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**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR THE 2010 BAY STATE SUMMER GAMES**

*Three new sports – bowling, flag football and weightlifting - added to lineup*

WOBURN, MA - The Massachusetts Amateur Sports Foundation is pleased to announce that registration for the 2010 Bay State Summer Games is now open. The annual Olympic-style amateur sports festival has added bowling, flag football and weightlifting to the docket this year and now features 29 sports for athletes of all ages and ability levels.

“We’re always looking for opportunities to expand the scope of our athletic programming so that Massachusetts citizens have every opportunity to take part in the Bay State Games,” explained Kevin Cummings, executive director of the Games. “These new sports are well represented in Massachusetts and have a successful track record in other state games across the country, as well. Organizers have shown a great amount of ambition and excitement in bringing these sports to the Summer Games, and we are very much looking forward to this year’s events.”

The 2010 Bay State Summer Games are scheduled for July 5-18. Regional qualifiers and tryouts will be held throughout June. Competitions will be held at top notch sporting venues including Bentley University, Harvard University, Emmanuel College, Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center, University of Massachusetts Boston, University of Massachusetts Lowell and the New England Sports Center.

Competitions are offered in archery, badminton, baseball, basketball, baton twirling, bowling, diving, fencing, field hockey, flag football, ice hockey, judo, juniors basketball, lacrosse, pistol shooting, rifle shooting, soccer, softball, swimming, synchronized swimming, table tennis, tennis, track and field, trap shooting, volleyball, weightlifting, wrestling, 6vs6 field hockey and 7vs7 soccer. Masters divisions are offered in several sports including track and field and swimming.

The Massachusetts Amateur Sports Foundation also offers academic opportunities and financial support for the athletes and schools in the commonwealth. High school students who are in 11th grade during the 2009-10 academic year and tryout for the 2010 Summer Games are eligible for the Future Leaders Scholarship. The 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.

The Bay State Games also has an initiative which rewards high schools across the commonwealth for their students’ participation in the Summer Games. The High School Spirit Program was created to recognize those schools that have the highest number of athletes in the 2010 Summer and Winter Games. Every high school in Massachusetts is eligible to win a portion of the \$5,200 in grants that will be awarded. Schools have been separated into three categories by size to give everyone an opportunity to win the much-needed funds for their athletic department.

Registration forms and sport specific information can be found at the Bay State Games’ web site. For updated information about tryout dates, sport specific information, scholarship forms, volunteer information, and registration deadlines, please visit [baystategames.org](http://baystategames.org), call the Games’ office at (781) 932-6555 or e-mail [info@baystategames.org](mailto:info@baystategames.org).

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