



## Virginia Amateur Sports, INC

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

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### 2019 State Games of America – A First for Virginia

The 2019 State Games of America (SGA) is featuring 42 sports this weekend for Main Games Weekend. Sports being held this weekend include Basketball, Archery, Track & Field, Softball, Karate, Youth Baseball, and more. There are over 10,000 athletes currently registered for SGA. These athletes are from 49 states, the District of Columbia, Canada, Spain, Mexico and the US Virgin Islands. There are over 2,000 room nights booked, in Lynchburg area hotels for the event, rooms are also booked in Roanoke and Christiansburg for sports occurring in those areas.

Partnerships with American FootGolf League, USA Yoga, USA Floorball and the Ultimate Ninja Athlete Association are helping to bring these new events to not only State Games of America but to Virginia. Due to these partnerships, for the first time ever, State Games of America will feature three (3) National Championships within the event.

Athlete & Team check in will begin at 8am on Friday at the LaHaye Student Center leading up to the Grand Home Furnishings Athlete Tailgate Party beginning at 4 pm in the Indoor Practice Facility - featuring food, prizes, games and more. Opening Ceremonies (tickets still available for purchase) will follow at 7pm at Williams Stadium, including the parade of athletes, fireworks, lighting the cauldron and more.

State Games of America is an Olympic-style event featuring competition between medal winners from other State Games events throughout the country and will be held in conjunction with/place of the Virginia Commonwealth Games at Liberty University for 2019. The State Games of America are held every two years, with the 2017 Games being held in Grand Rapids, MI. This is the first time Virginia will host the national festival, sports are already under way and some are getting ready to start. Like the Virginia Commonwealth Games, the 2019 State Games of America will also be a community effort. Virginia Amateur Sports, Liberty, and the City of Lynchburg will also be working with Lynchburg City Schools, Sweetbriar College, University of Lynchburg, local businesses, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

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 30 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 – this year as Virginia hosts State Games of America, those same opportunities are being provided to thousands of athletes from across the United States and from several countries!

Presented by Liberty University, Centra, ABC 13, Construction Management Associates, Ford, Kroger, and the City of Lynchburg.

[Click here for a list of Sports & times.](#)

For more information on the Games or to purchase Opening Ceremony tickets, visit: [www.StateGamesofAmerica.com](http://www.StateGamesofAmerica.com)

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

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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 30 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. As the host state for State Games of America, all Virginia residents are automatically eligible to participate.

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.

The NCSG is also the rights holder of the State Games of America, an Olympic-style event featuring competition between State Games medal winners (gold, silver, bronze) from across the nation.