

# NEWS

TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE



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## **Mayor McCormac Announces Woodbridge Township to Host 2008 New Jersey Senior Olympics**

**Senior Olympics & Mayor's Wellness Campaign Promote Health & Fitness as Senior Athletes from Across the State "Get Ready... Get Set... and Go" To Compete in 15 Challenging Sporting Events on Sept. 12, 13 & 14**

**Woodbridge** – Flanked by Senior Olympians and Olympic volunteers, Woodbridge Township Mayor John E. McCormac and the New Jersey Senior Olympic Committee today announced that Woodbridge Township will again host the New Jersey Senior Olympics on Sept. 12, 13 & 14, 2008.

In announcing details of the upcoming New Jersey Senior Olympic games from the Woodbridge Community Center and YMCA – the central headquarters and main sporting venue for the upcoming senior competition - Mayor McCormac said that the senior games track the goals of the "Mayor's Wellness Campaign" which encourages Township residents, regardless of age, to engage in a healthy and fit lifestyle.

"I am extremely proud that Woodbridge Township was again selected to host and sponsor the 2008 New Jersey Senior Olympics," Mayor McCormac said. "Woodbridge Township is home to a significant and growing senior population which is more-and-more engaged in an active and physically fit lifestyle. The Senior Olympics embodies today's senior athlete by featuring sporting events geared to senior-level competition. And, even before competition gets underway, every senior athlete is a winner just by staying in shape and participating in a routine physical fitness regimen. I am encouraging senior athletes from across the state to sign-up and participate in this year's games."

Michael Garamella, Executive Director, New Jersey Senior Olympic Committee, said that 2008 is a qualifying year for New Jersey Senior Olympians, which means that New Jersey medalists will have the opportunity to participate in the national games being held in San Francisco in the Spring of 2009.

The 2008 Senior Olympic games will feature 15 sporting events and competitions where senior athletes 50 years of age and older – male and female – will compete for the Gold, Silver and Bronze in various age categories ranging from: 50-54; 55-59; 60-64; 65-69; 70-74; 75-79; 80-84; 85-89; and 90+.

The Olympic Games include sporting competition in Archery, Basketball (foul shooting/accuracy and '3 on 3'), Billiards, Bocce, Bowling, Cycling, Darts, Golf, Horseshoes, Racquetball, Team Softball, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tennis and Track & Field events. The New Jersey Senior Olympics is part of the National Senior Games Association which sponsors alternate year national Senior Olympic games at venues across the country.

Mayor McCormac noted that the New Jersey Senior Olympic Committee selected Woodbridge Township – the Crossroads of New Jersey – for its easy access to New Jersey's major transportation network. The New Jersey Turnpike, Garden State Parkway, I-287 and Routes 440, 1 and 9 and 35, along with the Metro Park and downtown Woodbridge New Jersey Transit train stations, come together to make Woodbridge Township the ideal location in the center of the state.

According to Councilman Gregg Ficarra, Chairman of the Mayor's Wellness Campaign, Woodbridge Township offers senior athletes a true, world-class competition venue with sport and athletic facilities that include the YMCA at the Woodbridge Community Center, The Club at Woodbridge, the newly upgraded Woodbridge High School running track and event fields, well-appointed county and municipal parks, and excellent private venue facilities that include the Woodbridge Bowling Center and nearby golf courses – all of which make Woodbridge Township the ideal location for the senior games. The YMCA at the Community Center and The Club at Woodbridge together provide a combination of multi-purpose recreational and sporting facilities, including a full-size gymnasium, Olympic-size swimming pool, roller skating rink, NHL-size ice skating and hockey rink, a wellness center, walking track, meeting rooms, and recreational and lounge areas.

The "Opening Ceremonies" for the 2008 Senior Olympic games will take place on Sat., Sept 13 at 10:00 a.m. outside the Woodbridge Community Center. The ceremonies will highlight the nature of the games and competition, present the Senior Olympic torch and flame, and feature participants competing in each sport.

Senior athletes must register to compete in the various sporting events, games and competitions. To register or to obtain more information about the New Jersey Senior Olympic games contact the New Jersey Senior Olympics at 973-618-1111 or log-on to [www.njso.us](http://www.njso.us) or [www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us](http://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us).



