

## **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

### **OVERVIEW**

The following are the policies and procedures to be implemented in the operation of the North American Indigenous Games. These Guidelines have been established by the North American Indigenous Games Council to insure the continuity of each event in the professional operation of the Games. It is the responsibility of the Host Society and participating teams to strictly adhere to each of the policies as outlined, unless otherwise approved by the Council.

### **TEAM REPRESENTATION**

All teams participating in the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) must represent the Indigenous Nations of a Province/Territory in Canada, or a State in the United States of America.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

All athletes competing in the 2006 NAIG must be born of North American Indigenous ancestry. All participants must make proof of ancestry available. The following will be accepted as proof of ancestry:

#### **United States:**

Certificate of Indian Blood, Tribal Card or Bureau of Indian Affairs Card

#### **Canada:**

Treaty/Status Card, First Nations Card, Inuit and Inuvaluit Identification or Provincial Metis Card.

If none of the above applied (i.e., no status Indians), a Declaration of Indigenous Ancestry must be completed by the athlete, submitted to the team and endorsed by the team Chef de Mission. If a protest is lodged against such a participant, the Declaration, accompanied with all relevant proof of ancestry (i.e. birth certificate, Tribal/Band letters, and all other pertinent documents), must be presented by the team on behalf of the athlete, as proof of their ancestry.

### **AGE CLASSIFICATION**

The NAIG has established four (4) competitive age classifications, which are determined by the athlete's year of birth. They are as follows:

In the Junior category, there are three (3) classifications, which include athletes who are 13 to 19 years of age.

- 13 – 14 Years of Age
- 15 – 16 Years of Age
- 17 – 19 Years of Age

The Senior category is open to all athletes 20 and over. There is a Master's Category for golf only, ages 50+.

Age classification is determined by the athlete's year of birth and not their date of birth. Refer to the Sports Technical Package for details. Exceptions to the age group rulings may be made with special requests through the Host Society.

### **AMATUER STATUS**

All athletes participating in the NAIG must be of amateur status in the event they are entered/competing in. Each sport will abide by their National Sport Governing Body's definition of an amateur.

### **SINGLE SPORT POLICY**

Athletes participating in the NAIG can only enter/compete in one sporting event. For example, an athlete can register to compete in Athletics and compete in the 100 yard dash and compete in a relay event as well. The athlete cannot, however, then try and compete in a basketball game that his/her delegation may be participating in at the Games.

### **ATHLETES REGISTERING IN OLDER AGE CLASSIFICATION**

An athlete can only register and compete in an older age classification by having their team Chef de Mission submit an Age Classification Exemption form to the Host Society for consideration. This procedure ensures that moving an athlete up will in no way risk their physical well being. If exemption is granted, the athlete can only compete in that particular age classification and cannot move back down to his/her original age classification during competition. With the exception of track and field, athletes may move up only one age category higher than their own.

NOTE: \*\*\*If there is no relay offered in their own age classification or there are insufficient athletes from their age group to form a relay, athletes may move up into an older age classification to participate in a relay. This will not jeopardize their competitive results in individual events at their own classification.

## **TEAM SIZE**

The maximum total Junior contingent (under 20 years of age) of a Provincial, Territorial, or State team participating in the sport component of the Games is five hundred (500) athletes, plus one hundred (100) coaches, managers, and chaperones. No team is allowed to send more than 500 athletes regardless of their ability to pay for extra team members.

## **TEAM UNIFORMS**

Every Provincial/Territorial/State contingent participating in the NAIG must have a team uniform. This uniform is to be worn by all team members. The display of team uniforms is critical to the "Parade of Athletes" in the Opening and Closing Ceremony. Traditional regalia is encouraged at the Parade of Athletes; otherwise, all athletes must be dressed in their team uniform.

## **COMPETITION UNIFORMS**

All participants must comply with the rules relating to competition uniforms, as outlined in the Sports Technical Package.

## **AWARDS**

Award Ceremonies at the 2006 North American Indigenous Games will be conducted based on the sport specific rules outlined in the NAIG Governing Rules for Individual, Delegation Team, and Regional Team competitions.

Commissioners are asked to treat ceremonies with the highest regard and review schedules to ensure the highest level of visibility possible while honoring participants.

- Sport specific ceremonies will be conducted at sports venues during and after the conclusion of competitions.
- Individual awards will be given to each individual event place finisher by place of finish.
- Team competition awards will be awarded at the conclusion of team competitions and tournaments.

\*July 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> has been designated as **Championship Weekend** for the games. Many of our scheduled Individual and Team competitions will conclude on these days. Special Award ceremonies will be can be scheduled in lieu of this championship format. Please engage in this process by communication completion times and final results to our Games Information Office

## **OVERALL TEAM TITLE**

A trophy will be awarded to the Province/Territory/State that is declared the winner of the overall NAIG Team Title as identified through the final Team Standings. Team Standings are determined by the aggregate results of all sporting events. Competition scoring for each sport is outlined in the Sports Technical Package.

## **HONORARY AWARDS**

The John Fletcher/Billy Mills Spirit Award is presented to the contingent that demonstrates the spirit of teamwork, fair play, respect and integrity throughout the North American Indigenous Games competition week.

## **CHEF DE MISSIONS**

All teams participating in the NAIG must have a Chef de Mission. As the Chef de Mission, he/she will represent the interest of their respective Province/Territory/State at all Chef de Mission meetings. It is the responsibility of the Chef de Mission to ensure that all NAIG information is distributed to their team, staff and the Indigenous communities of their region.

## **DEMONSTRATION SPORTS**

Demonstration Sports will not be offered in the 2006 NAIG.

## **EVENT SANCTIONING**

All events at the NAIG must be sanctioned as International competitions through the host country's National Sport Governing Bodies. International rules and regulations will apply to all aspects of competition, taking precedent over any domestically recognized rules and regulations.

Boxing – See 2006 Sports Technical Packet

Softball – See 2006 Sports Technical Packet

Wrestling – See 2006 Sports Technical Packet

## **EVENT INSURANCE & LIABILITY**

The Host Society must carry both accident and liability insurance that provides coverage for themselves and all participants (athletes, mission staff, coaching staff, managers, chaperones, cultural contingents, etc.) during the operation of the NAIG.

To further protect participants, all Provincial/Territorial/State teams should carry additional accident/health insurance for each team member. This