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REGISTRATION OPEN FOR THE 2007 BAY STATE SUMMER GAMES

Sign ups underway for the 26th year of the Summer Games

WOBURN, MA-The Massachusetts Amateur Sports Foundation (MASF) is pleased to announce that registration for the 2007 Bay State Summer Games is now open. The annual Olympic-style amateur sports festival features 25 individual, team, and festival sports. Opportunities to compete in the Games are available for a wide range of ages and athletic abilities. Competitions are offered in archery, badminton, baseball, basketball, baton twirling, diving, fencing, field hockey, gymnastics, ice hockey, judo, juniors' basketball, lacrosse, shooting, soccer, softball, swimming, synchronized swimming, table tennis, tennis, track and field, volleyball, wrestling, 6 v 6 field hockey, and 7v7 soccer.

Distinguishing characteristics of the Bay State Games include giving t-shirts to all participants, medals and award jackets to top finishers, hosting an Opening Ceremony for all athletes, affordable participation fees, and providing athletes in some sports with valuable exposure to college scouts. The Bay State Summer Games, which started as an event with 300 participants in 4 sports, has since grown to include almost 7,000 athletes in 25 sports. Age requirements for athletes differ by sport, as does divisions offered and registration deadlines.

The 2007 Bay State Summer Games are scheduled for July 9-22. The Metro Boston area is home to the first weekend of finals July 9-15, while Central MA hosts events from July 17-22. Regional qualifiers as well as tryouts for team sports will take place throughout June. Bay State Games events are held at quality venues including Bentley College, MIT, Mass Premier Courts, New England Sports Center, and UMass-Boston.

High school students who are in 11th grade during the 2006-07 academic year and tryout for the 2007 Summer Games are also eligible for the Verizon Future Leaders Scholarship Program. The Scholarship Program, which awards six \$2,000 College scholarships to Bay State Games participants each summer, aims to identify young men and women who will be tomorrow's leaders.

Registration forms and sport specific information can be found in Hot Shots, a publication of the Boston Herald distributed to high schools, with your local high school athletic director, or at the Bay State Games' website. For updated information about tryout dates, sport specific information, scholarship forms, volunteer information, and registration deadlines, please visit the Games' website at www.baystategames.org/summer or call the Bay State Games' office (781) 932-6555.

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