



Virginia Amateur Sports, INC

711 5th Street NE, Suite C
Roanoke, Virginia 24016

www.CommonwealthGames.org

#VAComGames

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Contact: Charity E. Waldron
Director of Operations & Media Relations
cwaldron@commonwealthgames.org
(434) 515-0549 - direct

VA Commonwealth Games Announces Plans

Virginia Amateur Sports (VAS) announced today some exciting news for the 2025 Virginia Commonwealth Games and beyond. We have held a few competitions already this year – Able 3 on 3 Wheelchair Basketball, Archery, part of Baseball, Croquet, 5K Run, part of Basketball Skills Challenge, Swimming, and Triathlon were all held in March, May, June, and early July. To date, over 2,500 athletes have competed in the Games in 2025.

There are 5 events kicking off this weekend – Able Baseball, Adult Softball (Peaksview Park), Pickleball (Virginia Beach), Racquetball (Liberty University), and All-Star Baseball (Liberty University). Again, this year, we will have Live Streaming of the All-Star Baseball Tournament medal games (provided by Liberty University). The link for viewing the All-Star Baseball Games, as well as the team rosters, are on our website.

Main Games weekend (July 16-20) will bring 12 sports to Lynchburg and the surrounding area and 1 virtual event – Shooting – for a total of 13 sports in 5 days. It is sure to be a great weekend of competition and performances, including over 110 basketball teams.

The Parade of Athletes will kick off at 5:30 pm, leading into Opening Ceremonies, which will feature the newly crowned Miss VA, the Lighting of the Cauldron, and the official kicking off of the Games. The OrthoVirginia Tailgate Party will begin at 6 pm following the conclusion of the Opening Ceremonies - athletes will receive their complimentary food with their Games wristband. There will be lots of games, activities, and so much more! All of the festivities will take place from 5:30-8 pm on Friday, July 18th, in the LU Indoor Football Practice Facility. Both events on Friday evening are free to the public and open to the community. There will be food available for the public and non-athletes to purchase, as well.

"Liberty University is honored to partner with Virginia Amateur Sports to host the 2025 Virginia Commonwealth Games. We have valued this partnership over the last several years, and it's a privilege to share our campus once again for this great event. As we welcome these talented athletes and their families to Liberty, we also encourage all of our guests to explore the beautiful city of Lynchburg." – Ian McCaw, Liberty University VP and Director of Athletics.

Main Games weekend upholds a positive reputation within the community for bolstering tourism and serving as an economic engine to the host city each year. For 36 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 and team responsibilities.

The Virginia Commonwealth Games has made it a mission to broaden its sports offering to include athletes who may have a physical and/or intellectual disability. It is important that all athletes feel included and are given the opportunity to not only win a medal but to have an unforgettable experience while participating in a sport they enjoy. In 2025, the Virginia Commonwealth Games - Able Games will be composed of 6 different events: baseball, bowling, fishing, soccer, wheelchair basketball, and track & field. The goal is to add more opportunities each year for these amazing athletes. We look forward to the future of the Able Games.

We are also excited to announce our new host community for the 2026-2028 VA Commonwealth Games – The Richmond Region. After numerous conversations and evaluations, the presentation featuring the Capital of the Commonwealth was the best fit for the future of the Games. We are grateful for the 10 years in Lynchburg and know the Games are as strong as they are due to the partnerships that led us to today.

"We're thrilled to welcome The Commonwealth Games to the Richmond region," said Jerrine Lee, Vice President of Sales at Richmond Region Tourism. "This hallmark event celebrates the power of sports and teamwork, values that are central to our local community. We cannot wait to cheer on the thousands of talented athletes as they compete at facilities and fields throughout the region."

"Chesterfield County is honored to carry the torch and host the Virginia Commonwealth Games after its proud legacy in Lynchburg. Thanks to strong regional partnerships and the investment we've made in top-tier sports facilities, we're ready to deliver an exceptional experience for athletes and their families. This is more than a new chapter—it's a showcase of how our region comes together to celebrate competition, community, and statewide pride." -J.C. Poma, Executive Director, Chesterfield Sports, Visitation & Entertainment

"We are proud to work alongside Virginia Amateur Sports and our local partners to bring The Commonwealth Games here," said Dennis Bickmeier, Executive Director of the Henrico Sports and Entertainment Authority. "This is a significant opportunity for Henrico and our region to showcase our incredible facilities and all our community has to offer. Athletes and fans can expect incredible experiences and energy throughout our community during the Games."

The Games are presented by Liberty University, City of Lynchburg, Virginia Amateur Sports, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

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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 36 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 30 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, including a digital press kit and images for download, visit: www.CommonwealthGames.org/vasnews

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