



For Immediate Release

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ATHLETES CELEBRATE ENCORE WIN!

March 11, 2012 Palo Alto – California Senior Games State Championships

The sporting venues of Stanford University were packed this weekend with athletes competing in the California Senior Games State Championships. More than 1,000 men and women age 50 and up ran, kicked, and swam to hard-fought victories in their sports during the first weekend of the games that are the qualifying event for the 2013 Summer National Senior Games.

We are fortunate in California to have superb athletes from their 50's to 90's who remind us all of the thrill and benefits of sport competitions," said Anne Warner Cribbs, Chair of the CSGA. "These athletes keep pushing the limits of achievement. As an example, this year an impressive Laura Val from the San Francisco Bay Area set 5 new Masters Records in Swimming in the 60-64 age group."

California also leads the nation in promoting sports popular with boomers who enjoy the challenge and camaraderie of team sports. To recognize the dedication of these athletes to their sports this year saw the inaugural Encore Cup Awards.

“Popular sports like soccer, rugby, water polo and fencing deserve recognition for the commitment and achievements of the athletes. We had more than 500 men and women playing soccer and water polo this weekend and they played all out,” reports Cribbs.

The winners of this weekend’s Inaugural Encore Cups are:

SOCCER	MEN 50	Mutiny
	MEN 60	Faroliti 60
	MEN 65	South America
	WOMEN 50	Nor Cal United
	WOMEN 60	Santa Cruz United
	WATER POLO	MEN 50
MEN 55		Tri Valley 55’s
WOMEN		Vegas Henderson

"Encore athletes are anything but 'retiring' - they train hard and use their life experience to deliver all-out performances, capturing a piece of the Olympic spirit that inspires us all," continued Cribbs. "These athletes provide a model for an active and engaged life for their peers as well as following generations."

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The Bay Area Senior Games and the 2012 California State Championships are conducted under the auspices of the Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee (BASOC). The Bay Area Senior Games were held in 2006, 2007 and 2008 as “test events” for the 2009 Summer National Senior Games and in 2010 and 2011, recognized as a “legacy” events in recognition of the successful 2009 Summer National Senior Games.

The CSGA's mission is to promote healthy lifestyles for seniors through education, fitness and the spirited competition of sports, while inspiring everyone to embrace health and appreciate and enjoy the value of sports related exercise.

In 2012 eight regional Senior Games competitions will take place around the state. Sites for regional Senior Games include San Diego, San Diego North County, Inland Empire, Pasadena, Palm Desert, San Francisco Bay Area, Manteca, and Santa Rosa. The Second Annual Winter Games was just completed at Bear Valley. A complete list with contact information for all the California Senior Games may be found at www.californiaseniorgames.org