



NATIONAL VETERANS GOLDEN AGE GAMES

Local Veterans compete in 25th National Veterans Golden Age Games

HONOLULU, May 20, 2011 – Over 260 golden age Veterans from California who served during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War will compete in the 25th National Veterans Golden Age Games in Honolulu, HI, May 26 - 31. The California contingent includes local Veterans James Adger, Billy Coleman, Thomas Fortini, Donald Pecsénye, and Mike Shaw who receive their health care at VA Palo Alto Health Care System.

The Games, which are co-sponsored by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Canteen Service (VCS) and Help Hospitalized Veterans (HHV), and will be hosted locally by the VA Pacific Island Healthcare System based in Honolulu, are the largest sports and recreation event for military Veterans age 55 and older in the world. Veteran athletes from across the United States, Puerto Rico and nearby Islands are registered to compete in this year's anniversary event.

Veterans will compete for gold, silver and bronze medals in 14 athletic events that include swimming, cycling, golf, shot-put, discus, 10-meter air rifle, table tennis, dominoes, shuffleboard, horseshoes, nine-ball, bowling, checkers and croquet. Each event has seven age categories for participation, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84 and 85 and up. Additionally, Veterans with visual impairments and those in wheelchairs will compete in unique categories based on their abilities. The events will be held at Fort DeRussy, Mamala Bay and Ke'alohe golf courses, Hawaii Convention Center, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and other sites throughout the city.

World War II and other Veteran athletes will also have opportunities to visit the Valor in the Pacific National Monument and attend the Memorial Day Ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific-Punchbowl.

The National Veterans Golden Age Games are hosted by VA medical facilities at different locations each year. This is the first time the annual event will be held in Honolulu.

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For more information on the 25th National Veterans Golden Age Games or to arrange media interviews contact Patricia Teran-Matthews at 808-433-0049 or patricia.teran-matthews@va.gov or Tonya Lobbestael at 843-709-3661 or tonya.lobbestael@va.gov.

Co-Sponsored by:



The Department of Veterans Affairs



Veterans Canteen Service



Help Hospitalized Veterans