



## 2017 NVGAG GENERAL INFORMATION

WHO MUST REGISTER:	All athletes, VA coaches, and support staff must register. Each individual registering must complete a separate online registration.
ELIGIBILITY	All Veterans, ages 55 or older, who receive health, care from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
REGISTRATION	<p>Online registration must be completed between February 1, 2017 and March 1, 2017. Registration check-in for the Games will be held from 8 am to 5 pm on Sunday, May 7, 2017, at the MS Coast Convention Center.</p> <p>Late registration check-in will be held at the Host Hotel from 6 pm to 10 pm on Sunday, May 7, 2017.</p>
EVENTS	<p>ARCHERY      Ambulatory, Wheelchair (<b>Exhibition</b>)</p> <p>AIR PISTOL      Ambulatory, Wheelchair (<b>Exhibition</b>)</p> <p>AIR RIFLE      Visually Impaired (<b>Exhibition</b>)</p> <p>AIR RIFLE      Singles <b>Ambulatory</b></p> <p>BADMINTON      Singles, Doubles <b>Ambulatory</b></p> <p>BASKETBALL      3-on-3 Half Court (<b>Exhibition</b>)</p> <p>BOCCIA      Singles, <b>Ambulatory, Wheelchair &amp; Visually Impaired</b> Doubles, <b>Ambulatory only</b></p> <p>BOWLING      Singles, Ambulatory, Wheelchair &amp; Visually Impaired</p> <p>CYCLING      5k Ambulatory (must provide own equipment)</p> <p>DISC GOLF      Visually Impaired (<b>Exhibition</b>)</p> <p>GOLF      18 -Hole Scratch Play <b>Ambulatory</b></p> <p>HORSESHOES      Singles, <b>Ambulatory, Wheelchair &amp; Visually Impaired</b></p> <p>NINE BALL      Singles, <b>Ambulatory, Wheelchair</b></p> <p>PICKELBALL      Ambulatory, Wheelchair (<b>Exhibition</b>)</p> <p>POWERWALK      1/2 mile, 1 mile <b>Ambulatory</b></p> <p>SHUFFLEBOARD      Singles, <b>Ambulatory, Wheelchair &amp; Visually Impaired</b></p> <p>SWIMMING      25,&amp; 50-Yard Backstroke: Breaststroke Freestyle:, <b>Ambulatory</b></p> <p>TABLE TENNIS      Singles, <b>Ambulatory, Wheelchair</b></p> <p>TRACK &amp; FIELD      100, 200, 400, 800, 1500 Meter, Discus, Javelin, Shot Put <b>Ambulatory</b></p>
EVENT RULES	Event rules are available at <a href="http://www.veteransgoldenagegames.va.gov">www.veteransgoldenagegames.va.gov</a>



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EVENT SCHEDULE	Event schedule is available at <a href="http://www.veteransgoldenagegames.va.gov">www.veteransgoldenagegames.va.gov</a>
REGISTERING FOR EVENTS	<p>Athletes are encouraged to review the 2017 events schedule to avoid If an athlete is signing up for conflicting event. If an athlete is signed up for conflicting events, at registration check in they must make a choice on which event to participate.</p> <p>To ensure every competitor adequate playing time, NVGAG will be placing a cap on the total number of entries for the following sports: air rifle, badminton, field, golf, horseshoes, power walk and shuffleboard.</p> <p>All athletes unable to register for a sporting event due to it being closed must email the <a href="#">NVGAG National Team</a> to be put on the waiting list. They will be contacted if approved to participate in the sport.</p>
MEDICAL CLEARANCE	<p>All athletes are required to have their Primary Care Physician complete and sign the 2017 NVGAG Medical Application. Instructions for properly submitting the Medical Application are included on page 1 of the form. The 2017 NVGAG host VA Medical Center must receive this form no later than April 6, 2017.</p> <p><b>NO ONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO COMPETE WITHOUT THE COMPLETED MEDICAL FORM ON FILE.</b></p> <p>Form is available at <a href="http://www.veteransgoldenagegames.va.gov">www.veteransgoldenagegames.va.gov</a>.</p>
WAIVER	All athletes are required to sign and click acceptance on the Agreement, Release of liability when registering online.
IDENTIFICATION	All athletes are required to present their VA ID card for identification during registration check-in on Sunday, May 7, 2017.
CLASSIFICATION	<p>All age classifications will be determined by the athlete's age as of <b><u>December 31, 2017.</u></b></p> <p>There are <b>eight</b> age classifications: 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, 85-89, 90+</p> <p>Athletes will compete by gender in the following events: air rifle, badminton, bowling, cycling, field, golf, horseshoes, power walk, shuffleboard, swimming and track.</p> <p>Wheelchair athletes will have a separate division in the following events: boccia, bowling, horseshoes, nine ball, shuffleboard and table tennis.</p> <p>Visually impaired athletes will have a separate division in the following events: boccia, bowling, horseshoes and shuffleboard. Athletes in this division may also register for field, power walk and swimming; however, separate award medals will not be given for this division.</p>



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AWARDS	Medals will be awarded to the 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> place finishers in the bracketed events. For all other events, ribbons will be also awarded to the 4th, 5th and 6th places.
AIR TRAVEL	<p>All athletes are responsible for their travel plans. Athletes should plan to arrive and depart from Gulfport-Biloxi Intl. Airport (GPT).</p> <p>Check with your local air terminal for the latest update on Transportation Security Administration (TSA) requirements regarding carry-on items. Athletes traveling by air with oxygen will need to arrange with the airlines regarding the transport of oxygen, as this is the athlete's responsibility.</p>
WHEELCHAIR TRAVEL	If you will be traveling with a wheelchair or scooter, we recommend you call the airline in advance and inform them of your travel needs. Let them know if you will need an aisle chair, arm rest removed, and/or require a harness or belt strap. Please also provide written equipment handling instructions.
TRANSPORTATION	<p>Representatives of the Games will greet athletes at the airport and direct them to transportation to the host hotel. Transportation will be provided Sunday, May 7, 2017, between the airport and the host hotel.</p> <p>Transportation will be provided from the host hotel to the National Veterans Golden Age Games sponsored events.</p> <p>Transportation will be provided from the host hotel to GPT for departures on Friday, May 12, 2017.</p>
LODGING	<p>The 2017 National Veterans Golden Age Games host hotel is located in Biloxi, Mississippi.</p> <p>After you have completed your online registration, you will receive instructions for making hotel reservations. The deadline for making hotel reservations is April 6, 2017.</p> <p>There will be no cost for parking.</p>
MEALS	<p>Meals will be provided to 2017 NVGAG Veteran athletes using the meal credit card program beginning with dinner on Sunday, May 7, 2017, through dinner on Thursday, May 11, 2017.</p> <p>All meals can be purchased at the local eating establishments via the provided meal credit card, personal cash or credit/debit card or VA travel card. VA Coaches and support staff will purchase all meals on own.</p>



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MEDICAL	Medical assistance will be provided 24 hours a day at the host hotel and NVGAG events as part of the 2017 National Veterans Golden Age Games. Athletes should ensure they bring enough medication and medical supplies to last throughout the Games.
WEATHER	May in Biloxi brings average temperatures ranging from the 65 to 86 degrees. Please bring clothing appropriate for all types of weather and insect repellent.
CONFIRMATION OF REGISTRATION	Once your online application is complete you will receive a confirmation email. Please log back in to your NVGAG account and provide your travel information by April 21, 2017, to ensure transportation to and from the GPT airport.
WALL OF HEROES	The National Veterans Golden Age Games traditional "Wall of Heroes" will continue at the Games in Biloxi. Please send the two photographs to:  Marcus Mitchell, LOC Coordinator 2017 National Veterans Golden Age Games Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System 400 Veterans Avenue Biloxi, MS 39531  Photos should depict athletes "then and now". Please include a current photograph and a photo from the past, preferably in military uniform.
HEALTH AND WELLNESS EXPO	An expo will be held Sunday, May 7, 2017, to showcase health and wellness information and services for seniors.
EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS	The Office of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention and the VHA Office of Patient Centered Care & Cultural Transformation will provide health coaching, educational sessions and a forum for athletes.