

## **News Release**

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## Veterans gather in San Diego for VA's 11<sup>th</sup> annual Summer Sports Clinic

**WASHINGTON** — About 120 Veterans from across the country were expected to participate in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) 11<sup>th</sup> National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic in Southern California, which began Sept. 16.

The annual gathering of Veterans with disabilities will feature cycling, surfing, sailing, kayaking, pickleball and archery at venues throughout San Diego.

"This clinic and all of our adaptive sports programs focus on helping Veterans lead independent, active and healthy lives," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "It's a popular yearly event in the Veteran community, and I'm proud of our dedicated staff for making this the best possible experience for our Veterans."

The clinic is a rehabilitation sports and recreation program for Veterans with disabilities. Participation is open to severely injured or ill Veterans receiving care at any VA medical facility. The event is hosted by the <u>VA San Diego Healthcare System</u>, and more than 300 volunteers are expected to donate their time and efforts to the event.

The clinic begins with the opening ceremony at the Wyndham San Diego Bayside Hotel Pacific Ballroom at 4 p.m. Sept. 16. For more information, visitwww.summersportsclinic.va.gov; follow VA Adaptive Sports Programs on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram at @Sports4Vets.