

Hello Professor Miller,

The California Senior Games women's basketball tournament was a super success as we had twenty teams and two hundred athletes! No tournament, large or small, can be done without volunteers. This time it was a very large tournament that went from morning to late afternoon both Saturday and Sunday (May 19-20).

I would like to thank your students for their superb volunteering efforts. In particular, Shannon Pink, who first emailed me two days before the event and offered to volunteer! She was able to recruit more students and we were able to run the tournament smoothly.

The other students were:

Laura Bozikovich
Garret Petry
Stan Tran
Gina Comachhione
Lindsay Farris
Lauren Morris
Rick Martinez

Their main job was to keep score of more than 60 games! This required paying attention to the game for at least 45 minutes each hour they worked! Also, many of the students were available to help set up and clean up the gym during the event.

It is my hope that they were able to learn that being a senior doesn't mean you stop living your passions, whatever that may be. These senior ladies are an inspiration to us all as they are redefining what it means to be a senior. After all, how many 80 year old women do you know still play basketball?

Furthermore, being a part of a thriving community where exercise and laughter is encouraged is the lifeline for many of these women. Any support for these communities is necessary for not only it's survival, but also for its continuation. This is why it means a lot to see these youngsters supporting the seniors in what they do. It is very encouraging to see them pay it forward.

I would like to keep our contact and use the students from the gerontology department to volunteer at future events. In return I hope the students can earn credits for their community service.

On behalf of the California Senior Games Association, San Diego Senior Games Association and, especially, the senior women basketball players, we thank you for your support and efforts in making this tournament a memorable one!

I've attached some photos a volunteer professional photographer took! Enjoy!

Sincerely,

Kirsten Cummings
Tournament Director