



NEWS RELEASE

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Success of Valor Games leads to additional 2013 competitions

Four regions to provide more opportunities for Veterans and service members with physical disabilities to participate in sports at the community level

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 30, 2013

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – Today, U.S. Paralympics, a division of the U.S. Olympic Committee, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, announced that due to the success of the 2011 and 2012 Valor Games Midwest, the competition for Veterans and service members with a physical disability has been expanded to three additional regions across the country.

The Valor Games were established in 2011 by World Sport Chicago in partnership with U.S. Paralympics and Veterans Affairs to provide an introductory sports competition for Veterans and service members with a physical disability and to promote sports at the community level.

Besides Valor Games Midwest in Chicago, additional sites include the Valor Games Southeast in Durham, N.C., Valor Games Southwest in San Antonio, Texas and the Valor Games Far West in the San Francisco Bay area, Calif. Funding for all four of the competitions is being provided by Veterans Affairs.

“We’re proud to expand this great event for veterans that World Sport Chicago has made so popular,” said Chris Nowak, director, VA Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events. “By offering the competition at targeted regions across the country, we’re not only making it easier for veterans to participate but also more cost-effective.”

“World Sport Chicago is thrilled to see the Valor Games movement expanding across the country,” said executive director Scott Myers. “Along with Veterans Affairs and U.S. Paralympics, we are committed to offering more adaptive sports opportunities for Veterans and feel the Valor Games events are a great jump start for these individuals to start living healthier, more active lifestyles in their own communities.”

Qualifying athletes include veterans or active duty service members from any era. Their physical disabilities may fall into the following categories:

- ✓ Amputation/Limb loss
- ✓ Post-traumatic Stress
- ✓ Spinal Cord Injuries
- ✓ Stroke
- ✓ Traumatic Brain Injuries
- ✓ Visual Disabilities
- ✓ Any disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

To learn more about the sports being offered in each region, the registration process and volunteer opportunities, please visit the websites below.

May 21-23, Durham, N.C. - www.valorgamesoutheast.com

June TBD, San Francisco Bay Area, Calif. - www.valorgamesfarwest.com

August 12-14, Chicago, Illinois - www.valorgamesmidwest.com

September 24-26, San Antonio, Texas - www.valorgamessouthwest.com

For more information about the 2013 Valor Games, please contact Beth Bourgeois, U.S. Paralympics, at 719-866-2039 or beth.bourgeois@usoc.org.