

For Immediate Release



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THIRD ANNUAL BAY AREA SENIOR GAMES TO BE HELD MARCH 15-16, 2008

Registration Opens November 1, 2007

SAN FRANCISCO – September 10, 2007 – The third annual Bay Area Senior Games will be held March 15 - 16, 2008 at venues in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, organizers announced today.

The Games will feature competitions in Swimming, Track & Field, Tennis, Table Tennis, Badminton, 3x3 Basketball, Cycling, and Race Walking. The Softball tournament will be held in mid-May 2008 at Greer Park in Palo Alto and a Triathlon will be held in early August. The Bay Area Senior Games are a precursor to the 2009 Summer National Senior Games, the largest participatory multi-sport event in the U.S., which will bring an estimated 12,750 athletes to the Bay Area in August 2009.

2008 is an important year for senior athletes, as it is the qualifying year for the 2009 Summer National Senior Games. California athletes will be pointing toward the California State Games to be held in June 2008 in Pasadena. The 2008 Bay Area Senior Games will be a great training ground for those athletes who are traveling to Pasadena to compete in the State Games in order to qualify for the 2009 Summer National Senior Games.

The 2008 Bay Area Senior Games will again be centered around the world-class athletic facilities at Stanford University. The only sports not to be staged on campus are Table Tennis, Cycling and Softball. "We are very happy to welcome the Senior Games back to Stanford", said Deputy Athletic Director Ray Purpur. "This event encourages Californians over 50 to keep fit and live healthy, a message the University wholeheartedly supports."

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“On the road to 2009 we continue our strategy of generating local support for the ‘big event’ by engaging Senior Athletes from across the state early on”, added Anne Cribbs, President of the Local Organizing Committee for the 2009 National Senior Games. “After our successful launch in 2006, followed by the exciting 2007 Bay Area Senior Games, word has spread within the community. For 2008 we expect circa 1,500 athletes in ten sports.”

The Bay Area Senior Games and 2009 National Senior Games are conducted under the auspices of the Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee (BASOC). Sponsors include Catholic Healthcare West, Stanford Hospital & Clinics, Stanford Athletic Department and the City of Palo Alto.

Registration for the 2008 Bay Area Senior Games opens November 1, 2007 at www.2009seniorgames.org.

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