



**LET THE
GAMES BEGIN!**



Welcome Athletes, Coaches, Friends and Families to the River City!

On the behalf of the Richmond VA Medical Center, I want to welcome you to the beautiful city of Richmond and to the 32nd National Veterans Wheelchair Games. We are honored to have the Games return back home where it all began!

At the Richmond VA Medical Center, we are proud to serve more than 200,000 Veterans coming from 52 cities and counties covering 22,515 miles of central and southern Virginia and parts of northern North Carolina. Our facility, located in south Richmond, is noted for expertise in Cardiovascular care, Spinal Cord Injury and Disease services, Polytrauma, Parkinson's disease care and has several Centers of Excellence. We are also pleased to offer three Community Based Outpatient Clinics located in Emporia, Fredericksburg and Charlottesville, Virginia. These clinics offer primary care and mental health services for Veterans.

Our staff and VA community have dedicated countless hours of hard work to ensure each of you have a week filled with excitement, unforgettable memories and healthy competition. We wish you the best of health during your time in Richmond, however if you should need us we are ready to serve you. Our clinical staff on duty during the Games are also ready to support your needs and get you quickly back in the game!

I want to thank each of our Veterans for serving our country and protecting our freedom. We deeply appreciate your dedication, patriotism and sacrifice.

While in Richmond, please be sure to take full advantage of other activities that our great city has to offer. We have great historical sites, museums, river activities and parks waiting for your exploration.

Best wishes for a great week and let the Games continue, where it all began!

Charles E. Sepich

Charles E. Sepich, FACHE
Director, Richmond VA Medical Center



ON THE COVER:

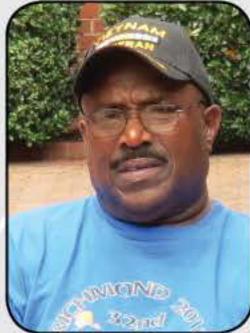
Photo from the 31st National Veterans Wheelchair Games, August 1 – 6, 2011 in Pittsburgh, PA

QUESTION OF THE DAY:

What advice would you give to new athletes entering the games?

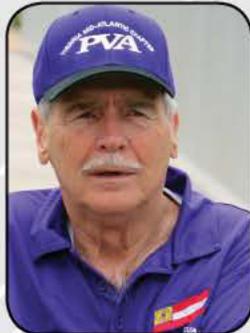
Charlie Hayden
U.S. Army Veteran

“Get out and get involved. There are things you can learn from others that is more than what you can ever learn from laying in the hospital.”



Chuck Willis
U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

“Look at it as something new in life, something that could be achieved. Never look at it as things that I couldn't do.”



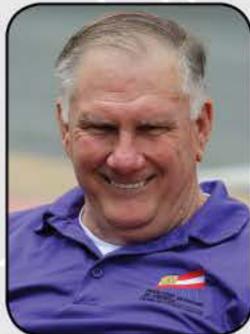
Jimmy May
U.S. Army Veteran

“You might not like it at first but after awhile you will...Don't think you can't do it. Never say never. You can do it.”



Ike Cook
U.S. Army Veteran

“Open your eyes and open your mind. Try to take as much in as possible. After the Games, get a DVD and keep it and look at it often... what you learn, you will keep with you for a lifetime.”



Vet Center to Provide Services at 32nd Wheelchair Games

Vet Center counseling and outreach staff will be providing counseling services to Veterans and their families as well as information and referrals to Vet Center services throughout this year's Wheelchair Games. Visit Vet Center staff at the following areas during the Games:

- Monday, June 25 – Wednesday, June 27: Table at the VA Medical Center
- Thursday, June 28: Mobile Vet Center at the Softball Field
- Friday, June 29: Mobile Vet Center at the Sport Backers Field
- Saturday, June 30: Mobile Vet Center at the VA Medical Center for the motor rally

Vet Centers are community-based counseling centers, within VA, that provide a wide range of social and psychological services including professional readjustment counseling to Veterans who served in a combat zone and their families, military sexual trauma counseling, and bereavement counseling for families who experience an active duty death. This program also facilitates community outreach and the brokering of services with community agencies that link Veterans with other needed VA and non-VA services.

A core value of the Vet Center program is to promote access to care by helping Veterans and families overcome barriers that impede them from using those services. For example, all Vet Centers have available evening and Saturday hours to help accommodate the schedules of Veterans and their families.

For more information about Vet Centers, to include locations, please visit

www.vetcenter.va.gov or

call the Vet Center
Combat Call Center
at 877-WAR-VETS.

This confidential call center is open around the clock.



ODDS & ENDS

Medical Clinics

In case of emergency, always dial 911. For other issues, medical staff are available to help. If you need to reach them by phone, please call the hotel's main number and ask to be directed to that particular room number or dial the extension below.

Hilton Garden Inn

Room 218
(804) 344-4300, Ext. 7218

Crowne Plaza

Room 1124
(804) 788-0791, Ext. 1124

Omni Richmond

Rooms 319 & 321
(804) 344-7000, Ext. 7321

Hotel medical suites will be open daily starting Sunday, June 24, at noon. Weekday hours of operation will be from 7 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Staff will be on call from 10:30 p.m. until 7 a.m. and can be reached by calling your hotel's front desk. The operator will take the Veteran's name and room number before contacting a medical staff member.

Greater Richmond Convention Center

Rooms E25 A & B

The Convention Center medical suite will open daily starting Monday, June 25, at 7 a.m. Hours of operation will run from 7 a.m. until the last event at the Convention Center has ended. The suite will close Saturday, June 30 after the closing banquet.

Games medical staff are authorized to treat registered athletes or volunteers on duty. They can also treat coaches and officials, but are unable to treat sponsors or family members. For more information please see your Athletes and Coaches Guide.

Wheelchair Repair Shop

The wheelchair repair shop will be in the Greater Richmond Convention Center Room E10A, Sunday June 24–Saturday June 30, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (hours extended as necessary). Airport wheelchair repair for all inbound and outbound flights will be available Sunday, June 24 and Sunday, July 1. Invacare minor repair service will be available at all off-site venues during events. For after-hours, emergency repair call (804) 314-4239. For more information, reference your Athletes and Coaches Guide.

Transportation

Shuttle service for volunteers will be available from the Showplace from 6 a.m.–10 p.m. on a continuing rotation and from McGuire VA Medical Center from 6 a.m.–10 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Richmond Convention Center will serve as the hub for transportation. Shuttles will run one hour before scheduled events and continue running until 10:30 p.m.

Beginning Monday, hotel shuttles will run starting at 7 a.m., and continue every 20 minutes.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY, JUNE 25	ACTIVITY	LOCATION / VENUE
	CHECK IN	HOTELS
9 a.m.–4 p.m.	GAMES REGISTRATION	A LOBBY / GRCC
9 a.m.–4 p.m.	EXPO	Hall A / GRCC
11 a.m.	GAMES KICK-OFF	CAPITOL / RICHMOND
1–2:30 p.m.	COACHES MEETING	B15 A-B-C / GRCC
2:30–3 p.m.	NOVICE ATHLETE MEETING	B15 A-B-C / GRCC
4:30 p.m.	PARADE LINE-UP – ATHLETES	Hall D / GRCC
6–7 p.m.	OPENING CEREMONIES	Halls C-D / GRCC
7:30–9:30 p.m.	WELCOME RECEPTION	Halls B-C / GRCC

GRCC = Greater Richmond Convention Center

Continuing the Momentum!

NVWG Educational Sessions

Women's Athlete Forum—Expanding Your Opportunities

Session 1: Tuesday, June 26 • 11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m. • Hall B15–A
Lisa Markland, BA, MSW *NVWG Athlete
Target Audience: Women Veterans of the NVWG

The Other 51 Weeks

Session 2: Tuesday, June 26 • 11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m. • Hall B15–B
Randy Schubert, Executive Director, National Wheelchair Basketball Association
Julia Ray, Program Manager, Disabled Sports USA
Target Audience: Veterans and Coaches of the NVWG