



Friday, October 3, 2008

CLOSING CEREMONIES TONIGHT!

THE FIRST-EVER NATIONAL VETERANS SUMMER SPORTS CLINIC ENDS TONIGHT. BUT IT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING...

All participants, staff and volunteers are encouraged to attend the awards reception this evening from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m., located in the pool area of the Marriott Hotel. A number of VIPs and special guests will be on hand to present all Summer Sports Clinic participants with a medal. Like Olympic athletes who received gold, silver and bronze medals in Beijing last month, participants will receive a medal that signifies their tremendous efforts this week in San Diego. Congratulations!

We will also announce this week's team champion.

Dinner follows the Awards Ceremony in the form of "the Taste of San Diego" at 6 p.m. in the Marriott Hotel's outdoor area. Closing Ceremonies finishes the evening's festivities at 7:30 p.m. in the Marriott Coronado Terrace, providing us all with the opportunity to reflect back on this exciting week during the event's closing video presentation.

You won't want to miss the fantastic evening that is being planned to honor you, our week's heroes, and celebrates the closing of the National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic pilot program. See you tonight by the pool and on the terrace! 🌊

Welcome Secretary Peake

The National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic is honored to have Secretary of Veterans Affairs, James B. Peake, M.D., in attendance this week. After his arrival on Wednesday, the Secretary attended several of the events and spent time talking with participants, as they shared their enthusiasm for this new event. "This new rehabilitative event is a therapeutic extension of the superior health care veterans receive in our medical centers each day," said Peake. "The Summer Sports Clinic will strengthen veterans battling back from injury, improving their mental and physical well-being."

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WEATHER

TODAY



High 68°

Partly Sunny

Low 63°

TOMORROW



High 64°

Mostly Sunny

Low 60°



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Presented by the
Department of Veterans Affairs

Welcome Secretary Peake *...continued from front page*

Peake assumed his position as Secretary of Veterans Affairs last December and is the principal advocate for veterans in the federal government. A St. Louis, Mo. native, Peake is a West Point Graduate and also served proudly in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division and was awarded the Silver Star, a Bronze Star with "V" device and the Purple Heart with oak leaf cluster. Later, he earned his medical degree at Cornell University and began his Army medical career as a general surgery resident at Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston in Texas. He retired from the Army in 2004, following service

as a cardiac surgeon and commander in several medical posts, culminating in his appointment as U.S. Army Surgeon General from 2000 to 2004. He also served as Commanding General of the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, the largest medical training facility in the world.

Secretary Peake will celebrate the success of the Summer Sports Clinic at the Closing Ceremonies tonight at the Marriott Coronado Terrace. We are honored he could be part of the inauguration of what is sure to be a great addition to VA's excellent rehabilitation events focused on helping our nation's veterans. 🌐



Secretary Peake will celebrate the success of the Summer Sports Clinic at the Closing Ceremonies tonight at the Marriott Coronado Terrace.

Thanks to Local Staff

Thank you to the local organizing committee from the VA San Diego Healthcare System for coordinating and hosting the first-ever 2008 National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic. And thank you to the many VA employees from across the country who shared their talents to make this event possible. Their hard work, enthusiasm, energy and dedication permeated the event and made for an event that will be remembered for years to come. We know that the Clinic is the culmination of a massive amount of work, and everything they did to make this event a success is greatly appreciated. Thank You!

The Local Organizing Committee is; Dan Jones, Marvin Rydberg, Cindy Butler, Lorelei Winn, Debra Dyer, Danielle Beck, Kelli Kaliszewski, Mel Molo, Dr. Kalli Hose, Laura Dolata, Kathy Ober, Lorelei Winn, Ellen Berman, Richard Rodriguez, Nonnie Artero, Linda DeKoster, Jesse Worthen, Cindy Gerlan, Joann Costanzo, Shane Coudding, Luis Torre, Deb Velez, Robert West, Donna Clar, Patsy Robles, Leila Rubio, Jerry Moreland and Joe Sturdivant.

From the Public Affairs Team

It has been our honor to share your inspirational stories with individuals across the nation this week. We invite you to check out the Web site at www.summersportclinic.va.gov, and be sure to share it with your friends and family.

We extend our sincerest thanks to all the staff and volunteers who have helped us throughout the week in tracking down participants for interviews and newsletter stories. You were wonderful! From the entire public affairs team, we thank you - the veterans - for allowing us to share your experiences and tell your wonderful stories this week. We leave the Clinic inspired by your courage and commitment and hope to see you next year! 🌐

Summer Sport Clinic 2009

As the Clinic draws to a close, we're looking back and seeing what worked, what didn't, and what can be improved upon to make an ever better Summer Sports Clinic for you. As such, the host site for the second Summer Sports Clinic is still to be determined as we take what we've learned and apply that knowledge for next year.

You can always check the the Clinic website at www.summersportsclinic.va.gov to get all the latest news and developments on the 2009 Clinic.

Wherever the Clinic ends up being next year, we look forward to seeing you there! 🌐

Snapped!



Schedule of Today's Events

Friday, October 3

| | | | | | |
|------|--|---|--|--|--|
| am | Breakfast Marriott Hotel Restaurants • 6:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | |
| 9 | | Team Titan Sailing San Diego Harbor 9 - 11:30 a.m. | Team Poseidon Kayaking Mission Bay Yacht Club 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Team Olympus Track & Field Chula Vista Olympic Training Center 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Team Neptune Surfing La Jolla Shores 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. |
| 10 | Team Nautilus Cycling Embarcadero 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. | | | | |
| 11 | | | | | |
| 12 | Lunch Served at all venues • Noon - 1 p.m. | | | | |
| 1 | Team Nautilus Sailing San Diego Harbor 1 - 4 p.m. | Team Titan Cycling Embarcadero • 1:30 - 3 p.m. | | | |
| 2 | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | |
| 5 | Awards Reception Marriott Hotel Pool Area • 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. | | | | |
| 6 | Taste of San Diego Marriott Hotel Outdoor Area • 6 - 7 p.m. | | | | |
| 7 | | | | | |
| 8 | Closing Ceremonies Marriott Coronado Terrace • 7:30 p.m. | | | | |
| 9 pm | | | | | |



Friday's Bus Schedule

Morning Sessions

Surfing, Team Neptune:

Load at 7 a.m., depart hotel at 7:30 a.m.

Kayaking, Team Poseidon:

Load at 8 a.m., depart hotel at 8:30 a.m.

Track & Field, Team Olympus:

Load at 7 a.m., depart hotel at 7:30 a.m.

Sailing, Team Titan:

Load sailboat at 9 a.m.

Cycling, Team Nautilus:

Load at 9 a.m., depart hotel at 9:30 a.m.

Afternoon Sessions

Surfing, Team Neptune:

Load at 3 p.m., depart venue at 3:30 p.m.

Kayaking, Team Poseidon:

Load at 3 p.m., depart venue at 3:30 p.m.

Track & Field, Team Olympus:

Load at 3 p.m., depart venue at 3:30 p.m.

Sailing, Team Nautilus:

Load sailboat at 1p.m., depart venue at 3:30 p.m.

Cycling, Team Titan:

Load at 1 p.m., depart hotel at 1:30 p.m.

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Prosthetics and Wheelchair Repair

Wheelchair technicians will be at the Track & Field and Cycling venues from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Wheelchair technician can be contacted at (619) 886-4940. The "on call" Prosthetist is at (619) 886-4187.

Medical Information

For life threatening emergencies call 911.

The medical room is located at **Marriott Hotel, Room 2000, 20th Floor in the North Tower.** A nurse or doctor is on duty from **7:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily.** If the nurse is not in the room, please call **(619) 886-4058.**

Get Your Photos!



Make sure to check the Clinic website, www.summersportsclinic.va.gov in a couple weeks to view many of the photos taken this week. Our professional photographers worked hard to try and capture each and every special moment. You can see the results of their efforts in a photo gallery to be posted soon to the site. The pictures will be available in high resolution format suitable for printing and framing! 📷