

2008 Games Sports Information

September, 2007

Conditions of Entry

The NKF U.S. Transplant Games is open to all recipients of life supporting allografts and hemopoetic cell transplants from other individuals or species which require or have required the use of immunosuppressive drug therapies. Competitors must have been most recently transplanted for at least nine months, with stable graft function, be **medically fit** and have trained at the events in which they have entered. If a potential competitor has been transplanted for at least 6 months and has permission from his own doctor, his entry may be considered by the US Transplant Games medical team and be allowed. All competitors must be medically approved by their physician in order to compete.

Before competing, each athlete must complete a waiver form with his sport registration, which states that the athlete has knowledge of the rules and of the difficulties of the event and of the medical requirements of the US Games. In addition, a medical certificate **must** be submitted at least one month but no more than four months before the start of the Games. The medical certificates will be reviewed by the US Games and, if deemed unsatisfactory, that competitor may be barred from competition. The medical certificate must be fully filled out and signed by the athlete's primary physician.

All registration materials must be reviewed by the team manager prior to submission.

Entry forms must include a signed declaration that each competitor is fit and has trained for the events entered.

International athletes are welcome to compete but will earn duplicate medals in an international division.

Age Groups

Athletes will compete by gender in the following age groups: 17 and under, 18-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, and 70 and over. In badminton, bowling, table tennis, and certain events in swimming and track and field only, there will be special competitions for athletes under 15 years of age (subcategories 2-5, 6-8, 9-11, 12-14, 15-17). Age on the day of the Opening Ceremony of the Games will apply.

Athletes 16 or 17 years of age are permitted to compete in adult age events, but must then compete only in individual adult events throughout the Games.

Volleyball, 3 on 3 basketball, the relay events in track and swimming, mixed doubles events, and the team event in the road race will be one open age category – i.e., no age classifications. All other events are to be age categorized. In doubles events that are age-categorized, if the members of a pair are in different age groups, the pair will be classified in the younger age group. **If one or both of the players is under 18, the pair will play in the adult category.**

Competitor numbers or identifications for each age group shall be identified by a distinct color so that competitors will be able to easily determine each other's age group during competition.

Medals

Medals are awarded to the top three competitors in each age group. A competitor must be deemed to have competed according to the rules of his sport in order to earn a medal.

In events which involved classification before competition (racquet sports, volleyball), duplicate bronze medals will be awarded to both losing semi-finalists, unless there is a means to clearly classify the competitors prior to the start of the elimination round(s) (for instance, the number of players in an age group is sufficiently small to conduct the competition by pools or round robin, or a seeding round is possible).

Entrants

There will be a separate heat or bracket for each age group if eight or more individuals compete. If there are fewer than eight individuals or in other cases, age groups may be combined in the interests of competition and meet management.

All events may have a maximum number of competitors. Entries will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. When the maximum number is reached, no additional entries will be allowed in that event.

Athletes will be allowed to enter a total of four events. The 5K Road Race, all team events (3 on 3 basketball, volleyball, team golf, road race team event), and the swimming and track relay events do not count toward the four (4) event limit.

Athletes may not enter events that take place at the same time and in different venues. Failure of an athlete to appear at any event when called will result in the athlete being scratched or eliminated from that competition. There will be no appeal of any disqualification for failure to appear.

For events with more than one competitor, e.g. doubles and relays, each team must consist of members from the same team only.

For events with doubles competition in both same and mixed gender categories (ex., tennis), competitors may enter either category, but not both.

Doubles partners must be finalized before the registration deadline. Competitors who have entered a doubles event and not supplied a partner will be dropped from the competition after the registration deadline. It is not permitted to change doubles partners after the entry deadline, except for medical necessity. In that case, the new partner must be from the same team and must not compete in more than four events as stated above.

Seeding

Seeding should be used in all events to ensure the fairest competition possible.

In all events, to insure the fairest competition possible, the entries should be formatted using standard procedures. The following factors should be considered (in this order):

1. Medalists from the previous U.S. Games;
2. Medalists from the previous World Games;
3. Other pertinent information.

Sports and Events

BADMINTON

- Rules: As a general guide, the International Badminton Federation rules are at <http://www.internationalbadminton.org/statues.asp>.
- Format: Competition in men's and women's singles. Elimination tournament, best of three games to 9 points.
- Equipment: Shuttlecocks will be provided. Rackets will not be provided; you must bring your own.

3 on 3 BASKETBALL

- Rules: These rules are based on the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations Rules with the following adaptations:
1. Teams will consist of a maximum of six players. Three players are required to start the game. A team may continue with two players, if no other eligible players are available.
 2. Each team should have two sets of uniform shirts available, one white and one dark. Each shirt shall have a legal number printed on the front and back, no smaller than 8 inches high. (Legal numbers are: 0-5, 10-15, 20-25, 30-35, 40-45 and 50-55).
 3. The team at the top of the bracket will be designated the home team.
 4. Games will be played half court.
 5. All games will be officiated by one or two officials.
 6. First possession will be determined by a coin flip before the game between two team representatives. The visitor shall make the call and have the choice.
 7. Games will consist of two 15 minute halves. The clock will continue to run except in the final two minutes of the second half. In the final two minutes of the second half the clock will be stopped in accordance with the rules of basketball. Half time will be 5 minutes in duration.
 8. The ball must be taken back past the 3-point line after each change of possession. (The ball must be in possession of a player who has attained status behind the 3-point arc).
 9. After each goal, the ball must be checked at the top of the key, and the ball must be thrown to another player to start play. The team that was on defense will be awarded the ball. (Not make it; take it).

10. 3 points are scored for a successful try from beyond the 3-point arc, 2 points for all other goals from the floor. 1 point is scored for a successful free throw.

11. After five team fouls, any foul in the act of shooting will be awarded two free throws. The ball will be alive if the second free throw is missed. If both free throws are made, the ball is awarded as if a team just scored during regular play.

12. A player, after committing five fouls, will be disqualified from the game.

13. Each team may call two timeouts per game. Timeouts are one minute in duration and the clock will be stopped during the timeout. The timer will sound the warning horn at the 45 second mark and play will resume at the one minute mark.

14. If the game is tied at the end of regulation play, a two minute overtime period will be played after a one minute intermission. A coin flip will determine first possession in the overtime period. This procedure will be repeated until a winner is determined.

Due to the limited number of possible entries, each team in the Games will be allowed one basketball team entry. Additional basketball entries will be based on overall team size.

Format: The final format for this competition will be determined later this year. All players must wear court shoes. Balls will be provided

BOWLING

Rules: As a general guide, the World Tenpin Bowling Association rules are at <http://www.wtba.ws/>. Events are men's and women's singles, and men's, women's doubles, and mixed doubles.

Format: There will be a three games series in both the singles and the doubles competition. The highest combined score in each competition is the winner.

Children 8 and under will use gutter pads.

CYCLING

Rules: As a general guide, International Cycling Union rules can be found at <http://www.uci.ch/english/about/rules.htm>.

Format: The first event is a 5 kilometer closed course time trial (1 kilometer for athletes 14 and under). The winner in each age group will be the individual with the lowest elapsed time.

The second event will be a 20 kilometer road race by age groups. Some age group races will be combined in the interest of competition. All competitors will be allowed 30

minutes to complete the course after the first competitor in the heat finishes; after 30 minutes, the race is over.

Equipment: Bicycles will not be available for rent; you must bring your own. Helmets must be worn. Bicycles must be in a safe and rideable condition. There will be a mandatory safety inspection for all competitors. Aerobars are not permitted in the time trial. Numbers shall be worn on the back and front.

GOLF

Rules: As a general guide, United States Golf Association rules can be found at: <http://www.usga.org/rules/index.html>. Events are men's and women's singles, and men's and women's doubles teams.

Format: In the individual event, golfers will compete in an 18-hole stroke-play individual tournament. Medals will be awarded in both low gross and low net divisions. Ties will be resolved by ranking the holes by difficulty and then comparing the scores one at a time until the tie is broken. Golfers cannot earn medals in both the gross and net divisions; should a golfer qualify for a medal in both the gross and the net division, he or she will be awarded the higher ranking medal (ex. gold, then silver, then bronze), and the other division's results will then be adjusted.

To compete in the net division, acceptable proof of handicap from at least the second half of the previous season must be submitted—there will be no exceptions. All handicaps will be verified. **The Games reserves the right to refuse any certification at its sole discretion.** A maximum index of 25.0 for both men and women will be applied. Handicaps will be adjusted to the slope of the course.

Due to the limited number of possible entries, each team in the Games will be allowed one golf team entry. Additional golf teams will be allotted based on overall team size. Should a team qualify for a medal in both the gross and the net division, the team will be awarded the higher ranking medal (ex. gold, then silver, then bronze), and the other division's results will then be adjusted.

Equipment: Players to provide own clubs; no rentals will be available.

The North Park course has a difficulty rating of 118, 71.1 for men; 116, 70.1 for women. The Deer Run course has a rating of 131, 71.0 for men.

RACQUETBALL

Rules: As a general guide, United States Racquetball rules can be found at <http://www.usra.org/>.

Format: Competition in men's and women's singles. All matches are best of three games, first two games to 15, third if necessary to 11.

Equipment: Players to provide own racquets. Eye protection and appropriate footwear are required.

5 K ROAD RACE

- Rules: The event will be staged over a road course. Events are men's and women's individual (by age group) and men's and women's team (not by age group).
- Format: The individual medalists will be the first three finishers in each age group. The team medalists will be determined by adding the finish times for the first three individuals of each gender from each team, with the lowest combined time the winner.

SWIMMING

- Rules: As a general guide, United States Masters Swimming rules can be found at <http://www.usms.org/rules>.
- Format: The following events will be held: freestyle (50, 100, 200, 400), breaststroke (50, 100) backstroke (50, 100), butterfly (50), 200 individual medley, 4x50 m freestyle relay, and the 4x50 m medley relay. All events will be timed finals. Relay entries will be accepted until one hour before the scheduled start of the event.

TABLE TENNIS

- Rules: As a general guide, USA Table Tennis Association rules can be found at <http://www.usatt.org/rules>.
- Format: Competition in men's and women's singles. First round(s) will be round robin pools, two out of three games to 11 points; top individuals advance to a single elimination tournament, best three out of five games to 11 points.
- Equipment: Competitors must provide own racket; rackets must have different-colored sides and no sandpaper rackets are permitted.

TENNIS

- Rules: As a general guide, United States Tennis Association rules can be found at <http://www.usta.com/rules/>.
- Format: Competition in men's and women's singles, men's and women's doubles, and mixed doubles. Eight-game pro-set matches. Ties at seven games will be resolved using a 12 point tie-breaker (must win by 2).
- Equipment: The Schenley Park surface is hard court. Players provide own rackets. Balls will be provided.

TRACK AND FIELD

Rules: As a general guide, USA Track and Field rules can be found at <http://www.usatf.org/about/rules>.

Format: Track Events: 100, 200, 400, 800, 1500, 5000 racewalk, 4x100 relay, 4x400 relay. All events except 100 are timed finals. In the 100, preliminary heats if necessary, eight fastest times to final. Spikes maximum 1/4 ".

When there are multiple heats in an event, the ranking of the athletes for medals or for advancement will be based solely on time.

Field Events: Shot put, discus, ball throw, long jump, high jump. Three attempts.

Shot put weights:

16 pounds (7.26 kg) men 18-39
12 pounds (5.4 kg) men 15-17 and 40-59
8.8 pounds (4 kg) all women and men 60 and over

Discus weights:

1.6 kilograms--men under 60
1 kilogram--women (all age groups) and men 60 and over

VOLLEYBALL

Rules: As a general guide, United States Volleyball Association rules can be found at <http://www.usavolleyball.org>. Teams will consist of six players, with at least one woman on the court at all times. Teams may choose to use a libero to replace a player in the back row. The libero is required to wear a different color shirt. Up to six substitutions are allowed per game, but none after a team has scored 20 points.

Comment [GG1]: Need to decide if we want to have rules allowing fewer than 6.

Format: All teams will check in at 8 a.m. the morning of the competition. After check-in, brackets will be drawn and play will commence no later than one hour after check-in. The first round will be played as a "round-robin" where each team in a group plays against each other team in the group. The top team(s) in each group will then progress to the bracketed playoff round. The first round will be games of two sets to 25; rally scoring, win by 2 or first team to 27. Ties between teams are broken by considering the scores of the sets. The team with the best ratio of points scored divided by points lost is the winner. The bracketed playoff round will be the best two of three games, games to 25 points, rally scoring, win by 2 or first team to 27. Third game, if needed, to 15 points.

Due to the limited number of possible entries, each team in the Games will be allowed one volleyball team entry. Additional volleyball entries will be based on overall team size.