

## Virginia Amateur Sports, INC

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## The Games break record in 2022, Registration open for 2023

Virginia Amateur Sports, Liberty University and the City of Lynchburg see continued growth of Virginia Commonwealth Games

In 2022, Amateur athletes from across Virginia and neighboring states descended on the campus of Liberty University and the City of Lynchburg for the VA Commonwealth Games. The 2022 games set a record for economic impact. Over 9,100 athletes participated in over 30 sports, generating \$4.6 Million in economic impact to Virginia – more than \$3.5 Million in the Lynchburg area. In 2021, more than 9,400 athletes competed and the economic impact was \$3.9 Million statewide, and more than \$3 Million in the Lynchburg area.

Planning for the 2023 Games is already underway, with registration for some sports open now. We are excited to add a couple of new sports in 2023 and continue to expand on adaptive and inclusive sports, through a partnership with Special Olympics and neighboring groups, so athletes of all ability levels can compete in the Games. Main Games weekend will be July 21-23, 2023. Virginia residents of all ages are welcome to compete. Visit our website for full list of sports and to register.

Presented by Liberty University, Centra, ABC 13, and the City of Lynchburg.

For more information on the VA Commonwealth Games, visit: <u>www.CommonwealthGames.org</u> For images to download, visit: <u>www.CommonwealthGames.org/vasnews</u>

Member of the National Congress of State Games—learn more at www.stategames.org

About the Virginia Commonwealth Games at Liberty University: Modeled after the Olympics, the Virginia Commonwealth 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. The rights holder for the event is **Virginia Amateur Sports** (VAS). VAS has been organizing the event for 34 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. 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.