

Jim Thorpe All



Indian Games

Governing Rules
Draft 8-7- 2017

Introductions

The following handbook is a technical resource summarizing the policies and procedures to be implemented in the operation of The Jim Thorpe All Indian Games, All Indian Games is a 501(c) 3 Non-profit Charitable Organization, EIN:47-1641931. These Guidelines have been established by The Jim Thorpe All Indian Games, Board of Directors to insure the continuity of each event, in the presentation and production of the Games. Further, the long term commitment of TJTAIG is to present the opportunity for this competition every two years to the highest standard encouraging the spirit of competition and supporting the development of our young citizens of our Tribal Nations. It is the responsibility of the TJTAIG Inc. and participating teams to strictly adhere to each of the policies as outlined, unless otherwise amended.

Policy and Procedures

1.0 Team Representation

- 1.1 All Teams participating in The Jim Thorpe All Indian Games (TJTAIG) must represent the Indigenous nations of a state in the United States of American or a specific Indigenous Nation of a region.

2.0 Eligibility

- 2.1 Indigenous Ancestry: All athletes competing in The Jim Thorpe All Indian Games must be born of North American indigenous ancestry. All participants must make proof of ancestry available.
The following will be accepted as proof ancestry.
- 2.1.1 Tribal Identification Card as certified by the Tribal government, or Bureau of Indian Affairs Card or Letter of Lineal Descent
- 2.1.2 If no card but rather a letter of declaration from a tribal government with appropriate seal that identifies the individual as a citizen of a specific Tribal Nation.

2.2 Age Classification

2.2.1 The Jim Thorpe All Indian Games have established 3 competitive age classification, which are determined by the athletes year of birth not their date of birth. Exceptions to the age group rulings may be made by special requests but will be approved by the TJTAIG Commissioners and Competition Committee.

They are as follows:

2.2.1.1 U-14

2.2.1.2 U-16

2.2.1.3 U-18

2.3 Residency

2.3.1 In order to try out for a team you must be a resident of that specific State that you are representing at the time of tryout. Residency rule is not applicable to individuals that are representing their Tribal Nation is that specific category of competition.

2.3.1.1 Student Residency -Individuals attending education institutions, on a full time basis, outside their Site of permanent residence during the year of the Games shall be permitted to compete for the state in which they are attending school.

2.3.1.2 Non-Student Residency - Individuals permanently residing in a State region will be allowed to compete as a resident of that state region unless they are representing their Tribal nation in a specific category of competition.

2.4 Amateur Status

2.4.1 All athletes participating in the J.T.A.I.G. must be of amateur status in the event they are entered/competing in for the Games. Each sport will abide by their respective National Sport Governing Body's definition of an amateur.

2.5 Single Sport Participant Policy

2.5.1 Athletes participating in The Jim Thorpe All Indian Games can only enter /compete in one (1) competition event.

2.6 Standards

2.6.1 The Jim Thorpe All Indian Games are a competition that fosters the healthy lifestyle and choices for young athletes and in keeping are supportive of encouraging young athletes to compete in the Games.

2.6.1.1 T.J.T.A.I.G. operates the Jim Thorpe All Indian Games without minimum competitive

standards for entry into the sporting events.

2.6.1.2 The individual Team selection process is the responsibility of each respective state region.

2.6.1.3 A Sports Commissioner will be appointed to represent the state region for the games in all matters regarding the Games.

2.7 Team Size

2.7.1 The maximum total of any state region is currently two hundred (200) which represents in total the number of Athletes, Coaches, Managers and Chaperones). A team can only be larger than 200 if they have provided notice to the Host of the Games.

2.8 Sports Commissioners

2.8.1 All teams participating in the TJTAIG must appoint an individual to serve the Sports Commissioner. The Sports Commissioner will represent the interest of their respective State at all meetings. It is the responsibility of the Sports Commissioner to ensure that all TJTAIG information is distributed to their team, staff and respective parents of athletes within their region.

2.8.2 Pre-Game Organizational Meetings - A series of Sports Commissioner meetings are to be held during the period leading up to the Games. The purpose of these meetings is to provide the opportunity for technical input into the preparation/organization of the Jim Thorpe All Indian Games as well as to gather essential planning information for development of individual teams and competition.

2.8.3 During the competition a specific area will be designated for meetings of the Sports Commissioners in order to properly meet and communicate any issues that may arise during the competition.

2.8.3.1 Prior to each day of competition the Competition Committee will

convene a Sports Commissioner meeting for the purpose of managing any issues that may have arisen; Team Issues that impact the Games such as: disciplinary problems, drug or alcohol concerns, as well as to allow for the distribution of new information each day.

2.8.3.2 Any competition issues will consult the technical competition package

and the decision of the Sports Commissioners will be binding in the competition and management of the event.

2.9 Sports

2.9.1 The following eleven sports have been identified as the Core sports for competition for The Jim Thorpe All Indian Games. It is the intent to offer competition for both male and female where appropriate for competition and in some designated categories as Co-ed participation in events. Team participation and individual performance in each of these events will determine the overall titles of each competition as well as Team title.

- 2.9.1.1 Individual Sports
 - 2.9.1.1.1 Golf
 - 2.9.1.1.2 Wrestling
 - 2.9.1.1.3 Track & Field
 - 2.9.1.1.4 Archery

2.9.1.2 Team Sports

- 2.9.1.2.1 Baseball
- 2.9.1.2.2 Basketball
- 2.9.1.2.4 Field Lacrosse
- 2.9.1.2.5 Soccer
- 2.9.1.2.6 Football
- 2.9.1.2.7 Softball
- 2.9.1.2.8 Volleyball

2.9.1.3 Additions to the Core Sports List must meet the following criteria for consideration:

- 2.9.1.3.1 A new Sport can only be introduced in the Games, first as a trial sport for the Games; to fully consider the level of interest in competition either as an individual or team event.
- 2.9.1.3.2 Review of the governing rules of competition for the proposed new event competition prior to full consideration by the Sports Commissioners

2.10 Demonstration Sports

2.10.1 Demonstration Sports are encouraged in recognition of Traditional Games of the various Indigenous Nations of North America.

- 2.10.1.1 Demonstration Sports are profiled in an exhibition capacity held in conjunction with the Cultural Festival. Any state region that wishes to promote a demonstration sport can do so through notice to the TJTAIG Inc. Directors.

2.11 Registration Deadlines

2.11.1 The Host of the Games will establish registration deadlines for the purpose of organizing the competitions and planning for the accommodation of the athletes attending the competition.

2.11.2 30 Day before the event the Registration will close and the final schedule of competition will be prepared for the event and shared with each respective Sports Commissioner and their state region.

2.12 Registration Fee

2.12.1 The registration fee is to be set through consultation and agreement between the Hosts of The Jim Thorpe All Indian Games Inc. Board of Directors. The set amount is to be set upon the analysis of the budget to operate the event and should not be cost prohibitive to participants.

2.13 Registration Deadlines

2.13.1 All necessary registration forms accompanied by the registration fee must be submitted to TJTAIG Inc. by established deadlines dates. Should any team miss the established deadlines they will deemed ineligible to participate. All fees paid are considered non-refundable.

2.14 Sport Technical Package

2.14.1 TJTAIG Inc. is responsible for the creation and distribution of The Jim Thorpe All Indian Games Technical Package to the Sport Commissioners of each region. This package must be comprehensive, providing teams with specific information on each specific competition. The Technical package shall include the following information:

- 2.14.1.1 The rules of regulation specific to each sport event
- 2.14.1.2 All pertinent venue information
- 2.14.1.3 Registration requirements for participants in competition

2.15 Drug and Alcohol Policy

2.15.1 The Jim Thorpe All Indian Games is a reason, drug and alcohol free event. For this reason TJTAIG Inc. wholly embraces the ethics of fair play in sport by unequivocally opposing any behavior deemed unethical, this includes the use of substances and methods banned by the national and international sport community.

2.16 Racism and Harassment Policy

2.16.1 As sporting event that celebrates the vast cultural diversity of the indigenous Nations of North America, The Jim Thorpe All Indian Games vehemently opposes all conduct/behavior that is discriminatory. This will not tolerate any form of racial (Indigenous and non-Indigenous alike) cultural, sexual, religious discrimination, disability discrimination or harassment from participants. For this reason the Games will be designated a "Racist/Harassment Free Zone". The TJTAIG Sports Competition Committee will deal with any action or expression of a discriminatory nature swiftly and accordingly.

2.17 Coaching Standards

2.17.1 TJTAIG supports the advancement of individuals interested in Coaching of individual and team sports for their respective regions across Indian Country. As well, TJTAIG supports the advancement and eventual adoption of Standards for certification of all Coaches of Teams represented in the Games.

2.17.1.2 All Coaches must meet the predetermined coaching standards as set forth by the specific requirements of each Sports Commission for each respective State region.

2.18 Insurance

2.18.1 The Host of the Games must carry both accident and liability insurance that provides coverage for both themselves has a host and all participants (athletes, Commission staff, coaching staff, managers, chaperones, cultural contingents, etc.) during the actual event.

2.18.2 To further protect participants all Teams are encouraged to carry additional accident/health insurance for each team member. This coverage is in addition to health coverage program that may be offered from your individual Tribal Nation and would also be for the span of time of the event from departing to returning home from the competition.

2.19 Uniforms

2.19.1 Team Uniform -Every Team for the competition is expected to 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 ceremonies and closing ceremonies. Traditional regalia is encouraged at the Parade of Athletes; otherwise all athletes must be dressed in the Team uniform.

2.19.2 Competition Uniform - All participants must comply with the rules relating to competition uniforms as outlined in the Sports Technical Package.

2.20 Awards

2.20.1 Event Awards - Metal will be awarded to the Top three finishers of every event (age classifications and gender).

2.20.2 Honorary Awards - Any awards to be named after or presented in honor of an individual must be sanctioned by the TJTAIG. Any State that wants to establish an Honorary Award must do so through notice and application to the TJTAIG. Any Honorary Awards are to be reoccurring and permanent to the future games.

2.21 Results

2.21.1 The TJTAIG will provide up to date daily competitive results from every sport venue on a daily basis. To distribute those results, a results center must be established that provides results in an appropriate format for as a team standings report for Commissioners for their review. In addition, results must be displayed for viewing by coaches, athletes and spectators in a central results area established at each sports venue and facilities where deemed appropriate.

2.22 Formal Protest Procedures

- 2.22.1 There will be a Sport Jury of Appeal Committee appointed by the Competition Committee of TJTAIG. The Sport Jury will deal with any protest/disputes/of results from the previous day's competition and written appeals relating to matter of the rules of competition as set forth for the sport in the Technical Package.
- 2.22.1.1 All Appeals will be in written form and signed by the Head Coach and the appropriate State Commissioner.
- 2.22.1.2 Any written appeal will be accompanied by a \$250.00 fee and will be refunded if the appeal is won.
- 2.22.1.3 Any decisions of the Sport Jury of Appeal are final.

2.23 Sport Competition Format

- 2.23.1 There will be no walk-over medals awarded
- 2.23.2 Individuals sport competition format is listed specifically by sport.
- 2.23.3 There is a minimum requirement of three (3) teams in a Team Sport (Baseball, Basketball, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Volleyball,) in order for the competition to continue.
- 2.23.4 There is a minimum requirement of three competitors in all other individual sports. (Archery, Athletics, Golf, Wrestling).
- 2.23.5 If under extenuating circumstances, only two competitors show up at the time of the event, the competition will be held and medals awarded (no walk-over's).
- 2.23.6 In the event that a competition can only be held with the combining of two categories of competition; without the compromise of safety and competition the TJTAIG will apply this provision. All rules of competition will apply as provided for in the Sports Technical package for that specific competition.