



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **2021 National Senior Games Postponed to 2022** *New dates set for May 10-23, 2022*

The 2021 National Senior Games presented by Humana has been postponed to 2022.

Due to the disruptions caused by the pandemic, and out of an abundance of caution, the National Senior Games Association (NSGA) Board of Directors has voted to postpone The Games to late spring of 2022 in Greater Fort Lauderdale. In ongoing conversations with Broward County authorities, it was agreed best to not hold the National Senior Games in November 2021 as originally scheduled.

**The new dates are May 10-23, 2022.**

The NSGA Board also expanded the qualification rules for athletes to allow their state competitions in 2021 to also count towards qualifying for the rescheduled Games. Normally, qualifying takes place in even numbered years for the next National Senior Games, held in odd numbered years. [Click here for complete qualifying information and rules.](#)

“We are the largest qualified multisport championship competition in the world, so deciding to make changes with such a massive event was difficult,” NSGA CEO Marc T. Riker said. “However, in consultations with our host region and with our association members and athletes, it became clear that having several more months of economic recovery and time for the pandemic to subside made postponement the obvious decision for all.”

“We remain excited and ready to safely host the National Senior Games in Greater Fort Lauderdale and all around Broward County,” said Mike Sophia, Vice President of Sports for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau. “Our 23 miles of golden beaches, a wide variety of hotels and great restaurants, along with some great sports venues are awaiting the arrival of the athletes in 2022.”

In 2019, The National Senior Games held in Albuquerque set an all-time participation record with nearly 14,000 athletes competing in 20 sports over a two-week schedule, with an estimated \$35 million economic impact. Riker noted it is a monumental planning task to coordinate venues and dates under normal planning conditions, but he said the organization doesn’t have to start over, reporting that NSGA staff has made rapid progress to reconfirm venues and dates.

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NSGA Board Chair Jack Shinnock said the organization’s guiding principle is to act in the best interests of the athletes, Members, partners and staff. “By moving the dates back, COVID fears should be greatly reduced and more athletes will be comfortable with travel and participation,” he said. “Postponement also gives our host area more time to recover and return to normal life, and the market will be much more receptive and capable of supporting a major event. This will result in high quality Games hosted by a welcoming community.”

The National Senior Games Association (NSGA) is a nonprofit Multisport Council member of the United States Olympic Paralympic Committee that promotes health and wellness for adults 50 and over through education, fitness and sport. Since 1987, NSGA has governed the biennial National Senior Games, the largest multi-sport championship event in the world for seniors. The Association is comprised of 53 independent Member Games that conduct qualifying competition events. For more information, please visit [NSGA.com](https://www.nsga.com).

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Dear Athlete,

We hope that you are doing well and finding ways to stay healthy and strong. As we begin the New Year, we would like to share important new information about the National Senior Games being held in Greater Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Due to the disruptions caused by the pandemic, and out of an abundance of caution, NSGA has made the decision to postpone the National Senior Games to **May 10-23, 2022**. NSGA staff is working diligently with local organizers in Greater Fort Lauderdale to finalize venues, general competition schedules and housing options. For regular updates, subscribe to our monthly newsletter at [NSGA.com](https://www.nsga.com).

Adjustments to the qualification and registration process that NSGA adopted in response to the pandemic remain in place for The Games postponed to **May 10-23, 2022**. In addition, **NSGA has extended the qualifying period through December 31, 2021**. Athletes who meet the sport/event qualification standards at a qualifying state senior games in 2021 will qualify for the National Senior Games in May of 2022. [Click Here](#) for the qualification and registration adjustments.

Registration for the National Games is expected to open in late summer of 2021, with exact dates for each registration period to be announced on [NSGA.com](https://www.nsga.com) and in our monthly e-newsletter *The Long Run*. Qualified athletes will also receive qualification emails with registration details after information is fully confirmed.

- Qualified athletes will be eligible to register for their sport/event during the Priority Registration Period.
- Athletes age 50+ by December 31, **2021**, unable to qualify in 2020 or 2021 may register for sports/events during the Open Registration Period provided that the sport/event has not reached registration capacity.
- The number of registrants may be limited for certain sports/events and registration could reach capacity at any point during the Priority Registration Period or the Open Registration Period.

NSGA supports our Member Organizations (qualifying state senior games) in their decisions regarding conducting sports/events in 2021. COVID continues to impact each state differently so the ability to stage events this year may vary by state or region. The state qualifying senior games are independently managed and directly communicating with athletes about the status of their events in 2021. NSGA encourages you to directly contact the senior games office(s) in any location(s) where you plan to participate in 2021. A directory of the state qualifying senior games with contact information is available at [NSGA.com](https://www.nsga.com) under the STATE GAMES tab.

NSGA's guiding principle is to act in the best interests of our athletes, State Senior Games, partners and staff. By postponing the Games to 2022, our hope is that COVID fears will be greatly reduced and more athletes will be comfortable with travel, training and participation.

NSGA looks forward to staging high quality Games in sunny Greater Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Sincerely,

Marc T. Riker, CEO



## ADJUSTED QUALIFICATION, POSTPONEMENT & EXTENDED QUALIFICATION PERIOD (revised January 13, 2021)

**Adjustments** to the qualification process for the 2022 National Senior Games **have** been made in response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

### ADJUSTED QUALIFICATION

- If a state qualifying senior games **was ABLE** to conduct Games or specific sports/events in 2020, the qualification standards for the sports/events as specified in the 2022 NSGA Rulebook will determine qualifiers. In addition athletes **from** that state's senior games who qualified **for** the 2019 National Senior Games in Albuquerque, NM will also qualify in the respective sports/events for the National Senior Games in 2022 (i.e., qualifiers **from** 2018 respective sports/events from that state's senior games).
- If a state qualifying senior games **was UNABLE** to conduct Games or specific sports/events in 2020, athletes **from** that state's senior games who qualified **for** the 2017 National Senior Games in Birmingham, AL and/or 2019 National Senior Games in Albuquerque, NM will qualify in the respective sports/events for the 2022 National Senior Games (i.e., qualifiers **from** 2016 and/or 2018 respective sports/events from that state's senior games).

### CHANGE IN TEAM ROSTER ADDITIONS

- Due to the adjusted qualification process for 2022 the number of roster additions will be waived.

### CHANGE IN POWER WALK QUALIFICATION

- Power Walk will continue as an Open Sport for the 2022 National Senior Games presented by Humana. Qualification will not be required for Power Walk.

### ADJUSTED REGISTRATION

- For qualified athletes a Priority Registration Period will be offered which will be followed by an Open Registration Period.
- The Open Registration Period will accommodate athletes age 50+ as of December 31, 2021 unable to attend or qualify at a state senior games in 2020 or 2021.
- The number of registrants may be limited for certain sports/events and registration could reach capacity at any point during the Priority Registration Period or the Open Registration Period.

### January 13, 2021 Update

Further adjustments for the National Senior Games in Greater Fort Lauderdale, Florida have been made in response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

### POSTPONEMENT

- The National Senior Games in Greater Fort Lauderdale, Florida have been postponed to May 10-23, 2022.

### EXTENDED QUALIFYING PERIOD

- In addition to the adjustments above, the qualifying period for the National Senior Games in Greater Fort Lauderdale, Florida has been extended to December 31, 2021.
- Athletes who meet the sport/event qualification standards at a qualifying state senior games in 2021 will qualify for the National Senior Games in Greater Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

*NSGA reserves the right to make further adjustments to National Senior Games qualification and registration.*