Welcome to the 19TH ANNUAL
Palm Desert Senior Games &
International Sports Festival
February 7 – 10, 2019

INDIVIDUAL
COMPETITION
• TABLE TENNIS
• 9-HOLE GOLF
• TRACK & FIELD
• RACE WALK
• PICKLEBALL

TEAM EVENTS
• VOLLEYBALL
• SOCCER

HOSTED BY:
DESERt RECREATION DISTRICT
Palm Desert
February 7, 2019

Dear Festival Participant:

On behalf of the City of Palm Desert, I want to extend a warm welcome to all of you taking part in the 19th annual Palm Desert Senior Games and International Sports Festival.

From its relatively modest beginnings, this Festival has grown into an outstanding special event for our City and the entire Coachella Valley.

While visiting Palm Desert, I hope you will find time to discover some of the many things that make our community uniquely wonderful. Whether you are interacting with wildlife at The Living Desert Zoo & Gardens; enjoying a show at the McCallum Theatre; or touring the Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert and its magnificent sculpture garden, I am sure you will enjoy your time here.

Palm Desert is home to world-renowned shops, art galleries, and award-winning restaurants. Many of these are located on El Paseo – a unique, mile-long thoroughfare known as the “Rodeo Drive of the Desert.”

We are also adjacent to the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument where outdoor enthusiasts will find trails of all skill and activity levels that reward hikers and bikers with breathtaking views.

These are just a few of Palm Desert’s many attractions. I invite you to stop by City Hall, located at 73510 Fred Waring Drive, or call 760-568-1441 and speak with our helpful Visitor Services staff for more ideas that will help you experience more of everything we have to offer.

Once again, welcome to Palm Desert and please accept my best wishes for a rewarding, successful and fun-filled festival.

Sincerely,

Susan Marie Weber
Mayor
Welcome Athletes!

On behalf of Desert Recreation District, welcome to the 19th Annual Palm Desert Senior Games and International Sports Festival.

Desert Recreation District is committed to encouraging everyone, young and old, to carry on vigorous lives by developing and maintaining personal physical fitness. Our robust program includes sports, recreation, health and fitness activities, facilities and events.

We are honored to organize this incredible event, bringing together active adult competitors from all over the map to enjoy our desert oasis. Each athlete joining us with the common appreciation of living an active lifestyle, friendly competition and camaraderie.

For those joining us from outside the Coachella Valley, we extend a warm welcome and hope that you take full advantage of your time with us and enjoy all our beautiful desert community has to offer.

Desert Recreation District extends a special “thank you” to the city of Palm Desert for its unwavering commitment to this event. Without the City’s support these games would not be possible.

I wish you healthy competition and personal bests. Now let the games begin!

Best Regards,

Kevin Kalman, General Manager

Be active your way, everyday!
Thank you for joining in the fun at the 19th Annual Palm Desert Senior Games and International Sports Festival. What started as a local athletic event has expanded to Senior Games that are recognized throughout the region.

**Number of Athletes (as of 1/15/2019): 951**

**Number of Male Athletes: 455**

**Number of Female Athletes: 496**

**Athletes’ States/Countries:**


**Age of Oldest Athlete: 90.1 years old**

**Average Age of All Athletes: 63.8**

**Most Popular Sport: Pickleball (individual and doubles)**
Schedule of Events

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2019

8 a.m.  Over 70, Men's Soccer
        Hovely Soccer Park

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019

8 a.m.  Over 70, Men's Soccer
        Hovely Soccer Park

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2019

8 a.m.  Pickleball – Men’s Doubles, Women’s OPEN
        Palm Desert Civic Center Park Tennis Courts

9 a.m.  Welcome Athletes Ceremony
        Palm Desert Civic Center
        Park Tennis Courts

9 a.m.  Golf – 9 Hole
        The First Tee of the Coachella Valley)
Schedule of Events
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2019

8 a.m.  Pickleball – Mixed Doubles
        Palm Desert Civic Center
        Park Tennis Courts

8 a.m.  Women’s Volleyball
        Desert Sports Center

8 a.m.  Women’s Volleyball
        College of the Desert

8 a.m.  Men’s & Women’s Soccer Tournament
        Palm Desert Soccer Park

8 a.m.  Men’s & Women’s Table Tennis
        Palm Desert Community Center

9 a.m.  Race Walk
        Palm Desert High School Track

10 a.m. Track & Field Competition
        Palm Desert High School Track
Schedule of Events
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2019

8 a.m.  Men’s Volleyball Tournament (35 to 49)  
College of the Desert

8 a.m.  Men’s Volleyball Tournament (50 and Older)  
College of the Desert

8 a.m.  Pickleball –  
Women’s Doubles,  
Men’s OPEN  
Palm Desert  
Civic Center Park  
Tennis Courts

8 a.m.  Men’s & Women’s Soccer Tournament  
Palm Desert Soccer Park

Thank you to our sponsors for supporting the  
2019 Palm Desert Senior Games & International Sports Festival
COLLEGE OF THE DESERT
45-500 Monterey Avenue
Palm Desert, CA 92260

DESSERT SPORTS CENTER
38-895 El Desierto Road
Palm Desert, CA 92211
(760) 772-5175

PALM DESERT CIVIC CENTER PARK
43-900 San Pablo Avenue
Palm Desert, CA 92260
(760) 568-9697

PALM DESERT COMMUNITY CENTER
43-900 San Pablo Avenue
Palm Desert, CA 92260
(760) 568-9697

PALM DESERT HIGH SCHOOL
74-910 Aztec Road
Palm Desert, CA 92260
(760) 862-4300

PALM DESERT SOCCER PARK
74-735 Hovley Lane
Palm Desert, CA 92260
(760) 568-9697

THE FIRST TEE OF THE COACHELLA VALLEY
74-945 Sheryl Avenue
Palm Desert, CA 92260
(760) 779-1877
Leave it all behind.
Bask in fresh breezes. Admire stunning sunsets. Stretch your legs and clear your head. Indulge in spa treatments, leisurely shopping, and exquisite cuisine.

Relax. Recharge. Reset. — So Worth It
Palm Desert resident Peter La Tourette spent ten years competing in the Palm Desert Senior Games and he has the medals to prove it. Indoor Volleyball was his sport. But the 84-year-old’s story in the Games go beyond just competing. Many consider La Tourette as the founder of the Palm Desert Senior Games.

“I felt like I started the whole thing. I was involved from the very start,” said La Tourette.

La Tourette was a competitive beach volleyball player and after relocating to the Coachella Valley, he was looking to compete locally; however, volleyball was not available. He needed to find an indoor venue big enough to house volleyball. With the help of Roger Martin, a senior games official from San Diego, La Tourette arranged to have the indoor volleyball match held at the Coachella Valley Recreation and Park District in Palm Desert, now Desert Recreation District (DRD).

“After we did that, they (DRD) said they wanted to take over the whole thing, which I thought was a good idea” said La Tourette.

In 2000, the Palm Desert Senior Games (PDSG) was born.

DRD Board President Rudy Gutierrez says the Senior Games is a great way to celebrate and encourage healthy and physical lifestyles. “We look forward to this event every year. The excitement, the competition, and the sportsmanship are like no other. Our partnership with the City of Palm Desert is what makes this event possible and memorable every year. We thank them for their effort and commitment to the Games” said Gutierrez.

The Palm Desert Senior Games is governed by the California Senior Games Association (CSGA). CSGA was formed in 1992 to oversee State Championships, which serve as a qualifying event for the Summer National Senior Games.

La Tourette competed in volleyball at various Senior Games from 1995 – 2010 including ten years in the PDSG. In 1998, he took home the bronze medal for Team USA from the Nike World Masters Game in Beaverton, Oregon. Russia won silver, and Finland the gold medal. La Tourette also proudly served in the U-S Army from 1956-58 and played beach volleyball while stationed at Fort Ord, near Monterey, California.

Today, La Tourette no longer competes, but he plans to attend this year’s competition. “I have friends I would like to go see. I think a couple of players near my age might still be playing” said La Tourette. In May, he will celebrate his 85th birthday and enjoys his time swimming 8-10 laps at least three days a week.
Thank you to the dedicated ATHLETES, STAFF, VOLUNTEERS and SPECTATORS for participating in making the 2019 Palm Desert Senior Games and International Sports Festival a great success!
Desert Recreation District Mission Statement:
To enrich the quality of life for those in the Coachella Valley by acquiring, developing, operating and maintaining a community focused parks and recreation system, and preserving it for future generations.

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THANK YOU TO OUR CO-HOST THE CITY OF PALM DESERT

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