



NATIONAL VETERANS
**WHEELCHAIR
GAMES**

July 9 –14, 2026 • Detroit, Michigan

EVENT GUIDE

CO-PRESENTED BY

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs





Welcome to the 45th National Veterans Wheelchair Games

Start Your Engines!

The Department of Veterans Affairs and Paralyzed Veterans of America are at the starting line to bring the National Veterans Wheelchair Games to Detroit—the Motor City! Known for its rich automotive history and fast-paced energy, Detroit is the perfect backdrop to celebrate the power of movement, speed, and adaptive sports.

For 2026, we're ready to shift into high gear—showcasing the strength, skill, and determination that define the Veterans competitions at these Wheelchair Games.

This year promises a fast-paced week of competition and camaraderie. The NVWG Event Guide will help you plan your events and make the most of every opportunity. From racing to team sports to blowing past the competition in individual sports, there's something for every passion. Be sure to check the NVWG Schedule at www.wheelchairgames.org to avoid conflicts, keep your week running smoothly, and get you to the winner's circle!

Your energy and commitment make the NVWG truly special. We can't wait to see you rev your engines, move fast, and celebrate at the finish line in Detroit.

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Dave Tostenrude

Director, National Veterans Wheelchair Games
Department of Veterans Affairs



Jen Purser

Director, Programs, PVA Sports and Recreation
Paralyzed Veterans of America

The 45th National Veterans Wheelchair Games Event Guide provides information for Veterans and coaches regarding registration, planning, competitions and other critical information needed for an outstanding experience in Detroit. Additional information, including the 2026 NVWG Schedule, will be available via the NVWG Website at www.wheelchairgames.org.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

2026 NVWG Registration4

Planning for the 45th NVWG 10

Venues 11

Reference Guide..... 12

Competition Information 14

EVENT RULES (Detroit)

9-Ball, Adaptive Fitness, Air Pistol 18

Air Rifle 19

Archery 20

Basketball 21

Boccia..... 22

Bowling, Cornhole..... 23

Cycling 24

Disc Golf, ESPORTS, Field 25

Fishing 26

Pickleball, PowerLifting 27

Bench Press, Power Soccer 28

The Rally , Slalom..... 29

Softball, Swimming..... 30

Table Tennis, WC Rugby 31

Trap Shooting 32

If You Have Additional Questions:

NVWG Registration Questions

NVWGINFO@va.gov

Kaitlyn Walker

NVWG Hotel Lead

KaitlynW@pva.org

Kristie Goedhard

NVWG Administrative Officer

Kristine.Goedhard@va.gov





REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The NVWG Registration is open **Feb 2–April 3, 2026**. Please submit your online registration and medical forms through the online VA Registration Box. The link will be available on the online registration page and is new each year. Please see steps to complete registration below. **Liability forms and waivers must be signed prior to competing.** For Veterans competing in the atHOME Event of Trap Shooting, waivers will be submitted through the VA Registration Link only.

Important—If you cannot attend the NVWG after registration closes, please let us know and cancel as soon as possible through the NVWGInfo@va.gov email. Your cancellation could save room for another Veteran who is wanting to attend.

Eligibility:

Participation is open to Veterans living with spinal cord injuries, amputations, multiple sclerosis or other central neurological conditions. Physical disabilities must be permanent, measureable and impact mobility. That is critical to be able to be placed in the correct competition category. Also, we attempt to be consistent with the community standards for adaptive sport eligibility, where applicable.

- **Primary pain, arthritis, general musculoskeletal or peripheral nerve conditions, DJD, DDD, peripheral neuropathy are not qualifying medical conditions and not eligible for the NVWG.**
- All Veterans must be eligible to receive care at a VA medical facility.

When a Veteran's diagnosis and/or eligibility to compete is in question, we will refer to the eligibility criteria to participate in community-based national wheelchair sport associations. Any questions regarding eligibility can be directed to kristine.goedhard@va.gov.

2026 Registration:

Please complete and review all areas of your online registration and your NVWG Medical Clearance Form. Do not leave any areas blank - even if you have attended in the past. This could delay your registration from being reviewed. Once your medical clearance form is submitted, please allow for 4–6 weeks to process. Your online registration will state “approved” once reviewed and you have met the medical eligibility criteria.

NOTE - Event assignments will be given in the order that completion of the online registration and the NVWG Medical Clearance Form is verified. Delays in submitting either will impact event assignments.

VETERANS, take note of these important steps to complete your registration and secure your event selections:

1. Complete online registration.
2. Upload and submit your **VA ID CARD** (For New Veterans Only) and **NVWG Medical Clearance Form** electronically to VA Registration Box by **April 3, 2026** for both atHOME and in-person events.
3. atHOME Event (**Trap Shooting Only**) – waivers are required and will be emailed to you and your coach.



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Coaches and VA Caregivers:

Online registration is required for any VA staff participating as a caregiver (nursing support) or coach. Non-VA caregivers do not need to register. Veteran athletes needing a caregiver must arrange support on their own. NVWG Medical Staff are not available to provide attendant support.

Once approved, coaches will have access to coach reports to assist their with planning. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact Kristie Goedhard at Kristine.Goedhard@va.gov or email the NVWG Registration Team at NVWGInfo@va.gov.

Families, non-VA Caregivers and all other supporters are invited to participate in the Veteran's and NVWG events. To comply with enhanced security and event protocols, everyone will register on-site via our NVWG Guest Services locations during the NVWG in Detroit. Individuals will be required to provide contact details, after which a wristband will be issued that will grant access to NVWG Event Venues. Additionally, the NVWG Wristband will be necessary to ride NVWG buses. NVWG Guest Services will be available for arrivals at the event hotels and at Detroit's Huntington Place Convention Center.

NVWG Event Planning:

• Event Selections:

- > Complete the registrations as soon as possible. Events fill up fast and those that submit complete registrations, that include getting your medical submitted, are assigned first.
- > The 2026 NVWG Schedule is available at www.wheelchairgames.org.
- > There is a **limit, or CAP, of 8 NVWG Events for each individual competitor.** Register for only as many events that you can manage. Please consult the NVWG Schedule to allow yourself plenty of time between your events to get something to eat, prep for the next event, recover between events or even allow time to travel between venues. **Being late for an event may/will result in disqualification.** Some events run historically long despite the efforts made to keep to the schedule. This is typically true with the bracket events.



- > **Bowling, Disc Golf and Field Events** are considered “**Drop In**” events. Recommended classes may be indicated on the schedule for Bowling, but this is to help each Veteran plan for transportation. Drop-In Events allow the Veteran more freedom in their schedule and minimizes conflicts with bracket events. Admittance to the Drop-In Event is closed 45min prior to the scheduled end of the session.



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- > Plan for at least one-hour for transportation to community venues. This would include waiting for the bus, getting secured, travel time and getting off the bus and into the venue. We monitor delays in the traffic and do our best to accommodate. If you are late getting to the bus, your participation will not be guaranteed. Times for each venue will be posted on the NVWG App.
- > No schedule changes will be allowed after **May 15, 2026**.

NVWG Event Planning: (cont'd)

- **Training:** All the NVWG events require a certain amount of physical strength, conditioning and skill in order to participate safely and successfully. Lack of preparation and training can result in poor outcomes, frustration and increase risk of injury.
 - > **CRITICAL** - Before you start any physical training program, consult with your doctor or VA therapist for advice and recommendations. With their guidance, develop a training or workout program to prepare.
 - > Select events that match your interests and passions. Remember, this isn't about what you do this one week in Detroit, but discovering opportunities beyond!
 - > Research the event and get up to date on the rules, equipment and strategies.
 - > Get your own equipment if possible. You'll do better and be more comfortable with your own and will relate to better performance. The NVWG does not provide adaptive sports equipment.
 - > Find local opportunities to get involved and practice. If you are not on an NVWG team, contact David.Tostenrude@va.gov or Jenniferp@pva.org who will try to connect you with local opportunities.
 - > Set realistic goals to get started and have FUN!





PLANNING FOR THE 45th NVWG

Setting yourself up for success: The following are tips and information to help your planning for a successful NVWG experience.

1. **Hotel Registration:** The 45th NVWG Hotel Reservation window is open **April 20th - May 20th, 2026**. Do not try to book reservations or ADA rooms outside of the NVWG Registration link. If you have questions, please contact Kaitlyn Walker at KaitlynW@pva.org. The room rates for the NVWG Official Hotels are **\$152** per night. Hotel assignments are made by NVWG staff. Please refer to the www.wheelchairgames.org website for more up-to-date information.
 - > **Hotel Cancellation Policy:** Cancellations must be made directly with the hotel no later than 72 hours prior to your scheduled arrival day and an email **also** must be sent to PVA Meetings (KaitlynW@pva.org). Check-In for arrivals are limited to 4pm on July 8, 2026 and departures by noon on July 15, 2026. Arrangements outside of those times and dates are the responsibility of the individual and not the NVWG.
2. **Managing your Hotel Stay:** The team has selected terrific hotels that will support your accessibility and meal needs. The best strategy of success is do your homework and plan ahead. If you are unfamiliar with staying in hotels, once you get your reservation, reach out to KaitlynW@pva.org and get more info on your room and accessibility needs. Find out about the room's layout and bathroom. Set up a mock layout at your home and practice. In some hotel locations, we will have "**Personal Care Rooms**" for showering, which will require some pre-scheduling. Don't forget to pre-arrange durable medical equipment (DME) if needed. All Detroit hotels are central to restaurants. The best advice is to do your homework and plan ahead.
3. **NVWG Transportation:** Official NVWG Transportation will be available from Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport for arrivals **July 8, 2026** and departures **July 15, 2026**. Any arrival or departure locations or dates outside of those listed dates cannot be supported by the NVWG. Veteran travel details must be entered into the NVWG Registration no later than June 5, 2026 or we cannot guarantee transportation availability upon arrival.
 - > **Detroit NVWG Hotel Transportation:** NVWG Transportation will be available for airport arrivals/ departures and from the NVWG Hotels (Hollywood Casino Greektown, Hilton Garden Inn Downtown, Doubletree Suites and Motor City Casino Hotel) to the Huntington Place Convention Center. Designated shuttle times will be posted on the NVWG App.
4. **Airline Travel:** Remember to take any removeable or control systems off your wheelchair prior to getting on the plane. Take the equipment with you on the plane as a carry-on. Read up on the Air Carrier Access Act before traveling and know your rights by reviewing [DOT's Airline Passengers with Disabilities Bill of Rights](#). If you experience any damage to your wheelchair or equipment while the airline has it in their possession, take pictures, document it and file an incident report immediately with the airline. **DO NOT LEAVE THE AIRPORT UNTIL YOU DO THIS**. Below are a couple of great resources to review before you book your flight. Check them out: [PVA Disability Complaint Reminder Card](#) and [PVA Air Travel Tips Check List](#).



PLANNING FOR THE 45th NVWG

5. **Durable Medical Equipment (DME):** DME provided upon request by the NVWG will be limited to shower benches and commodes. A limited number of Hoyer Lifts will be available, Veterans must bring their own slings. The type of lift will be communicated, but if another or specific type of lift is needed, the Veteran or team will need to arrange that from a local DME company on their own. All NVWG DME requests must be pre-arranged via the NVWG Registration Link. Requesting NVWG DME on-site will not be available. Additional types of DME will need to be personally arranged through a local medical supply company.
6. **Meal Debit Cards:** A pre-loaded Visa Meal Debit Card (MDC) will be provided to support Veteran meals beginning with breakfast on July 10, 2026 through lunch on July 14, 2026. Funds can only be used for food and non-alcoholic beverages. A detailed explanation will be provided to each Veteran in the 2026 NVWG Confirmation Package. Veterans need to budget within that allotment and personally fund their meals outside the dates listed. Additionally, funds will not be available if spent early. MDC's are not provided to coaches or caregivers.
7. **Personal Supplies:** Make sure to bring at least three-day supply of medications and/or personal care supplies with you on the plane in case your luggage is delayed. the NVWG Medical Clinics will not have replacement supplies or medications available. There are local Detroit pharmacies available for you to use, if needed.
8. **Service Animals:** Only service dogs are permitted. Pets are not allowed. Individuals are responsible for the care and health of their service dog. **NOTE** - Owners of service dogs will be asked to remove the dog if they act inappropriately (i.e. excessive barking or showing aggression). Any fines incurred from Detroit's Huntington Place Convention Center or other NVWG venues related to possible service dog's bowel and/or bladder incidents will be the responsibility of the animal's owner.
9. **Personal Security:** Your safety is our first priority! NVWG leadership is in contact with Detroit Officials and no related concerns or threats are present to your safety or the event's success. Personal diligence is always stressed and we will publish recommendations as the event gets closer.

Detroit Weather

- The average temperature in Detroit for July is in the mid-80's and a bit muggy. Most events will be indoors so plan for chilly air conditioning. A sweatshirt in the Huntington Place Convention Center may be good to have. The NVWG Memorabilia Shop will be selling sweatshirts!
- NVWG will provide shade tents at transportation and other outside venues.
- As always, it is important to stay hydrated and bring sunscreen. If you have, or require, a cooling vest, please bring one. Fishing and Cycling are outside, plan accordingly.



PLANNING FOR THE 45th NVWG

Detroit Excursions

You are about to be amazed at the Detroit experience available to you! The Motor City has become one of America's most vibrant and exciting cities after years of reclamation and renovation. The hub of America's automobile industry is now shared by a food and culture scene that will not disappoint. Steps from the Huntington Place Convention Center is a downtown filled with opportunities to get out, explore, have some incredible food in Greek Town or listen to some Motown where it all began! An accessible monorail links the Convention Center to all points in the downtown. So be sure to plan ahead, and get ready for an adventure. Some links below will assist you with your planning. Remember not to be late for your events!

- Visit Detroit
<https://visitdetroit.com/detroit-experiences/>
- The Crazy Tourist – 25 Best Things to do in Detroit
<https://www.thecrazytourist.com/top-25-things-to-do-in-detroit-michigan/>
- Lonely Planet – The 20 Best Things to do in Detroit
<https://www.lonelyplanet.com/articles/top-things-to-do-in-detroit>
- Wheelchair Accessible Guide to Detroit
<https://visitdetroit.com/inside-the-d/wheelchair-accessible-itinerary-for-detroit-visitors/>
- Detroit, Michigan Wheelchair Travel Guide
<https://wheelchairtraveling.com/detroit-michigan-wheelchair-travel-guide/>
- Wheelchair Accessible Cab – Checker
<https://www.checkerdetroit.com/>
- Detroit Tigers Baseball – Looks like they are in town the first part of the week against Philadelphia
<https://www.mlb.com/tigers/schedule/2026-07?msocid=07e71c28ba7a6330199e0a49bb0a6249>
- Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation – Also, site of the NVWG Rally
<https://www.thehenryford.org/visit/henry-ford-museum/>





NEW FOR 2026!

1. **Event Registration Limit to (8) NVWG Medal Events.** For 2026, participating Veterans will only be able to register for (8) NVWG Events. Swimming stroke and distance races, Field Events, Powerlifting (Bench and Seated Deadlift) will only count as (1) event each. **The only 2026 NVWGatHOME Event is Trap Shooting and does not count towards the (8) Events.**
2. **The Rally** – This is the next generation of the The Motor Rally. We are eliminating the requirement of a “Powered Wheelchair.” All Veterans can register, but it counts towards one of your 8 events.
3. **Event Registration Caps** – **120** limit for Softball; **180** Limit for Cornhole; **96** for Basketball; **40** for Fishing; **100** for The Rally. **Team Events will have a mandatory Pre-Tournament meeting to finalize team assignments.** Missing the meeting could result in being disqualified for the event and your spot being given to another.
4. **2026 NVWG Titan Tournament** – These are ad hoc events Veterans can sign up in Detroit, outside their (8) events to compete in variations of NVWG events that promote more sport engagement beyond the NVWG.
5. **Swimming Distance Changes** - the new distances and strokes are:
Class IA/IB and IC Veterans
 - > 25yd - Backstroke, Breaststroke and Freestyle
 - > 50yd - Freestyle**Class II and III Veterans**
 - > 50yd - Backstroke, Breaststroke and Freestyle
- > 75yd - Individual Medley (order - Back, Breast, Free)
- > 100yd - Freestyle
- > 200yd Freestyle - CLASS III ONLY
- Class IV, V and VI Veterans**
 - > 50yd - Freestyle
 - > 75yd - Individual Medley (order - Back, Breast, Free. **No Butterfly**)
 - > 100yd - Backstroke, Breaststroke and Freestyle
 - > 200yd - Freestyle
6. **Pickleball - Beginner or Experienced Tournament** - New in 2026, Veteran teams will compete in either the Beginner or Experienced Tournament. Both team members must be signed up for Pickleball to compete. **In May**, a notice will go out to teams to select the appropriate tournament based on their experience.
7. The **NVWG Medical Clearance Form** has been updated. Be sure to use the one dated September 2025. It is available on the NVWG Website at www.wheelchairgames.org.
8. **2026 Novice Veterans** - A first-time Veteran at the NVWG in Minneapolis or new to the NVWG in Detroit may compete in the Novice category. Those Veterans can choose to bypass the Novice division and compete in Open or the corresponding age divisions (Master or Senior). **Only Veterans new to the NVWG in Detroit are eligible for the 2026 Veteran Canteen Service (VCS) Scholarship.**



NVWG VENUES

Huntington Place Convention Center

1 Washington Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48226

NVWG Operations and Events Hub:

- Opening and Closing Celebrations
- Air Rifle
- Archery
- Basketball
- Cornhole
- Esports
- Kids Day
- Power Soccer
- Softball
- WC Rugby
- Expo / NVWG Registration
- Air Pistol
- Adaptive Fitness
- Boccia
- Disc Golf
- Field Events
- Powerlifting
- Slalom
- Table Tennis

Belle Isle

99 Pleasure Dr, Detroit, MI 48207

- Fishing
- Cycling

Skore Lanes

22255 Ecorse Rd, Taylor, MI 48180

- Bowling

Grosse Pointe South HS Sch

11 Grosse Pointe Blvd, Grosse Point Farms, MI 48236

- Swimming

Henry Ford Museum

20900 Oakwood Blvd, Dearborn, MI 48124

- The Rally

Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW)

11050 W G Rogell Dr, Detroit, MI 48242

Hollywood Casino Greektown Hotel

1200 Saint Antoine St, Detroit, MI 48226

- Veteran Hotel

Motor City Casino Hotel

2901 Grand River Ave, Detroit, MI 48201

- Veteran Hotel

Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center

400 Renaissance Drive, Detroit, MI 48243

- Veteran Hotel

Hilton Garden Inn Downtown

351 Gratiot Ave, Detroit, MI 48226

- Veteran Hotel

DoubleTree Suites

525 W Lafayette Blvd, Detroit, MI 48226

- Veteran Hotel



NVWG REFERENCE GUIDE

For 2026, we have added additional rules and recommendations for each of the NVWG Events that are listed further in the NVWG Event Guide. Please note: **The National Veterans Wheelchair Games reserves the right to modify the event rules and/or conditions of play to best fit the program environment and logistics.**

The following National Governing Sport Organizations are dedicated to the development of the sport standards, rules, and furthering their respective sports, including the advancement of equipment and programs. If you are interested in getting involved in the sport at home or beyond, we encourage you to reach out and contact them. Do some research on their sites to see what is going on or ask if they have someone in your home area that could help get you started. The toughest part of anything new is the first step. GO FOR IT!

NVWG Event Resources

- 9-Ball: American Poolplayers Association – <https://poolplayers.com>
- Adaptive Fitness; Adaptive Training Academy – www.ata.fit
- Air Guns – USA Shooting – Para Rifle and Pistol Rules – <https://usashooting.org/resource-center/#world-shooting-para-sport-rules>
- Archery – USA Archery – <https://www.usarchery.org/>
- Basketball – National Wheelchair Basketball Association – <https://www.nwba.org/>
- Fishing – PVA National Bass Tournament Series – JenniferP@pva.org
- Boccia – USA Boccia – www.usaboccia.org
- World Boccia – <https://www.worldboccia.com/>
- Bowling – American Wheelchair Bowling Association – <https://awba.org/>
- Cornhole – American Cornhole Association – <https://www.playcornhole.org/>
- Cycling – PVA Sports Cycling Program – peterp@pva.org
- Disc Golf – Professional Disc Golf Association – <https://www.pdga.com/>
- Field Events – USA Para Track & Field – <https://www.usparatf.org/>
- The Rally – National Veterans Wheelchair Games – david.tostenrude@va.gov
- Pickleball – United States Wheelchair Pickleball Association – <https://www.uswpa.org/>
- Powerlifting – U.S. Paralympic Powerlifting – <https://www.usparapowerlifting.org/>
- Power Soccer – US Power Soccer Association – <https://www.powersoccerusa.org/>
- Slalom – National Veterans Wheelchair Games – david.tostenrude@va.gov
- Swimming – US Paralympics Swimming – <https://www.usparaswimming.org/> and US Masters Swimming – <https://www.usms.org>
- Table Tennis – USA Table Tennis – <https://www.usatt.org/usatt-para>
- Trap Shootin – PVA Sports Shooting – Jenniferp@pva.org
- WC Rugby – United States Wheelchair Rugby Association – <https://www.uswra.org/>



NVWG REFERENCE GUIDE

Critical Reminders:

All the NVWG Events require some level of physical exertion (ranging from mild to substantial) to successfully compete. Every Veteran should consult with their VA physician and therapist before registering, set-up an appropriate training program and then start preparing and keep practicing. Failure to do so could place your health in jeopardy.

Also, be aware that in sport, there is always a risk. We will do all we can to prevent accidents. However, in Slalom, Basketball, WC Rugby, Softball, and all the other events there is a risk of falls and other incidents. **Competitors compete at their own risk and responsibility.** Practice and don't push yourself beyond the speed or situation you can control. This will minimize the risk to you and/or those around you.

In all events, we attempt to match the community or particular sport standards and rules, but the NVWG reserves the right to modify the rules to meet the needs of the program.

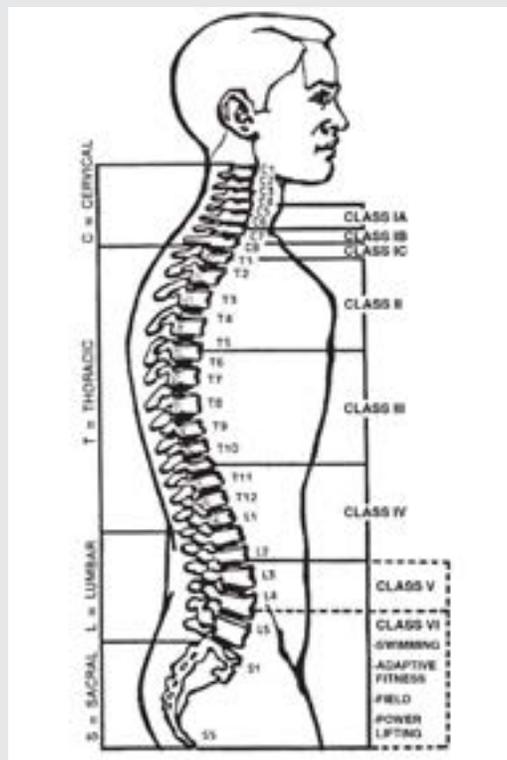
Classification:

For the NVWG, Veterans will compete by an assigned classification reflecting similar levels of function and by division reflecting age and experience. Classifications are assigned to each Veteran based on a combination of physical and sports evaluation. This is to ensure fair competition. First-time Veterans to the NVWG are placed in the Novice Division, whereas, all others are placed in Open, Master's or Senior Divisions for all events. For some events, we may combine classification groups in areas where

the differences between the combine classes are negligible for the event. (i.e., Class II-III combined for Disc Golf and Cycling).

Veteran athletes who require classification will be given a medical exam and classification to ensure fair competition among those with similar degrees of disability.

- Athletes with the most severe impairment to legs, trunk, and hands will be classified into three classes: IA, IB, or IC.
- Athletes with impairments to trunk and legs, and possibly arms will be classified into five classes: II, III, IV, V and VI for certain events.
- Amputees will be classified based on the level of amputation.
- Disabilities associated with stroke, multiple sclerosis or other conditions will be classified based on the level of impairment.
- Class VI is used for Swimming, Field Events, Power Lifting and Adaptive Fitness only.



A physician must complete the General Medical Clearance Form (VA Form 0925a, Sept 2025) for an athlete to be eligible to register and compete in the NVWG.

Any NVWG application submitted without the required forms will be returned and must be re-submitted by the registration deadline of **April 3, 2026.**

Classification will be completed at the Huntington Place Convention Center and will take place in Exhibit Hall A. **Early Classification will be available**



NVWG COMPETITION INFORMATION

Classification- (cont'd)

from 10am–6pm on July 8. On July 9, Classification will be from 7am–4pm at the Disabled Sports, Recreation & Fitness Expo. Veterans competing in Adaptive Fitness, 9-Ball, Cornhole or Boccia on July 9 are strongly recommended to attend Early Classification on July 8 or arrive at the 7a on July 9 to support their event assignments that day.

Athletes with a NVWG Classification that is permanent, may be required to participate in re-classification should they register for a new sport or if there is a change in their event or classification rules. Re-examination and re-classification may be required at the discretion of the NVWG Classification Team.

NVWG Competitive Divisions:

Veterans will be assigned the appropriate Competitive Division that reflects their age and experience with the NVWG. All competitors can bypass their age Division and select the Open Division, but must compete in the Open Division for all events that year.

NOVICE: A Veteran that is new to the NVWG. Veterans that their 1st year was at the previous year's NVWG may select a 2nd year as Novice if interested.

OPEN: This is for returning Veterans under the age of 45. Assumed to be a more competitive Division and can include older Veterans that want to take on all-comers.

MASTERS: Veterans who are ages 46-65.

SENIORS: Veterans who are ages 66 and above.

Competitive Division Notes:

The following are recommendations to assist the

Veterans to have a smoother experience at the NVWG. If you do not compete on a regular basis, get early, practice and find out how you can continue at home.

- The order of competition, where possible, are: Seniors, Masters, Open and Novice. This allows for Novices to observe, ask questions and more time to prepare for competition.
- Veteran athletes must choose either to compete in the manual or powerchair slalom events, not both.
- Read the Event Guide carefully for your events. There are a number of events where the Competition Divisions and even Classes are not separated out, combined, etc.

How To Have The BEST NVWG EXPERIENCE In Detroit.

- **Choose your events carefully.** There is an event cap of (8) medal events. Review the 2026 NVWG Schedule carefully to make sure your events do not conflict. If you are late getting to an event, you will be disqualified. We have done our best to balance the schedule and minimize obvious Class competition conflicts. However, there still may be very tight timing schedules where you could be impacted. We have added drop-in events (Bowling, Disc Golf, Field and Adaptive Sports) to give you additional flexibility to avoid conflicts with other fixed events.
- **Consider travel time when selecting events.** You need to **give yourself a good HOUR to get to/ from** Bowling, The Rally, Cycling and Swimming. Bowling and The Rally will shut down for new participants 45 minutes from the published end time. Cycling and Swimming require you to be at



How To Have The BEST NVWG EXPERIENCE In Detroit (Cont'd)

the start or present when called to the start line or be disqualified.

- **Prepare and practice before you get to Detroit!** Know your events and rules. Don't wait till you get to Detroit to learn about the events you sign up for. Work with your coaches and if you don't have a coach, contact david.tostenrude@va.gov or jenniferp@pva.org and we'll help you out.
- **Come early to events.** NVWG Lead Event Officials will always explain the rules or conditions of competition before the event starts. So, get to your event at least (1) hour in advance of the published start time to get settled in, practice and get your questions answered.
- **Events start on time.** Because of the number of NVWG Events requested by Veterans and the number of Veterans participating, ***adhering to the schedule is critical*** for your experience and others. If you are late for the published start time, it is likely you will be disqualified. We monitor bus delays and do the best we can to accommodate. However, if you are late getting on a bus, that is not an acceptable reason. Be early to get in line for the bus, there are other Veterans using the NVWG Transportation as well.
- Bring your own equipment. Veterans are responsible for bringing their own equipment for competitions where appropriate. The NVWG will provide Field Throwing Chairs, Bowling Ramps, Boccia Ramps and Power Soccer Buckets and Disc Golf discs. If Veterans bring their own equipment, the NVWG Event Lead Official may check out the Veteran's personal equipment to ensure that the event standards are upheld.
- **Equipment Advantages.** Some Veterans have invested in amazing equipment. If you are new, talk to your peers or NVWG staff to get info on equipment resources and possible VA Prosthetic benefits. Don't rush out and buy the first thing

you see. Obtain the best equipment that reflects your personal needs and goals in that particular sport. We do not adjust competitions based on Veterans equipment. 9/10 the end result is the result of the practice and work that the individual puts into training, not the result of the equipment.

- **Concerns during Competition.** During the competition, if there is a question or concern that competitors cannot work out, the Veteran is to address the issue immediately with an NVWG Official. The play will stop until a decision is made. If necessary, the NVWG Lead Event Official will determine if a final ruling is necessary. Then play will resume. Once the decision is made, the Veteran will have (5) minutes to return to competition. **There are no further protest procedures.**
 - > Coaching from the sidelines can result in the Veteran being disqualified.
 - > Video replay's provided by coach/family or others will not be allowed at any point.
- **Be respectful.** Everyone is expected to support an environment that is healthy and supportive. Conduct by anyone who is deemed abusive or has a negative impact on another Veteran's experience and/or anyone's safety will be addressed and may result in disqualification from the event or removal from the NVWG. This includes competitors, coaches and other bystanders.





EVENT RULES



2026 NVWG EVENT PATCHES



Exhibition Event

atHOME ONLY



EVENT RULES



9-Ball

The object of **9-Ball** is to pocket the balls in numerical order. All games will be subject to a

10-min. time limit. At the end of 10 minutes, if the game is not concluded, the Veteran who has legally hit the most balls in is declared the winner of that game. On each shot, the cue ball must first contact the lowest numbered ball on the table. The player who pockets the 9-ball on a legal shot wins.

Breaks: The first break is determined by flip of a coin. The winner of the flip is the first breaker and he/she must contact the (1) ball when breaking and either pocket a ball or drive at least four balls to the rail, without pocketing the cue ball to achieve a legal break. If the terms of a legal break are not met or the cue ball is pocketed, the incoming player has the cue ball in hand anywhere on the table. If the

breaker completes a legal break and makes a ball while breaking, he or she will shoot again at the lowest numbered ball on the table and continue to shoot until missing, fouling or winning the game.

Fouls: All fouls carry the ball in-hand penalty anywhere on the table. Fouls can only be called and must be called before another shot is executed. The following are considered fouls:

- Cue ball goes in the pocket or off the table.
- Any object ball jumped off the table.
- Primary contact with a ball other than the lowest numbered ball on the table.
- During a shot, if the object ball is not pocketed and no balls are driven to the rail after contact with object ball.
- Pushes or double hits with object ball and split hits (when you hit the object ball and another ball at the same time).



For 2026: Medals will be awarded to the top 3 places for Class, Division and Sex.



Adaptive Fitness

This is a CrossFit type or Functional Fitness type of event. Training is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED!**

Movement standards will be communicated leading up to the 2026 NVWG. The Workout of the Day (WOD) will not be provided prior to the event. The

competition will include (1) Workout of the Day (WOD). **The WOD can be attempted multiple times to help to improve the score.** This event is available to Class VI for Veterans with appropriate low level amputations and associated incomplete injuries.

For 2026: Medals will be by Class, Division and Sex.



Air Pistol

If you have competed in an **Air Pistol** shooting event and received a classification

card, please submit a copy of the card with your registration or bring it to the NVWG. The competition will involve 60-shots in 75-minutes. Preparation and sighting time is 15-minutes prior to the match, with unlimited sighting shots.



EVENT RULES

Competition Classes will be:

- **(P1)** Single Hand, no support.
- **(P2)** Two Hand and prone position allowed (resting elbows on table).

There will be an Air Guns Clinic, July 9, 10a in HPCC-Hall A. This will be an opportunity to get additional information on the NVWG Air Guns event, check equipment and practice, receive education to continue in shooting events beyond the NVWG.

Equipment: Shooters may bring their own equipment, but it must meet World Shooting Para Sport (WSPS) standards, <https://www.paralympic.org/shooting/rules> . All personal equipment will be checked. The NVWG Air Guns Lead Event Official has the authority to deny any equipment if it is determined a safety issue. The following standards must be met:

1. The air pistol must be 4.5mm (.177 caliber).
2. No air pistol producing muzzle velocities above 600 fps will be allowed.
3. No air pistol with repeating capability will be allowed.
4. Flathead pellets only (will be provided).
5. May only be loaded with (1) pellet per shot.

10m Air Pistol Grips: No part of the grip frame or accessories may touch any part of the wrist. The heel rest must extend at an angle 30 degrees to the grip. This applies to the heel rest and/or a downward curvature of the side opposite the thumb is prohibited. The grip must not encircle the hand. Curved surfaces on the grips or frame, including the heel and/or thumb rest, in the longitudinal direction of the pistol are permitted. All competitors must bring their own wheelchair. A shooter may use his/her own shooting table (according to WSPS), <https://www.paralympic.org/shooting/rules> but banquet-style tables will be provided, and shooters will share the table with another shooter. Important:

Shooters must check-in 1 hour prior to the event start time. The combined competition time and break between stages will be 2 hours. Veterans using NVWG equipment must provide a driver's license or government ID to procure equipment.

Penalty Rules - If at any time (practice or competition) a competitor misses the target: (1) after the first miss, an Official will check the equipment and watch that it is being used properly. (2) a second miss will result in a warning; (3) the athlete will be issued a 5 point penalty after the third miss of the target.

For 2026: Air Pistol medals will be awarded by Sex, Division, P1 and P2.



Air Rifle

The **Air Rifle** competition will consist of **SH1** (Veteran competitors who do not use a rifle spring

stand), **SH2** (Veteran competitors who need to use a rifle spring-stand) and **SH3** (Veteran competitors with visual impairments). The competition will involve 60-shots in 75-minutes. If you have competed in an air rifle shooting event and received a classification card, please bring it to the NVWG. To determine your classification, use the classification guidelines for Shooting Para Sport: www.paralympic.org/shooting/classification.





EVENT RULES

Prone: Both elbows (not upper arms) may rest on the table or board. The forearms in this position. Veterans are required to bring their wheelchairs or necessary equipment for all events. Additionally, feet must be off the floor and must not form an angle of less than 30 degrees from the horizontal, measured from the axis of the forearm. The chest and/or abdomen may rest on the table or board.

There will be an Air Guns Clinic, July 9 at 10a in HPCC-Hall A. This will be an opportunity to get additional information on the NVWG Air Guns event, check equipment and practice. Additional info will be available to support participation in shooting events beyond the NVWG. Novice Veterans are strongly encouraged to attend.

Equipment: Shooters may bring their own equipment, but it must meet World Shooting Para Sport (WSPS) standards, <https://www.paralympic.org/shooting/rules>. All personal equipment will be checked. The NVWG Air Guns Lead Event Official has the authority to deny any equipment if it is determined a safety issue. The following standards must be met:

1. The air rifle must be 4.5mm (.177 caliber).
2. No air rifle producing muzzle velocities above 600 fps will be allowed.
3. No air rifle with repeating capability will be allowed.
4. Flathead (wadcutter) pellets only (will be provided).

A shooter may use his/her own shooting table (according to WSPS standards <https://www.paralympic.org/shooting/rules, Para 3.8>), but banquet-style tables will be provided. Shooters will have to share the table with another athlete.

Important: Veterans using NVWG equipment must provide a driver's license or government ID.

Competition - Medals will be based on SH1, SH2,

SH3, Division and sex.

Penalty Rules - If at any time (practice or competition) a competitor misses the target: (1) after the first miss, an Official will check the equipment and watch that it is being used properly. (2) a second miss will result in a warning; (3) the athlete will be issued a 5 point penalty after the third miss of the target.

For 2026: Air Rifle medals will be awarded by Sex, Division, SH1, SH2 and SH3.



Archery

The distance will be 18 meters, except for Novice Veterans who will shoot at 10 meters. The competition will consist of 10 timed

rounds (2 minutes per round) with 3 arrows per round. Total possible score of 300 points. There will be 2 practice ends of 3 arrows prior to the scoring rounds. World Archery Rules will guide the round. All equipment is subject to inspection by the NVWG Archery Lead Event Official prior to the competition.



Any equipment found out of specification or unsafe will be excluded from the competition. No loaner equipment is available. There will be an Archery Clinic date, time + location TBD. This will be an



EVENT RULES

opportunity to get additional information on the NVWG Archery event, check equipment and practice. Novice Veterans are strongly encouraged to attend.

For **Recurve Bow**, the following **CANNOT** be used:

1. A release aid or any device that removes the fingers from the string.
2. Magnifier attached to the bow sight.
3. For Recurve and Compound: No Headsets or communication devices (cell phones; etc.)

Compound Bow Division: Peak draw weight is 60 pounds.

Important:

- Veterans can compete in both Recurve and Compound Bow Competitions. Will count as one Event towards their (8) Event Cap.
- Novice competitors only shoot at 10m range.
- DQ Rule - If at any time (practice or competition) a competitor misses the target:
 - > (1) If the miss causes damage to the facility, the competitor is immediately disqualified and is responsible for the damage.
 - > (2) If the miss doesn't cause damage, the first miss is a warning, and the second will result in the athlete being issued a 5 point penalty.

For 2026: Competition will be by Recurve, Compound Class, Division and Sex.



Basketball

Rules are determined by the National Wheelchair Basketball Association

(NWBA). The 24-second shot clock will be used. NWBA rules concerning points and play will be followed. There is no double dribbling; a player is

entitled to two pushes before he or she must pass, shoot or dribble again, or a traveling violation is committed. The wheelchair is considered part of the player's body in ruling fouls. All players must always remain firmly seated in the wheelchair, not using a functional leg or stump for a physical advantage over an opponent (e.g., rising out of the chair, using the heel of the foot to maneuver the chair).

A mandatory Basketball Tournament Meeting is schedule prior to the first game. This is critical for final team assignments to be given.

Any infraction constitutes a physical advantage foul (PAF), which is penalized like a noncontact technical foul. Three levels of player classification are used to achieve team balance: Class I, Class II, Class III. No more than three Class III players are allowed to play together at any time. Women players on a men's team may roster one class level below their actual medical classification level. The tournament will be a modified double elimination with a third and fourth place playoff and a first and second place playoff. All players on each team must be played for 10 minutes per game. Team size will be targeted to 12 players per team, if possible. Team meetings are mandatory and team assignments are final.





EVENT RULES

Equipment: Wheelchair footrests must have a roll bar or be padded to protect the floor. Rear push handles and push bars must be padded. All chairs must have a leg strap. The height of the seat rail must be no more than 21". Measurement must be made from the ground to the top of the seat rail bar (highest point) with the player in the chair. All chairs will be measured prior to each game.

For 2026: Medals will be provided to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams.



Boccia

Boccia will be played as individuals, one-on-one in bracket play. The object of the game is to throw

or roll game balls, so they land as close as possible to a target ball, called the Jack. The game begins with a player throwing the white target ball (Jack) onto the court, followed by the same player then throwing one of their colored balls. The opponent then throws, attempting to get closer to the Jack. This continues till the player lands a ball closer to the Jack than the opponent or until they run out of balls. Then the process is repeated by the opponent.

When all the game balls are thrown, a referee determines the points awarded to the individual. The closest player receives the number of points equal to the number of balls closer to the Jack than the opponent's closest ball.

- Players will have four minutes to throw all their balls in a single game.
- Ramp players will have six minutes to play all their balls.

Each game will have four "ends" or rounds with a fifth if a tiebreaker is required. The player with the most points will advance to the next round. If possible, depending on the size of the competition bracket, the tournament will be double elimination.



The NVWG Boccia Lead Event Official will make the tournament decision.

Ramps will be available for use to qualifying Veterans.

Veterans will be eligible to use their personal Boccia Balls if they meet the following criteria: All personal equipment including Boccia Ramps and Boccia Balls will be tested by the NVWG Boccia Lead Event Official prior to use. Any personal Boccia equipment deemed out of specifications will be disqualified from use.



EVENT RULES

The following equipment specifications must be met:

- The ball must be allowed to roll under its own weight down a 290 mm ramp consisting of a pair of aluminum bars centered 50 mm apart.
- The ramp will be set at 25 degrees to the horizontal. When the ball exits the ramp, it must travel at least 175 mm in a straight line along the exit plate. A ball will pass if it exits the device on at least one of three attempts by falling off the exit plate.
- The circumference of the ball should be 270 mm +/- 8 mm and will be tested using a BISFed STANDARD template (of thickness 7 – 7.5 mm) which contains two holes: one hole with a circumference of 262 mm and one with a circumference of 278 mm.
- The weight of the ball should be 275 g. +/- 12 g. Each ball will be tested using a scale accurate to within 0.01 g.

For 2026: The play will be by Class and Division, while Sex will be integrated and not broken out. Medals to the top three in each competition.



Bowling

American Wheelchair Bowling Association rules will be followed. Winners will be determined by counting the total pins attained

in three complete games. Averages and handicaps will not be considered. For veterans who are unable to roll a standard bowling ball down the lane due to either arm weakness or limitations in range of motion; a handle ball or stick would allow for some veterans to be able to roll the ball down the lane. For veterans with more severe limitations in arm function, a ramp would be appropriate **as determined by the NVWG Classifiers.**

Ramp bowlers are divided into two categories: **hand control** and **head/mouth control**. Please reach out if you have questions about being classified to use



a Bowling Ramp. **NVWG Classifiers will make final determination.**

Equipment: General bowling alley balls will be provided, and Veterans may use their own bowling balls. A limited amount of adaptive equipment will be available including handle balls and bowling sticks. If you require a bowling ball with special sized holes, please bring your own ball. Bowling ramps are available for those eligible to use in competition.

For 2026: *DROP-IN Event* - Competition will be by Class, Division and Sex.



Cornhole

Cornhole involves players or teams that take turn throwing a fabric bean bag at a raised, angled board with a hole in its far

end. The goal is to score points by either landing the bean bag on the board (1 point) or landing the bag through the hole (3 points). The player scoring the most points deducts the number of points of the other players' score for that round and the play continues. (**Example:** Player one gets 4 pts, Player 2 gets 1 point. Player one wins the round and receives 3 points.) The play goes to 21, exactly.



EVENT RULES



rough surface that aids in gripping the bean bag are permitted. **HOWEVER**, no additional substance can be applied that would leave a residue on the bean bag that would impact the slide of the bean bag or leave a residue that would impact other throwers. All gloves must be cleared by the Cornhole Lead Event Official.

For 2026: The Cornhole competition will be limited to 180 veterans. Top three team awarded Gold, Silver and Bronze.



Cycling

The **Cycling** Road Race is a timed event run on an asymmetrical course. It is designed to measure both speed and endurance. The

race will measure approximately 10K. The distance for IA competitors is 5K. This event will have a 75-minute time limit.

Participation in the Cycling event involves risks including potential collisions, loss of control, equipment malfunctioning, and falls. NVWG Officials, event staff and volunteers will be present to support a safe environment; however cannot eliminate all risks. By participating, you acknowledge these possibilities and understand that injuries may occur despite all reasonable safety precautions.



If a player goes over, they return to a score of 13 and the play continues. The boards are typically placed 27 feet apart, but has been modified to best meet the conditions of play for the NVWG.

For the NVWG, this will be a “double” team event with the top three teams awarded medals by place. The throwing distances for the competition will be **(Class IB/ IC – 12ft)**, **(Class II/III – 16ft)** and **(Class IV/V from 20ft)**. **NEW** – Veterans over age 75 throw: **Class IV/V – 16ft** and **Class II/III – 12ft**. Veterans must compete as a team and will throw at the appropriate distance corresponding to their individual Class. Veterans can select their own team as long as they are both signed up for Cornhole. Veterans without a partner will be paired up in Detroit. Bike and baseball gloves that have a



EVENT RULES

Equipment: No equipment is provided. Each competitor must bring his or her own cycle and helmet. Helmets are mandatory. Each competitor is responsible to ensure that their equipment is properly functioning. Once the start line is clear and the race has begun, there will be no late starts.

For 2026: Medals will be awarded by category (Foot Recumbent or Handcycle), combined class (II-III, IV-V, IC-IB, IA) Division and Sex. **No two wheeled bikes allowed.**



Disc Golf

Disc Golf will be Drop-In vs assigned times. Veterans will compete on a 6-9 hole course. Each Veteran will

begin throwing the disc from a "Tee Box" to a target basket. Distances and fairway shapes will vary per hole. Veterans and a "Group Marshal" will keep track of the number of throws it takes to get the disc in the hole to get a score. If there is a variation between the Veteran and the Group Marshal, the NVWG Event Lead Official will be called in to decide. The group will then continue. Combining the scores from each hole will determine the Veteran's event score.



Equipment - Disc sets will be provided. Veterans may use their own equipment after approval by the NVWG Disc Golf Lead Event Official.

For 2026 - DROP-IN Event. Medals will be provided

for top three in combined classes of II-III, IV-V, IC, IB and IA and Division.



ESPORTS

This is a form of sport competition using video games. **ESPORTS** often take the form of organized,

multiplayer video game competitions between players individually or on teams. **ESPORTS** considers the person's physical, cognitive and/or psychosocial limitation and modifies the experience to promote maximum participation.

For 2026: The Game will be announced April 2026. Medals to the top three places Gold, Silver and Bronze.



Field

Veterans will not be assigned specific times for competitions but rather will have to drop-in and fit in time for competition during the published Field Event

times. This will allow Veterans to have greater flexibility to manage events. For classes, IB-V, field events include the Javelin, Shotput and Discus. Class IA throws the Discus and Club. All throws are performed from a stationary, stabilized position. Throwing chairs will be provided.

Equipment: All equipment will be provided. **No personal Field Event throwing implements are allowed.** The official women's international **Javelin** is used (220 centimeters (7.625') and weighs 600 grams (1 lb., 5.25 oz.). The **Discus** weighs one kilogram (2 lb., 3 1/4 oz.). **Shot** - Class IB men and women use the two-kilo shot (4 lb., 6 oz.). Class IC men and IC-V women use the three-kilo shot (6 lb., 10 oz.) and class II-V men use the four kilo shot (8 lb., 13 oz.).

For 2026: DROP-IN Event. The competition will be Class; Division: Sex - Per implement (Shot, Discus, Javelin, IA-Club). Top three places will receive medals.



EVENT RULES



Fishing

Limited to 40 Athletes. 1-day tournament where the angler will fish from the bank and compete for

individual and team awards. There will be a ten fish limit (anything with a gill) with a minimum length limit of 4 inches. The team competition will have the same limits.

Each partner will weigh their heaviest fish up to 10 fish (anything with a gill). The angler may be assisted with casting and reeling should be based on tasks that they are not able to complete on their own. An angler may ask for a courtesy bump before fish are weighed without penalty. Weigh-ins will follow the rules and regulations of the PVA Bass Tournament Series, a tournament series sanctioned by B.A.S.S.

In case of uneven teams, anglers with the highest weight on the team will weigh in with both partners,

allowing them the opportunity to double place. There are no restrictions on length/type of poles, rods and reels if safety is not an issue. One rod and one reel with a maximum of 2 hooks or one artificial lure, factory built, with more than two hooks can be used. If a lure is deemed questionable, the bass official will decide if it can be used. Artificial and prepared bait can be used. Chumming is not allowed unless done by the bass lead official and for the benefit of all. A competitor must take lines out of the water and stop fishing. If away from his/her tackle 10 feet or more. Casting must be completed in a straight pattern.

All anglers and volunteers can cast 11:00, 12:00, 1:00. Weather conditions may affect the flow in various directions. If this occurs the bass lead official will adjust the locations of the anglers. **No electronic devices may be used.**

For 2026: Top three places are awarded for individual and team event medals. An award for biggest fish will also be presented.





EVENT RULES



Pickleball

Pickleball will be a team (doubles) event and Class II-V competition is limited to 75

players. Class IB-IC is also limited to 75 players. This will be subject to change after the number of Veterans registering for the event is determined.

Manual wheelchairs only, no scooters or power wheelchairs are allowed.



For Class II - V: There will be two divisions **Experienced** (playing pickleball for 2+years) and **Beginner** (less than 2 years). In May, Veterans will be contacted and assigned to the appropriate Division for competition.

Veterans can compete in pre-set pairs, but **both need to be registered for the Pickleball event**. We will pair up registered Veteran athletes who don't have a partner.

The tournament will be double elimination. Games will consist to a score of 11 with time limit of 10 min. per game. A mercy rule will be in effect for each game if 8-0 is reached. Dependent on the number of Veterans registered for the event, the game score to 11 and mercy rule may be subject to change.

Specific NVWG Pickleball Rules will be published on the NVWG Website: www.wheelchairgames.org.

For 2026: Medals will be awarded to the top three teams in each Division (Experienced and Beginner) and IB-IC.



PowerLifting

For Powerlifting, there are two competitions that Veterans can choose either or both

Seated Deadlift and Bench Press. Only counts as (1) Event.

SEATED DEADLIFT. Open to Veterans in the Class II, III, IV, V and new Class VI. All Veterans must demonstrate the appropriate movement standards at the mandatory Weightlifting Weigh-In on July 9 from 10a-2p in HPCC-Hall A. The competition will consist of three lifts and the final score is the amount of weight of their largest lift.





EVENT RULES

BENCH PRESS. Veterans will conduct three lifts. The final score is the amount of weight of their largest lift. The lift will be completed as defined by the IPC



Powerlifting Rules. Competitors will begin their lift at height and then lower the bar to the chest in a fully controlled manner without heaving or bouncing the bar while visibly stopping on the chest and then press it upwards again. There must be a visible break in the lowering motion and the raising movement when the bar touches the chest of the competitor. Once the competitors' arms are locked out and the bar is firmly under controlled, then the competitor can "rack" the bar. Assistance to rack the bar is permitted.

For 2026: Medals will be given by Bench, Deadlift, Bodyweight, Group or Class as appropriate, Division and Sex.

- **IA, IB and IC** Veterans will compete in Class, Division and Sex.
- **Group 1** will consist of Veteran athletes classified as Class II and III.
- **Group 2** will consist of Veteran athletes

classified as Class IV and V.

- **Group 3** will consist of Veteran athletes classified as Class VI.



Power Soccer

Power Soccer combines the skill of the athlete with the speed and power of

the chair to create an extremely challenging game similar to soccer and football. The game is played on a regulation size basketball court with two teams of four players who attack, defend and maneuver an oversized soccer ball in an attempt to score goals. The bottom of the ball can rise no more than 50 cm above the floor. The number of teams will be determined once the number of players registered for Power Soccer is identified.



A mandatory Power Soccer Tournament Meeting is schedule prior to the first game. This is critical for final team assignments to be given.

All competitors must bring their own motorized wheelchairs. No scooters allowed—only motorized four-wheeler chairs accepted. Wheelchair guards and game ball will be provided. Personal equipment will be allowed after inspection and approval



EVENT RULES

by the Power Soccer Lead Event Official. There is a maximum speed of 6.2 mph during play. All powerchairs will be tested over a 50 ft. course where they go faster than 5.5 seconds. Each athlete must ensure compliance with this aspect of the rule.

For 2026: Medals will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams.



The Rally

New for 2026 - all Veterans may register for **The Rally** regardless of type of wheelchair. The Rally will count

towards the 8-Event cap per Veteran. There is an event cap of 100 Veterans.

This is not a timed event. At the starting point, the participant receives instructions, answer/score sheet and a volunteer escort. No personal escorts allowed. The instructions and map will guide participants throughout the course. The course will contain a total of 10 checkpoints. During The Rally, 10 questions will be asked. Some of these questions will be trivia and others will be observation questions. Questions must be answered and recorded at the checkpoint. There will be an adequate time limit. Participants must complete all checkpoints. No electronic devices such as phones or media tools are allowed. Each participant will receive 1 point for each correct answer and a maximum of 10 points. Ties will be broken by a tiebreaker question at the tie breaker stop.

For 2026: Medals will be awarded by Class, Division and Sex.



Slalom

Slalom competition is a test of agility, strength, skill and speed. The event is held on an exhibition

hall floor or other smooth surface and is defined by cones around which the athlete must maneuver the wheelchair both forward and backward. In addition,

obstacles of different sizes are added and may include ramps, platforms, slopes, hurdles, textured surfaces, etc. Missing any of the gate's results in disqualifications. Each cone struck or assistance given to prevent falls will result in a time penalty.

Participation in the Slalom event involved inherent



risks, including the possibility of falls. Trained spotters will provide support throughout the course; however their presence cannot eliminate all risk. While every reasonable precaution will be taken to enhance safety and prevent falls, we cannot guarantee that falls or injuries will not occur. **By participating, you acknowledge and accept responsibilities these possibilities and understand that injuries may occur despite all reasonable safety precautions.**

Motor Slalom: Veterans in power wheelchairs will be divided into three categories: **hand**, **head** (chin) and **mouth** controls. Scooters and motor/power assist wheelchairs are **not approved**.

For 2026: Medals will be awarded by Class, Division and Sex.



EVENT RULES



Softball

Softball is played on a hard surface. Teams are made by a draw system to choose players in each classification to form

teams. Team size will be limited to 15 players on 8 teams. All team members must bat and remain in the batting rotation for the entire game. All team members must also take the field for a minimum of one inning. Batters come to bat with a one-ball, one-strike count. Height of pitches: 6-10 ft. Run ahead rules: 12 after 4 innings/10 after 5 innings.

Softball Clinic: On July 8 at 5p in HPCC-Hall B, there will be a Softball Clinic. Coaches will provide instruction on pitching, infield and outfield play and hitting. Information will also be provided to get involved wheelchair softball beyond the NVWG and/or starting teams.



A mandatory Softball Tournament Meeting is scheduled and required for all players to complete Team Assignments. Competitors must show up for the mandatory Softball Tournament Meeting, if they don't, their absence may result in the Veteran forfeiting their spot in the tournament to the next Veteran on the stand-by list.

All competitors must bring their own wheelchairs. No scooters or motorized chairs will be allowed.

For 2026: Medals will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams.



Swimming

All **Swimming** events start in the water. No bodysuit, assisted devices or buoyant foot

protection are allowed. Socks and mesh water shoes are acceptable. Swimming will only count as one event. Veterans will be able to compete in multiple distances or strokes. Leg Bags must be covered in order to participate.

Swimming Distance Changes - the new distances and strokes are:

Class IA/IB and IC Veterans



- 25yd - Backstroke, Breaststroke and Freestyle
- 50yd - Freestyle

Class II and III Veterans

- 50yd - Backstroke, Breaststroke and Freestyle
- 75yd - Individual Medley (order - Back, Breast, Free)
- 100yd - Freestyle
- 200yd - Freestyle (**Class III ONLY**)

Class IV, V and VI Veterans

- 50yd - Freestyle
- 75yd - Individual Medley (order - Back, Breast, Free)
- 100yd - Backstroke, Breaststroke and Freestyle
- 200yd - Freestyle



EVENT RULES

For 2026: Medals will be awarded by Class / Distance / Stroke, Division and Sex.



Table Tennis

Class IA, IB and IC are permitted to secure the paddle to their hand by tape or a brace. All

competition is governed by the United States Table



Tennis Association rules, with modifications as necessary to accommodate wheelchair movement.

The tournament will include a single elimination system. Competition will be best three of five games. An 11-point scoring system will be used. There will be a 10 minute time limit for each game. No white shirts are allowed during the competition. Veterans are allowed to bring their own paddles and are subject to inspection and authorization by the event Table Tennis Lead Event Official.

For 2026: Medals will be awarded by Class, Division and Sex.



WC Rugby

Wheelchair Rugby is a unique, competitive sport for individuals with a disability that impacts four

(4) limbs. It is played on a basketball-sized court by four-member teams using a WC rugby ball. The objective is to carry the ball across the opponent's goal line. Shot clock will be enforced.

A mandatory WC Rugby Tournament Meeting is schedule prior to the first game. This is critical for final team assignments to be given.

Players are classified according to the Wheelchair Rugby Classification System (WSQRA), managed by World Wheelchair Rugby (WWR) Classification System as 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0 and 3.5. Men, age 45 and older, will have their classification reduced by 1/2 point. Women Classes are a 1/2 point less than their functional test. Each class has a point value and teams are balanced by limiting the number of points allowed on the court.

Teams will be limited to 10 players. Teams will be



determined after registration closes the number of competitors are determined. Athletes must have there own rugby chair to compete. It is mandatory



EVENT RULES

for novice athletes to attend the wheelchair rugby clinic. The team meeting is mandatory for all athletes.

For 2026: Medals will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams.

2026 NVWGatHOME EVENT - Does not count towards the 8-Event Cap rule.



Trap Shooting

Each shooter must shoot 50 targets for the base score. They then will

shoot another 50 score to determine tie breakers and place. Winning ties will be given duplicate awards. Competitors will be provided a scorecard which must be certified by a range official after completion of the competition.

Basic Amateur Trapshooting Association Rules will apply. All competitors must utilize a wheelchair for competition and both feet must be placed on the wheelchair footrests.

For 2026: Medals will be awarded by Sex, Division, Visual Impairment and combined classes of II-III; IV-V; IB-IC; IA.



NATIONAL VETERANS
**WHEELCHAIR
GAMES**

July 14-19, 2027 • Orlando, FL

CO-PRESENTED BY

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

