitors with a Wheelchair Games classification that is permanent or less than three years old will be exempt from on-site classification.

Reexamination and reclassification may be performed during the Wheelchair Games at the discretion of the Wheelchair Games Athlete Classification Team.
COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS

Athletes may select only one division for all events. Athletes must choose either to compete in the manual or powerchair event in slalom.

Novice: A Veteran who is new to the National Veterans Wheelchair Games. Veteran may choose to bypass and compete in Open or the appropriate age division, but then must compete in all events in that division.

Open: A more competitive division for athletes under the age of 45 who have competed in prior Wheelchair Games. Others may self select if they are over the age of 45 and choose to compete in the Open Class in all their events.

Masters: Competitors who are 46-65 years old may compete in the Masters Division, or they may choose to compete in the Open Division.

Senior: Competitors who are 66 and older may compete in the Seniors Division, or they may choose to compete in the Open Division.

FORMS FOR PUBLICITY

Please complete all attached publicity release forms, which authorizes VA’s public affairs staff, PVA staff, PN, and Sports ‘n Spokes, to release your photograph and/or voice recordings to newspapers, radio stations, television stations and any other media outlets to promote your participation in this event. It also allows VA and PVA to contact your local media, include you in newsletter stories and prepare feature profiles or articles on selected athletes.

If you wish us to publicize your participation in this event, your signature is required on this form, which must be filled out completely.

TRANSPORTATION

Ground Transportation will be limited and restricted to specific NY airports for arrivals on August 7 with departures on August 14. Arrivals and departures outside of these times will not be supported by Wheelchair Games transportation and are the responsibility of the participant. Specific details outlining the NVWG transportation support will be released later this spring.

During the 40th National Veterans Wheelchair Games, a transportation schedule will be published and support the events scheduled as appropriate.

Airline flight numbers and arrival/departure times must be provided by the Veteran or the coach no later than July 2, 2021, so transportation can be arranged.

It is the Veterans responsibility to provide accurate travel information for pick-up at the airport. Missing or inaccurate flight information could or will result in no Wheelchair Games transportation being available.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

There will be one official hotel for athletes this year. Additional information is posted on our website at: wheelchairgames.org/athletes/accommodations/

Reservations will not be open until May 1, 2021. All reservations must be made by May 31, 2021.

Room Rate: $220 per night, not including local, state, and federal taxes (based on double occupancy). No rollaways will be available. Refrigerators are included in the sleeping rooms at the official athlete hotel.

Team Billing:
If you are paying for the group of team rooms by check, the check must be received 15 days or more prior to the event with a complete listing of guests’ names you will be covering with this check.

Hotel Cancellation Policy:
The hotel will allow attendees the right to cancel their guestroom reservations without penalty up to 72 hours prior to the day of arrival. The hotel shall charge the individual attendee or team one (1) nights guaranteed guestroom rate plus tax after such date or for failure of the individuals to check-in on the scheduled arrival date. You must notify PVA of any room cancellations via email – marisar@pva.org

MEALS

A meal debit card program will be used for the 40th National Veterans Wheelchair Games. The amount placed on the card is based on the government per diem
rate, minus other meals provided by the Wheelchair Games. The final amount will be communicated in the athlete confirmation. Competitors may pick up meal debit cards during registration Friday, August 8, 2021 at the last stop of the 40th National Veterans Wheelchair Games Disabled Sports, Recreation & Fitness Expo. Registered Veteran must show government issued photo ID to pick up meal debit card.

The meal debit card can only be used for food and NONALCOHOLIC beverages. Audits are conducted and inappropriate charges may result in the revocation of the card.

NOTE: In compliance with VA Financial Policies and Procedures, VA coaches and VA caregivers will need to be on official VA travel orders. If the VA employee is receiving donated funding support for travel or per diem, please remember to submit VA Form 0893 for approval to receive donated travel support through his or her local station. The Wheelchair Games meal debit card cannot be used by VA employees.

QUESTIONS?

Registration:
Paralyzed Veterans of America Sports and Recreation Program
800.424.8200, ext. 752 or 657
9 a.m.–5 p.m. Eastern Time, M–F
NVWGregistration@pva.org

Hotel Accommodations:
Marisa Ramos
Paralyzed Veterans of America
marisar@pva.org

ATTENTION TEAM COACHES/COORDINATORS

Please ensure that all of your team members use the same team name. Be sure each member of your team has team contact information on his or her forms. Make sure that team members list their Paralyzed Veterans of America chapter affiliations (if applicable).