

Desert Challenge Games

May 11-15, 2016



Information Packet

HOSTED BY:

Arizona Disabled Sports

City of Mesa Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities



Co-Event Directors:

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www.desertchallengegames.com

2016 Desert Challenge Games

- What:** Multi-day competition for athletes with physical disabilities. The track and field portion of the event will be part of the 2016 IPC Athletics Grand Prix. The aim of the Grand Prix is to provide high level international competition in track and field, while supporting local organizing committees and providing pillars of excellence to support development in areas such as classification, education, research and anti-doping.
<http://www.paralympic.org/athletics/grand-prix-2016>
- Events:** Air Rifle and Pistol
Archery
Field (Shot Put; Javelin; Discus; Club Throw; Long Jump; High Jump)
Track (Mondo surface with 9 lanes; Lynx Timing; 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 5000m)
Swimming (Short course pool-25 yards length; Colorado Timing System)
- Where:** Swimming Kino Aquatic Center – 848 N. Horne Road, Mesa, AZ 85203
Track & Field ASU Track and Field Venue - 400 S. Rural Road, Tempe, AZ 85281
Archery Papago Park Archery Range – 6201 E. Oak Street, Phoenix, AZ 85008
Air Rifle and Pistol Broadway Recreation Center – 59 E. Broadway Rd, Mesa, AZ 85210
- When:** Wednesday, May 11 to Sunday, May 15, 2016
- For Whom:** This event is open to U.S. and international male and female athletes with a physical impairment, visual impairment, or intellectual impairment ages six years through adulthood that are interested in competitive athletics. Disabilities may include but are not limited to:
- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Amputation | Muscular Dystrophy | Stroke |
| Cerebral Palsy | Osteogenesis Imperfecta | Traumatic Brain Injury |
| Dwarfism | Spina Bifida | Visual Impairment |
| Multiple Sclerosis | Spinal Cord Injury | Intellectual Impairment |
- Fee:** A registration fee for athletes includes unlimited number of events, commemorative event technical shirt and event awards. Guide runners must be included on the registration for the athlete but will not be required to pay the registration fee. The athlete registration fee will be based on the following schedule:
- \$60.00 on or before April 15, 2016 at 11:59pm PST
 - \$120.00 from April 16 at 12:00am PST to April 29, 2016 at 11:59pm PST
 - Registration will be closed on April 30, 2016 at 12:00am PST
- A registration fee for coaches includes entrance into the competition venue (\$2.00 spectator fee for track and field venue per session without credential), commemorative event technical shirt, invitation to the coach meetings, and printed and emailed copies of the track and field heat sheets. The coach registration feel will be based on the following schedule:
- \$30.00 on or before April 29, 2016 at 11:59pm PST
 - Registration will be closed on April 30, 2016 at 12:00am PST
- All registration fees must be paid online via credit/debit card or electronic check.

Age Divisions: Events will be heated based on classification and age division. The Desert Challenge Games will recognize the age divisions for athletes under the age of 14 in the competition year (6-13) and the age divisions of IPC Athletics for 14 years of age through adulthood for the track and field competition. Swimming and archery will follow the Adaptive Sports USA age divisions and rulebook.

Individuals ages 14+ with an IPC license will be heated together for track and field events. Non-IPC athletes will be heated together separately unless there are less than eight total athletes in one classification in which IPC and non-IPC athletes will be combined in the same heat or flight.

The following age groups are recognized by IPC Athletics:

- (a) Junior Males and Females: Any athlete of 18 or 19 years
- (b) Youth Boys and Girls: Any athlete of 16 or 17 years
- (c) Under 16 Boys and Girls: Any athlete of 14 or 15 years

An athlete must be 14 to compete in an open event.

Please Note: Competitive age for IPC Athletics is determined by the athlete's age by December 31st in the competition year (athlete age in 2016).

Adaptive Sports USA Age Divisions are as follows:

Futures	Through age 6	U18	(16, 17)
U11	(7,8,9,10)	U20	(18, 19)
U14	(11,12,13)	U23	(20, 21, 22)
U16	(14,15)		

Please Note: Competitive age for Adaptive Sports USA is determined by the athlete's age in the competition year (athlete age in 2016).

Awards: All awards will be separated based on classification, age and gender. Awards will be given to all top three finishers in each event. The awards will be distributed approximately 30 minutes following the final events from a designated tent in the venue. Athletes are responsible to pick up their medals after their event from the designated tent.

Classification: Each athlete will be classified according to his or her functional ability, allowing him or her to compete against athletes with similar abilities. Each athlete who submits an entry to compete at the event must provide proof of permanent IPC (International) or National classification. Athletes who do not have an international or national classification issued by their country of residence must complete a request and participate in the classification process offered at this event.

The Desert Challenge Games will offer **National Classification** for athletes with a physical impairment on Thursday, May 12 between 8:00am-5:00pm. Athletes in need of a swim classification will be assigned an appointment time and must check-in on Thursday between 8:00am-12:00pm at the Ability 360 Sports and Fitness Center. Athletes in need of a national classification for archery, track or field will be assigned an appointment time and must check-in on Thursday between 8:00am-5:00pm at the Ability 360 Sports and Fitness Center. *Please*

note: If you are unsure of the type of appointment to request (National or International), please contact the host organization at 480.835.6273 or email Tiffany@arizonadisabledsports.com.

National Classification Masterlist:

<http://www.teamusa.org/US-Paralympics/Sports/Track-and-Field/Classification>

International Classification Masterlist:

<http://www.paralympic.org/athletics/classification/master-list>

Athletes with a visual impairment that would like to receive a National Classification must contact Sherrice Fox at Sherrice.fox@usoc.org. The paperwork required for this classification must be completed 4 weeks prior to the competition (April 8, 2016).

Athletes with an intellectual impairment that will require a National Classification must contact Barry Holman at barry@athleteswithoutlimits.org. The paperwork required for this classification must be completed 4 weeks prior to the competition (April 8, 2016).

The Desert Challenge Games will also offer **International Classification** for track and field athletes ages 14 through adulthood on Wednesday, May 11 and Thursday, May 12. The Physical Impairment (PI) classification appointments will take place on Wednesday and Thursday between 9:00am-6:00pm at the Ability 360 Sports and Fitness Center (and high school for technical assessments). The Visual Impairment (VI) classification appointments will take place on Wednesday from 9:00am-5:00pm at a local eye care center in Tempe. The Intellectual Impairment (II) classification appointments will take place on Wednesday from 9:00am-5:00pm at the Ability 360 Sports and Fitness Center. Athletes must check-in 15 minutes prior to the assigned international classification appointment time.

Please note: Track and Field athletes ages 14 and older who hold a current IPC Athletics License and have a New (N) or Review (R) international classification status will be assigned an international classification appointment. Failure to show up for the international classification appointment will result in removal from the competition.

Athletes with a New (N) or Review (R) international classification status should plan now to be in the Phoenix area and available for their international classification appointment as early as 8:00am on May 11. Athletes who are assigned a classification appointment must also compete in the competition (competition is part of the classification process). Athletes are asked to indicate a preference of date on the online registration form. The preference is not a guarantee that the athlete will receive that date but all preferences will be considered.

Requests for an international classification appointment through the on-line entry system AND the required forms must be received by Friday, April 8 at 11:59pm PST (four weeks prior to the event). Notification of appointment date and time will be sent by email and posted to the event web site approximately one week prior to appointment dates.

VI, II, and PI Medical Forms are available at:
<http://desertchallengegames.com/Classification.html> or
<http://www.paralympic.org/athletics/classification/rules-and-regulations>.

USA Athletes:
<http://www.teamusa.org/US-Paralympics/Sports/Track-and-Field/Classification>

Coaches: The event website at www.desertchallengegames.com offers the option to register the entire team. The team's information can be picked up by one representative at Check-in on Thursday.

Communication: Event Director can be reached by telephone or email.

Tiffany Wilkinson

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480.835.6273 office, 480.414.0535 cell
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Information also available at the event web site: www.DesertChallengeGames.com.

Disabled Sports Organizations, Licensing and Membership Info:

Juniors must be a member of Adaptive Sports USA to participate in National Junior Disability Championships (NJDC) which will also be hosted in Greater Madison, Wisconsin from July 16-23, 2016. Athletes do not need to be registered with Adaptive Sports USA to attend the adult nationals.

Adaptive Sports USA <http://www.adaptivesportsusa.org/Events/JuniorNationals>

Athletes must have a 2016 IPC License in order for their results to count for the IPC World Rankings, IPC Grand Prix final qualification IPC World and Region Records, Games qualifications, and U.S. Paralympic Track and Field National Team status. *Please note:* As part of the IPC Athletics Grand Prix, all athletes ages 14 and older competing in track or field must have a current IPC license.

USA Contact: <http://www.teamusa.org/US-Paralympics/Sports/Track-and-Field/IPC-Licensing>

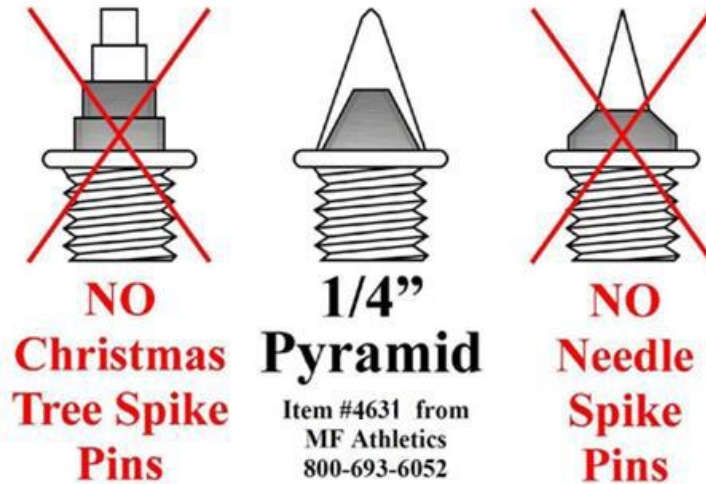
NPC Contacts: <http://www.paralympic.org/america>

International teams must contact their National Paralympic Committee (NPC) representative for licensure information in their country.

Drug Testing: Drug Testing will be conducted by and will follow all US Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) policies and procedures. More information about banned substances and doping control can be found by visiting: www.usada.org. All athletes who compete in the track and field events of the 2016 Desert Challenge Games are subject to drug testing. If athletes are notified for drug testing they must bring an ID with them and are allowed and strongly encouraged to have one representative to accompany them through the drug testing process.

Equipment: The Desert Challenge Games committee will provide all sanctioned field implements, archery targets and starting blocks. Athletes in classifications (T32-24 and T51-54) must provide their own helmet for all track events. Implement weigh-in is scheduled for Thursday and Friday at

the track and field venue with specific times indicated for each class and implement. Guide runners must provide their own vests. Track spikes that are longer than a quarter inch are not allowed. Quarter inch pyramids or “Christmas trees” are not allowed. No “needles” of any kind are allowed on the track.



The host organization will provide a storage unit at the track and field venue for over-night storage of track racing wheelchairs and field throwing frames. The equipment storage will be available from the first practice time offered at 4:00pm on Thursday, May 12 through the end of competition at 10:00pm on Saturday, May 14. *Please note:* The classification appointments will require the athlete to bring their competition equipment and these appointments are not taking place at the competition venue. DO NOT check-in equipment until after the classification appointment is complete.

Lodging:

Lodging arrangements are the responsibility of each team or individual athlete. When making reservations, state that you are part of the “Desert Challenge Games” to receive the discounted rate available through **April 15, 2016**. The Host Hotel for the competition is the Hyatt Place Phoenix/Mesa.

Hyatt Place Phoenix/Mesa 1422 W. Bass Pro Drive, Mesa, AZ 85201

Discounted Room Rate: \$99-\$109 per night + tax Cut-off date April 15, 2016
 Contact reservations: 888.492.8847 or 480.969.8200
 Promo Code to Book Online: G-DSDC www.hyattplacephoenixmesa.com
 Complimentary hot breakfast Included with room reservation. The hotel is approximately 5 miles from the competition venues and is surrounded by numerous restaurant chains that are within walking/pushing distance.

Hampton Inn and Suites Tempe ASU 1415 N. Scottsdale Rd, Tempe, AZ 85281

Discounted Room Rate: \$99 per night + tax Cut-off date April 12, 2016
 Contact reservations: 480.941.3441
 The hotel is approximately 1 mile from the competition venues. The Hampton Inn does provide a complimentary shuttle to/from ASU venues but it is not wheelchair accessible.

**Mesa Convention and Visitors Bureau
 Tempe Tourism**

www.visitmesa.com
www.tempetourism.com

Meals: Snacks including power bars and fruit will be available throughout the event. Information on local restaurants is available at the Visit Mesa website at www.visitmesa.com or the Tempe Tourism website at www.tempetourism.com.

Medical: The host organization will have medical professionals available throughout the duration of the event. Each registrant is required to sign the medical/media waiver provided by the host organization and return to Tiffany@arizonadisabledsports.com or fax to 480.610.2257. The waiver can be printed from the event web site at <http://desertchallengegames.com/uploads/2015-2016AzDSWaiver.pdf>.

Registration: Registration is available on the event web site: www.desertchallengegames.com.

All **athletes, coaches and guide runners** are required to register for the Desert Challenge Games competition through the Simply Register online registration system using the link provided on the event web site – www.desertchallengegames.com under Registration. All registrants are required to pay with credit/debit card or ACH/Electronic Check. All payments must be made in full prior to arrival to the competition.

Guide runners are not required to pay a fee unless requesting the transportation shuttle. Registration includes access to training, the competition, event shirt and awards. Registered individuals are required to check-in at the Host Hotel on Thursday, May 12 between 9:00am-5:00pm to pick-up bib number, event shirt, and program.

Results: Once all results are reviewed and verified, they will be posted at the competition venue. Athlete's results for all events are posted at the competition venue and final results will be posted on the games website after the completion of the event.

Athletes must be members of Adaptive Sports USA in order for their results and records to be submitted to the sanctioning organization. If athletes are planning to qualify and attend the National Junior Disability Championships in July, it is recommended that the athlete submit the Adaptive Sports USA membership information prior to completing the registration for Desert Challenge Games. <http://www.adaptivesportsusa.org/Membership/Individual>

Athletes must have a 2016 IPC License in order for results to count for the IPC World Rankings, IPC World and Region Records, Games qualification and U.S. Paralympics Track and Field National Team status. Athletes are required to enter their 4-5 digit Participant ID (SDMS Number) in the on-line registration system. Information on how to obtain an IPC License can be found at: Track and Field- <http://www.teamusa.org/US-Paralympics/Sports/Track-and-Field/IPC-Licensing>.

A list of License numbers are included with the IPC Athletics Classification Masterlist: <http://www.paralympic.org/athletics/classification/master-list>.

Sanctioning: International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and Adaptive Sports USA will sanction the track and field events and the IPC and IAAF rules will govern the track and field competition. A copy of the rules is located at <http://www.paralympic.org/athletics/events/rules-and-regulations>. Adaptive Sports USA will sanction the archery and swimming events and the

Adaptive Sports USA rules will govern the competitions. A copy of the rules is located at <http://www.adaptivesportsusa.org/Sports/Athletics>.

The Games will be offering two All-Comers event – 20 M Toddler Run for ages 2-5 with physical or visual disabilities and 60 M for ambulatory junior runners only. Athletes entering the 60 M will be required to register online under Track Events. The toddler run is free for participants and will require a separate registration form submitted to Tiffany@arizonadisabledsports.com. The form can be found on the event web site at <http://desertchallengegames.com/Registration.html>. The times for these two events will not count for World Rankings and will not qualify individuals for National competitions. Athletes will be placed into heats with various classifications and ages for the All-Comers events.

*Athletes can qualify for competition in the National Junior Disability Championships, the National Veterans Wheelchair Games and various other events and meets by meeting the qualifying standards in their respective events.

Transportation: The event will provide a wheelchair accessible transportation shuttle for athletes and coaches that are staying at the recommended hotels (Hyatt Place Phoenix Mesa or Hampton Inn and Suites Tempe ASU). The shuttle will cost \$50.00 per traveler and will include transport from hotel to venues and hotel to classification appointments from Tuesday, May 10 and Sunday, May 15. The transportation shuttle will **not** include airport transport.

Athletes and coaches can submit the transportation request through the Simply Register online registration system or by using the fillable PDF form on the event web site: <http://desertchallengegames.com/eventdetails.html>.

The transportation request must be received by the early registration deadline of April 15, 2016 at 11:59pm PST. The transportation shuttle is only available for registered athletes, coaches and support staff. If you are traveling with family or friends, we would appreciate it if you rented a vehicle for the event.

Additional Info: **Arizona will be HOT in May!** The sun is strong and the daytime temperatures can range from the high 90's to the low 100's. Therefore, outdoor events have been scheduled for either early morning or evening. The Games Committee is committed to providing appropriate shade and water for all competitors. You will benefit from bringing the following items: a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen and a water bottle.

A **protest procedure** will be in effect for the Desert Challenge Games. The protest table will be at the Information Booth at the competition venues. A \$50 filing fee will be required when submitting the protest. This filing fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld or the fee will be forfeited if the protest is declined. The protest must be filed within 30 minutes after the time that the results are posted. The protest committee including co-Event Directors, head official and sanctioning delegate will make the decision and it will be announced at the conclusion of the competition.

A **Team Manager Manual** will be distributed with the complete rules of competition and schedule for the Desert Challenge Games. The manual will be available on the event web site and distributed by email to the head coach registered for each team.