

2008 Games Sports Information

June 2008

Conditions of Entry

The NKF U.S. Transplant Games is open to all recipients of life-supporting allografts and hemopoetic cell transplants from other individuals or species which require or have required the use of immunosuppressive drug therapies. Competitors must have been most recently transplanted for at least six months, with stable graft function, be **medically fit** and have trained at the events in which they have entered. All competitors must be medically approved by their physician to compete.

Before competing, each athlete must complete a general waiver with his or her registration, stating that the athlete is fit, has trained for the events entered, has knowledge of the rules, the difficulties of the event and the medical requirements of the Games. In addition, a medical certificate **must** be submitted at least one month but no more than four months before the start of the Games. Medical waivers will be reviewed and, if deemed unsatisfactory, that competitor may be restricted from competition. The medical waiver must be filled out entirely and signed by the athlete's primary physician. All medical waivers must be reviewed by the Team Manager prior to submission. International athletes are welcome to compete but will earn duplicate medals in an international division.

Age Groups

Athletes will compete by gender in the following age groups: 17 and under, 18–29, 30–39, 40–49, 50–59, 60–69, and 70 and over. In badminton, bowling, table tennis and certain events in swimming and track and field, there will be special competitions for athletes under 15 years of age (subcategories 2–5, 6–8, 9–11, 12–14, 15–17). Age on the day of the Opening Ceremony will apply.

Athletes age 16 or 17 are permitted to compete in adult events, but must then compete only in individual adult events throughout the Games.

Volleyball, 3-on-3 basketball, relay events in track and swimming, mixed doubles events, and the team event in the road race will be one open age category—i.e., no age classifications. All other events are age categorized. In doubles events that are age-categorized, if the members of a pair are in different age groups, the pair will be classified in the younger age group. **If one of the players is under 18, the pair will play in the adult category.**

Competitor numbers or identifications for each age group will be identified by a distinct color so that competitors will be able to easily determine each other's age group during competition.

Medals

Medals are awarded to the top three competitors in each age group. A competitor must be deemed to have competed according to the rules of his or her sport to earn a medal. In events which involve classification before competition (racket sports, volleyball), duplicate bronze medals will be awarded to both losing semifinalists, unless there is a means to clearly classify the competitors prior to the start of the elimination round(s) (for instance, the number of players in an age group is sufficiently small to conduct the competition by pools or round-robin, or a seeding round is possible).

Seeding

Seeding should be used in all events to ensure the fairest competition possible.

In all events, to ensure the fairest competition possible, the entries should be formatted using standard procedures. The following factors should be considered (in this order):

1. Medalists from the previous U.S. Games
2. Medalists from the previous World Games
3. Other pertinent information

Entries

There will be a separate heat or bracket for each age group if eight or more individuals compete. If there are fewer than eight individuals, age groups may be combined in the interests of competition and meet management.

All events may have a maximum number of competitors. Entries will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. When the maximum number is reached, no additional entries will be allowed. No sport entry changes will be made after the registration deadline, no exceptions.

Athletes will be allowed to enter a total of four events. The 5K Road Race and all team events (3- on-3 basketball, volleyball, team golf, road race team event, swimming and track relay events) do not count toward the four event limit.

Athletes may not enter events that take place at the same time in different venues. Failure of an athlete to appear at any event when called will result in the athlete being eliminated from that competition. There will be no appeal of any disqualification for failure to appear.

For events with more than one competitor, e.g., doubles and relays, each team must consist of members from the same team only.

For events with doubles competition in both same and mixed gender categories (ex., tennis), competitors may enter one category, but not both.

Doubles partners must be finalized before the registration deadline. Competitors who have entered a doubles event and not supplied a partner will be dropped from the competition after the registration deadline. It is not permitted to change doubles partners after the deadline, except for in the case of medical necessity. Then, the new partner must be from the same team and must not compete in more than four events as stated above.

BADMINTON

Rules: As a general guide, the International Badminton Federation rules can be found at www.internationalbadminton.org/statues.asp

Format: Competition in men's and women's singles. Elimination tournament, rally scoring to 21.

Equipment: Players must bring their own racket. Shuttlecocks will be provided.

3-on-3 BASKETBALL

Rules: These rules are based on the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations Rules with the following adaptations:

1. Teams will consist of a maximum of six players. Three players are required to start the game. A team may continue with two players, if no other eligible players are available.
2. Each team should have two sets of uniform shirts available, one white and one dark. Each shirt should have a legal number printed on the front and back, no smaller than eight inches high. (Legal numbers are: 0-5, 10-15, 20-25, 30-35, 40-45 and 50-55.)
3. The team at the top of the bracket will be designated the home team.
4. Games will be played half court.
5. All games will be officiated by one or two officials.
6. First possession will be determined by a coin flip before the game between two team representatives. The visitor shall make the call and have the choice.
7. Games will consist of two 15 minute halves. The clock will be on running time except for in the final two minutes of the second half. In the final two minutes of the second half, the clock will stop when play is disrupted by the official's whistle. Half-time will be five minutes in duration.
8. The ball must be taken behind the 3-point line after each change of possession. (The ball must be in possession of a player whose feet are behind the 3-point arc.)
9. After each made basket, the ball must be checked at the top of the key and thrown to another player to start play. The team that was on defense will be awarded the ball. (Not make it; take it.)
10. Three points are scored for a successful shot from beyond the 3-point arc, two points for all other goals from the floor. One point is scored for a successful free throw.
11. After five team fouls, any foul in the act of shooting will be awarded two free throws. The ball will be alive if the second free throw is missed. If both free throws are made, the ball is awarded as if a team scored during regular play.

12. A player, after committing five fouls, will be disqualified from the game.

13. Each team may call two timeouts per game. Timeouts are one minute in duration and the clock will be stopped. The timer will sound the warning horn at the 45 second mark and play will resume at the one minute mark.

14. If the game is tied at the end of regulation play, a two minute overtime period will be played after a one minute intermission. A coin flip will determine first possession in the overtime period. This procedure will be repeated until a winner is determined.

Due to the limited number of possible entries, each team in the Games will be allowed one basketball team entry. Additional basketball entries will be based on overall team size.

Format: Basketball includes four divisions: Open, Recreation, Co-ed and Youth.

Teams entered in the co-ed division require one woman on the court at all times. Teams in the youth division are for athletes 14-and-under.

All other teams will play in an opening first round with the usual seeding procedures (medalists from previous Games will be seeded). Teams winning in the first round will advance to the "Open" division and will play for the Open medals. Teams losing in the first round will advance to the "Recreation" division and will play for the Recreation medals. All teams will be guaranteed at least two games in this format.

All players must wear court shoes. Balls will be provided.

BOWLING

Rules: As a general guide, the World Tenpin Bowling Association rules can be found at www.wtba.ws

Format: Events are men's and women's singles, men's and women's doubles and mixed doubles. There will be a three game series in both the singles and the doubles competition. The highest combined score in each competition is the winner.

Children 8 and under will use gutter pads.

CYCLING

Rules: As a general guide, International Cycling Union rules can be found at www.uci.ch/english/about/rules.htm

Format: The first event is a five kilometer closed course time trial (one kilometer for athletes 14 and under). The winner in each age group will be the individual with the lowest elapsed time.

The second event will be a 20 kilometer road race by age groups. Some age group races will be combined in the interest of competition. All competitors will be

allowed 30 minutes to complete the course after the first competitor in the heat finishes; after 30 minutes, the race is over.

Equipment: Bicycles will not be available for rent; participants must bring their own bicycle. Helmets must be worn. Bicycles must be in a safe and rideable condition. There will be a mandatory safety inspection. Aerobars are not permitted in the road race. Numbers shall be worn on the back and front. Races will be timed using ChampionChip Pennsylvania.

GOLF

Rules: As a general guide, United States Golf Association rules can be found at www.usga.org/rules/index.html

Format: Events are men's and women's individual and men's and women's team. In the individual event, golfers will compete in an 18-hole stroke-play individual tournament. Medals will be awarded in both low gross and low net divisions. Ties will be resolved by ranking the holes by difficulty and then comparing the scores one at a time until the tie is broken. Golfers cannot earn medals in both the gross and net divisions; should a golfer qualify for a medal in both divisions, he or she will be awarded the higher ranking medal (ex. gold, then silver, then bronze), and the other division's results will be adjusted.

To compete in the net division, acceptable proof of handicap from at least the second half of the previous season must be submitted—there will be no exceptions. All handicaps will be verified. The Games reserves the right to refuse any certification at its sole discretion. A maximum index of 25.0 for both men and women will be applied. Handicaps will be adjusted to the slope of the course.

Due to the limited number of possible entries, each team in the Games will be allowed one golf team entry. Additional golf teams will be allotted based on overall team size. Should a team qualify for a medal in both the gross and the net division, the team will be awarded the higher ranking medal (ex. gold, then silver, then bronze), and the other division's results will then be adjusted.

The North Park course has a difficulty rating of 118, 71.1 for men; 116, 70.1 for women. All women and men under 30 and over 59 will compete at North Park. The Pittsburgh National course (formerly Deer Run) has a difficulty rating of 131, 71.0 for men. Men 30-59 (30-39, 40-49, 50-59) will compete at Pittsburgh National.

Equipment: Players must provide their own clubs; no rentals will be available.

RACQUETBALL

Rules: As a general guide, United States Racquetball rules can be found at www.usra.org.

Format: Competition in men's and women's singles. Final format will be determined based on the number of entries.

Equipment: Players must provide their own rackets. Eye protection and appropriate footwear are required.

5K ROAD RACE

Format: The event will be staged over a road course. Events are men's and women's individual (by age group) and men's and women's team (not by age group).

The individual medalists will be the first three finishers in each age group. The team medalists will be determined by adding the finish times for the first three individuals of each gender from each team, with the lowest combined time the winner. Race will be timed using ChampionChip Pennsylvania.

SWIMMING

Rules: As a general guide, United States Masters Swimming rules can be found at www.usms.org/rules

Format: Carnegie Mellon University will be using a 25-yard pool. The following events will be held: freestyle (50, 100, 200, 500); breaststroke (50, 100); backstroke (50,100); butterfly (50); 200 individual medley; 4x50 freestyle relay; and the 4x50 medley relay. All events will be timed finals. Relay entries will be accepted until one hour before the scheduled start of the event.

TABLE TENNIS

Rules: As a general guide, USA Table Tennis Association rules can be found at www.usatt.org/rules

Format: Competition in men's and women's singles. First round(s) will be round robins, two out of three games to 11 points; top individuals advance to a single elimination tournament, best three out of five games to 11 points.

Equipment: Players must provide their own racket; rackets must have different-colored sides. No sandpaper rackets are permitted.

TENNIS

Rules: As a general guide, United States Tennis Association rules can be found at www.usta.com/rules

Format: Competition in men's and women's singles, men's and women's doubles and mixed doubles. Eight-game pro-set matches. Ties at seven games will be resolved using a 12-point tie-breaker (must win by two points).

Equipment: The Schenley Park surface is hard court. Players must bring their own rackets. Balls will be provided.

TRIATHLON (Virtual)

Rules: This event will be contested by adding the individual times in the following three events: 5K Road Race, 500 Yard Freestyle Swim, and the 20K Cycling Event, with the lowest total elapsed time ranked first. This event counts as two of the maximum allowed four events.

Format: Competition in men's and women's singles only. To be eligible, an athlete must be deemed to have competed in each of the three events according to the rules of each event.

TRACK AND FIELD

Rules: As a general guide, USA Track and Field rules can be found at www.usatf.org/about/rules/2007

Format: Track Events: 100, 200, 400, 800, 1500, 1500 racewalk, 4x100 relay, 4x400 relay. All events except the 100 are timed finals. In the 100, preliminary heats if necessary, eight fastest times to final. Spikes maximum 1/4".

When there are multiple heats in an event, the ranking of the athletes for medals or for advancement will be based solely on time.

Field Events: Shot put, discus, ball throw, long jump and high jump. Three attempts.

Shot put weights:

- 16 pounds (7.26 kg) for men 18–39
- 12 pounds (5.4 kg) for men 15–17, 40–59
- 8.8 pounds (4 kg) for women (all age groups) and men 60 and over

Discus weights:

- 1.6 kilograms for men under 60
- 1 kilogram for women (all age groups) and men 60 and over

VOLLEYBALL

Rules: As a general guide, United States Volleyball Association rules can be found at www.usavolleyball.org

Format: Teams will consist of six players, with at least one woman on the court at the beginning of play. Teams may continue play in the event of injury. Teams may choose to use a libero to replace a player in the back row. The libero is required to wear a different color shirt. Up to six substitutions are allowed per game, but none after a team has scored 20 points.

All teams will check in at 8 am on competition day. After check-in, brackets will be drawn; play will commence no later than one hour after check-in. The first round will be played as a round-robin, where each team in a group plays against each other team in the group. The top team(s) in each group will then progress to the bracketed playoff round. The first round will be games of two sets to 25; rally scoring, win by two points or first team to 27. Ties between teams are broken by considering the scores of the sets. The team with the best ratio of points scored divided by points lost is the winner. The bracketed playoff round will be the best

two of three games, games to 25 points, rally scoring, win by two or first team to 27. Third game, if needed, to 15 points.

Due to the limited number of possible entries, each team in the Games will be allowed one volleyball team entry. Additional volleyball entries will be based on overall team size.