



National Online Registration Now Open For the 2007 State Games of America in Colorado Springs; 10,000 Athletes From Across the nation expected for August 2-5 event

National online registration is now available for the *2007 State Games of America*, August 2-5, in Colorado Springs.

More than 10,000 athletes from across the nation are expected to compete in the 29-sport event for amateur athletes of all ages and skill levels staged in the city which is the home of the United States Olympic Committee and some 50 national and international sports organizations and National Governing Bodies.

Eligible athletes can go to: www.stategames.org, then click on the State Games of America logo for complete registration information, lodging and accommodations information, ticket details and much more.

The Opening Ceremony is set for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 2, at the Colorado Springs World Arena. Major sport venues include the United States Air Force Academy, the U.S. Olympic Training Center, Fort Carson, and The Colorado College.

Athletes from Virginia, Connecticut, Texas and Pennsylvania have already registered using the online feature.

"We look forward to welcoming thousands of the most dedicated amateur athletes in the nation to Colorado Springs for the State Games of America," said Colorado Springs Sports Corporation Chairman Dave Palenchar. "We know the athletes and their families will enjoy the competitions, as well as the chance to visit the Rocky Mountain West and our city and all its attractions and amenities."

The State Games of America is a property of the National Congress of State Games, and the event is hosted by the Colorado Springs Sports Corporation. The event will be held in Colorado Springs again in 2009. A record 9,462 athletes from 46 states competed in the event in 2005 in Colorado Springs.

"It is great to be back again in Colorado Springs for our premier event," said National Congress of State Games President Kevin Cummings, who heads up the Bay State (Mass.) State Games. "The city has been a great host to our event in the past, and I know our respective state games' athletes from across the nation are excited about returning to this special city."

The **State Games of America** (SGA) is the premier, national multi-sport event for athletes of all ages and abilities held every biennium. Medal winners from 49 state games nationwide earn the right to compete against other winners and match their skills and competitive desire in a

national arena.

In order to qualify for the **State Games of America**, participants must have won a **gold, silver or bronze medal** in a SGA sport in their local State Games in a qualifying year (2005 or 2006 Summer, 2006 or 2007 Winter), won a medal in the 2005 State Games of America or be residents of Colorado for at least 30 days prior to competition. College students, U.S. military personnel and their families who are stationed in Colorado, are also eligible to participate.

The **State Games concept** was developed in New York in 1978 with the **Empire State Games**. In 2006, more than 500,000 athletes competed in State Games nationwide. State Games feature various sports of the Olympic and Pan American Games as well as sports that have regional popularity within each state.

Prominent State Games athletes include Olympians and others: Jeff Blatnick, Ralph Boston, Tracy Caulkins, Calbert Cheaney, Curt Clausen, Diane Dixon, Tom Dolan, Suzy Favor-Hamilton, Dan Gable, Rowdy Gaines, Harvey Glance, Nicole Haislett, Nancy Hogshead, Roy Jones, Adonis Jordan, Nancy Kerrigan, Rusty LaRue, Danny Manning, Henry Marsh, Eric Montross, Chris Mullin, Tab Ramos, Glenn Robinson, Alberto Salazar, Doug Smith, Rex Walters, Lones Wigger, Jr. and Paul Wylie.

2007 State Games of America Sponsors

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Tennis

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