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REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR THE 2009 BAY STATE SUMMER GAMES

Sign ups underway for the 28th annual Olympic-style sports festival

WOBURN, MA-The Massachusetts Amateur Sports Foundation (MASF) is pleased to announce that registration for the 2009 Bay State Summer Games is now open. The annual Olympic-style amateur sports festival features 24 sports for athletes of all ages and ability levels.

The 2009 Bay State Summer Games are scheduled for July 6-19. Regional qualifiers and tryouts will be held throughout June. Competitions will be held at top notch sporting venues including Bentley University, Harvard University, MIT, Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center, University of Massachusetts Boston, and the New England Sports Center.

Competitions are offered in archery, badminton, baseball, basketball, baton twirling, diving, fencing, field hockey, ice hockey, judo, juniors basketball, lacrosse, pistol shooting, rifle shooting, trap shooting, soccer, softball, swimming, synchronized swimming, table tennis, tennis, track and field, volleyball, wrestling, 6vs6 field hockey, and 7vs7 soccer.

Some distinguishing characteristics of the Bay State Games include giving T-shirts to all participants, medals and award jackets to top finishers, affordable participation fees, and providing athletes with valuable exposure to college scouts.

High school students who are in 11th grade during the 2008-09 academic year and tryout for the 2009 Summer Games are also eligible for the Verizon Future Leaders Scholarship Program. The scholarship program, which awards six \$2,000 college scholarships to Bay State Games participants each summer, aims to identify young men and women who will be tomorrow's leaders.

New for 2009, the Bay State Games have added an initiative to award high schools across the commonwealth for their students' participation in the Summer Games. The High School Spirit Program was created to recognize those schools that have the highest number of athletes in the 2009 Summer Games. Every high school in Massachusetts is eligible to win a portion of the \$5,200 in grants that will be awarded. Schools have been separated into three categories by size to give everyone an opportunity to win the much-needed funds for their athletic department.

Registration forms and sport specific information can be found at the Bay State Games' Web site. For updated information about tryout dates, sport specific information, scholarship forms, volunteer information, and registration deadlines, please visit www.baystategames.org, call the Bay State Games' office at (781) 932-6555, or e-mail info@baystategames.org.

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