

## Athlete Profile (Local)

Robin Brown
Marine Corps Veteran
65 years old
Denver, Colorado

Marine Corps Veteran and soon-to-be athlete, Robin "Rob" Brown will compete in his first National Veterans Wheelchair Games this summer. But this combat-wounded Veteran is not entering this new role lightly – at the Games, he's signed up to compete in four events: air guns, archery, basketball and track. Brown is no stranger to challenges. In 1968 while serving in Vietnam, a landmine blew up six feet from him, resulting in the injuries that put him in a wheelchair.

Now, Brown puts all his energy into what he does. Last year, he created and fabricated a prosthesis that directly connects to the pedal of his bicycle and allows him to move energy forward for maximum efficiency. "You just adapt the best way you can," said Brown, who is an amputee. "When that doesn't work, build a new way."

Brown's coach, Jennifer Letton, introduced him to wheelchair sports shortly after he injured both his rotator cuffs. He went through two years of pain and rehab so this year, in Denver, he's ready to compete. Training with neighbors and friends, he is what his family calls "a well practiced person." He may be signed up this year as a novice, but there is no doubt that his determination and positive attitude will serve him well at the Games.

"I know I'm going to get my butt kicked," said Brown. "But I'm still going to try!"