

NATIONAL VETERANS GOLDEN AGE GAMES

August 27-31, 2007

Houston, Texas



"Heroes in Houston"

Now in its 21st year, the National Veterans Golden Age Games continue to be the most popular and largest event in the world for military veterans age 55 and older. In addition to the competition, which is open to experienced, world-class senior athletes as well as those who are competing for the first time, the Games offer a wealth of media stories about senior sports and the event itself. The competitors' military service spans several military wars and conflicts including World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam, in addition to peacetime service.

To further underscore that life begins at 55 for the participants of the National Veterans Golden Age Games, a partnership with the National Senior Games, a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee, offers veterans a larger, more competitive opportunity to reach maximum potential of their skills. As a qualifier for the National Senior Games, veterans winning gold, silver and bronze medals in numerous categories may be eligible to compete in the 2009 National Senior Games in San Francisco. In 2006, 187 veterans from the National Veterans Golden Age Games qualified to compete in the 2007 National Senior Games in Louisville, Ky.

Today, military veterans in their 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s and beyond, are not just letting life pass them by – they're stronger, healthier and participating in sports on an elite, competitive basis. At the National Veterans Golden Age Games, gold, silver and bronze medals are presented in Olympic-style fashion, with lots of fanfare and celebration. Their accomplishments are incredible!

STORY IDEAS:

Sports



- ★ Qualifier for the National Senior Games
- ★ New or experienced athletes or teams
- ★ Events for ambulatory, wheelchair and visually impaired competitors
- ★ Wide variety of sports and activities (Swimming, bicycling, golf and more)
- ★ World-class senior competitors and first-time senior athletes



Health



- ★ Health benefit for senior Americans
- ★ Education and training for competition and a lifetime
- ★ Wellness for wheelchair users and the visually impaired
- ★ Competition by age groups

Military/Patriotism



- ★ Competitors from WWII (the Greatest Generation!)
- ★ Military heroes also from the Korean War and Vietnam
- ★ Women veterans
- ★ War-injured competitors
- ★ Veterans who stood at democracy's door for the freedoms we enjoy today!

Feature/Human Interest



- ★ Volunteers at the Games
- ★ Planning the event at the local level
- ★ Special events and ceremonies
- ★ Celebrity visitors
- ★ Corporate sponsors
- ★ Reunions



The 2007 National Veterans Golden Age Games are sponsored by:



Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Canteen Service

Help Hospitalized Veterans