



## Virginia Amateur Sports, INC

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[www.CommonwealthGames.org](http://www.CommonwealthGames.org)

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The 2021 Virginia Commonwealth Games at Liberty University Main Games Weekend is featuring more than 15 sports this weekend. Sports being held this weekend include Basketball, Archery, Track & Field, Softball, Baseball, and more.

Athlete & Team check in will begin at 8am on Friday at the LaHaye Student Center leading up to the Tailgate Party and Opening Ceremonies, the Tailgate party will be in the LU Indoor Football Practice Facility and surrounding fields - athletes will receive their complimentary food with their Games wristband, as well as some extra goodies. There will be lots of games, activities and so much more! This will take place from 5:30-7:45pm on Friday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Opening Ceremonies will begin at 8pm in Williams Stadium, it will be streamed live with ABC13 on Friday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8-8:30 with music, Miss VA – Tatum Sheppard and Olympic Gold Medalist – Francena McCorory. Lighting the cauldron and kicking off the Games will be some area first responders, we are excited to highlight. There will be a fireworks show at 8:30pm. Both events Friday evening are free to the public and open to the community.

Main Games weekend upholds a positive reputation with the community for bolstering tourism and serving as an economic engine to the host city each year. For 32 years the Virginia Commonwealth Games have provided excellent opportunities for thousands of Virginians to develop and foster new relationships, establish new goals and personal bests, while at the same time learning teamwork, sportsmanship, as well as individual team responsibilities.

“We’re proud to host athletes from around the state at the 2021 Virginia Commonwealth Games at Liberty University, where they can showcase their God-given talents in our state-of-the-art facilities that allow them to perform at their best. The Liberty family will be cheering them on as they strive to set personal goals and reach the podium in their chosen competitions.” - President Prevo, Liberty University

City of Lynchburg Mayor Mary Jane Dolan said “The Commonwealth Games bring thousands of athletes to the City and we are thrilled as both the number of participants and the impact that they have in Lynchburg continues to grow. While we know that travel and event participation looks different this year, we want you to feel confident while you are here. A healthy and safe travel experience is a shared responsibility with our citizens, eateries, lodging and visitors – we are all in this together!”

The Games are presented by Centra, ABC 13, Liberty University, and the City of Lynchburg.

[Click here for a list of Sports and locations](#)

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About Virginia Amateur Sports (VAS): The rights holder for the Virginia Commonwealth Games at Liberty University – this event is modeled after the Olympics, the Games welcomes athletes regardless of age or skill level. The Games embody the values of participation, sportsmanship and healthy living amongst residents of Virginia and surrounding eligible states. VAS has been organizing the event for 32 years and it is truly a grassroots effort that relies on the dedication of thousands of volunteers and support from local sponsors and organizations across the Commonwealth. VAS is a member of the National Congress of State Games.

About the National Congress of State Games: The National Congress of State Games (NCSG) is a membership organization comprised of 34 Summer State Games and 9 Winter State Games organizations and a member of the United States Olympic Committee's Multi Sports Organizational Council. The mission of the NCSG is to support State Games member organizations in the promotion of health, fitness and character building through Olympic – style competitions and physical activities.

For more information on the Games or to register, visit: [www.CommonwealthGames.org](http://www.CommonwealthGames.org).

*Member of the National Congress of State Games – learn more at [www.stategames.org](http://www.stategames.org)*