



National Senior Games Association

Post Office Box 82059 ★ Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70884-2059
225-766-6800 ★ Fax 225-766-9115 ★ nsga@nsga.com

★ www.nsga.com



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NATIONAL SENIOR GAMES ASSN. MEDIA CONTACT:

Becky Wesley
Director of Association Relations
225-766-6800 ext. 12
Email: bwesley@nsga.com

RHODE ISLAND MEDIA CONTACT:

John Mousseau
Executive Director
Rhode Island Sports Council
401-228-7919
Email: jmousseau@risportscouncil.com

RHODE ISLAND SELECTED TO HOST 2008, 2010, and 2012 National Senior Games Championship Festival and Euflexxa Hockey Championships

Providence, RI (April 14, 2008) – The National Senior Games Association (NSGA) announced today that the state of Rhode Island will host the 2008, 2010, and 2012 National Senior Games Championship Festival and Euflexxa Hockey Championships. This inaugural Festival will include four additional sports along with the annual Euflexxa Hockey Championships. Scheduled for September 4-7, 2008, this event will bring approximately 1,600 male and female athletes - ages 50 and over – to RI to compete in five different sports within separate age divisions. The NSGA Festival and Euflexxa Hockey Championships is expected to draw more than 3,000 people to the Ocean State.

“The NSGA is extremely pleased to be working with the Rhode Island Sports Council, Eident Sports Marketing, and the cities of Providence, Warwick and East Providence to be the host of the 2008 National Senior Games Festival and Euflexxa Hockey Championships,” said Ray Hoyt, Director of National Games and Athlete Relations with the NSGA. “They are going to be great partners and hosts for our athletes.”

“We are thrilled to have been selected to host this expanded national sports festival for the first time,” stated John T. Mousseau, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Sports Council. “The State of Rhode Island is no stranger to hosting a number of firsts in the sporting world, including the United States Open and Amateur Golf Championships, the America’s Cup, The Tennis Open Championship and the first years of the highly successful X Games.”

“Proving that 60 really is the new 40, the National Senior Games will bring thousands of senior athletes to the great City of Providence for exciting competition. The Games will be a great spectacle, great for the Providence economy and a great inspiration for all of us who want to stay healthy and active throughout our lives,” said Mayor David N. Cicilline.

“The City of Warwick has a vibrant and athletic senior population as well as an active and enthusiastic hockey community, so we are particularly pleased to be a partner in the National Senior Games Festival and Hockey Championships,” said Warwick Mayor Scott Avedisian. “We look forward to helping the NSGA make their inaugural Festival a memorable one, and to watching some spirited competition at venues throughout the state.”

“This event will provide a substantial economic boost to our community, generating thousands of room nights each year it is held,” said Martha Sheridan, President and CEO of the Providence Warwick Convention & Visitors Bureau. “We look forward to welcoming these athletes and their families to our community.”

The 2008 National Senior Games Championship Festival and Euflexxa Hockey Championships include billiards, hockey, pickleball, team bowling and weightlifting. The various competitions will be conducted at the Rhode Island Convention Center and Brown University's Meehan Auditorium in Providence, East Providence Lanes in East Providence, and Thayer/Warburton Ice Arenas and Boston Billiards Club in Warwick.

"We are excited to see the Euflexxa Hockey Championships expand to become a Festival that includes additional sports," said Alex Drigan, Product Director, Euflexxa. "Our goal is to assist NSGA in the growth of this Event, and all others that encourage active lifestyles regardless of age, and we're pleased to see it move to the Providence, Rhode Island area."

To compete in the 2008 National Senior Games Championship Festival and Euflexxa Hockey Championships, athletes must be age 50 or older by December 31, 2008. For more information, contact:

NSGA: Ray Hoyt at rhoyt@nsga.com or Bethany Krogman, Assistant Manager, bkrogman@nsga.com

RI Sports Council: Kerry L. Emmons, Director of Events & Operations, at kerry@risportscouncil.com

For sponsorship information, contact Chris Harkness, at chris@eidentsports.com

NSGA is a multi-sport organizations council member of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and serves as the USOC's official arm to the 50 and over population. The NSGA is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting healthy lifestyles for adults 50 and over through education, fitness and sport. Through its programs, the NSGA assists adults in achieving greater value and quality in their lives by staying healthy, active and fit.

Rhode Island Sports Council, established in 1993, is a non-profit organization whose mission is to attract major amateur and professional sporting events to the state of Rhode Island as a tourism vehicle and economic generator.

Eident Sports is a full-service event management and sports marketing company based in Providence, Rhode Island. Eident has several properties in the region, ranging from turn-key sporting events to sponsorship sales alliances with key partners. For more information on Eident's events and offerings, please visit www.eidentsports.com

NSGA thanks its corporate sponsor Euflexxa. Go to www.nsga.com for more information about NSGA and its programs.

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