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Official **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS** and **VENUE MAP** will be posted on  
[WWW.CANUSAGAMES.COM](http://WWW.CANUSAGAMES.COM) in late July

# CANUSA GAMES PRESIDENT- HAMILTON BRANCH

Dear CANUSA Athletes, Parents, and Guardians,

On behalf of the entire CANUSA Games Committee and the City of Hamilton, it is my absolute pleasure to welcome you to the **67th CANUSA Games!**

For over six decades, the CANUSA Games have stood as a proud tradition of friendship, sportsmanship, and cross-border camaraderie between Hamilton, Ontario, and Flint, Michigan. What began in 1958 as a small exchange between two cities has grown into one of the longest-running international amateur sporting events in North America.

This year, as we come together once again to celebrate this incredible legacy, we do so with renewed enthusiasm and a deep appreciation for the athletes, families, coaches, volunteers, and supporters who make the Games possible year after year.

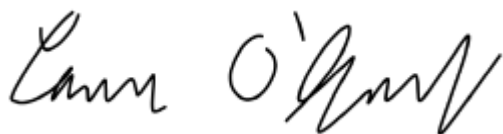
To our athletes: we are incredibly proud of your dedication, teamwork, and competitive spirit. You represent not just your sport, but the values of the CANUSA Games — friendship, respect, and international unity.

To our parents and guardians: thank you for your ongoing support, encouragement, and commitment. We understand the trust you place in us, and we are dedicated to ensuring a safe, meaningful, and unforgettable experience for your children throughout the Games.

This manual contains important information to help you and your athlete prepare for CANUSA weekend. Please take the time to review it, and do not hesitate to reach out to your sport coordinator or our organizing committee with any questions.

Together, let's make the 67th CANUSA Games a celebration to remember!

Yours in Sport,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lauren O'Grady', with a stylized, cursive script.

Lauren O'Grady  
CANUSA Games President, Hamilton Branch

## **CREED OF SPORTSMANSHIP**

The CANUSA Games were established for the purpose of fostering goodwill and understanding between the cities of Hamilton, Ontario and Flint, Michigan through the medium of friendly competition in a host of athletic activities. Therefore, any conduct within any activity that does not promote camaraderie among the participants is contrary to the fundamental purpose of the Games. The specific competitions and the outcome thereof are secondary in the operation of the Games.

Because of the vital importance of sportsmanlike conduct in all activities of the CANUSA Games, officials and coaches of the Games carry heavy responsibility to ensure that the rules of sportsmanship shall be observed at all times.

Coaches shall be held responsible for the conduct of individual participants. It is their obligation to withdraw any athlete from competition that is observed to be conducting himself/herself in a manner that does not show goodwill and respect for the opposing competitors.

Any member of the CANUSA Games Board of Directors, upon observation of behaviour that he/she considers to be contrary to the best purposes of the Games as described above, may take measures deemed necessary, including immediate cessation of the activity, to correct the situation.

With this statement, the members of the CANUSA Games Board of Directors attest to the absolute importance they place upon the adherence of the CANUSA Games to their primary purpose -- the promotion of friendship and goodwill between the sister cities of Hamilton and Flint.

# BILLETING POLICY

## HOUSING A VISITING ATHLETE LEADS TO FRIENDLY COMPETITION

\*\*\*\*\*

*Dear Parent/Guardian:*

*Your child has been chosen as a member of a CANUSA team for the 67th Annual CANUSA Games to be held this year in Hamilton, Ontario the weekend of August 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025.*

*The philosophy of the CANUSA Games is to establish goodwill and camaraderie through sporting competitions.*

*As the host city, each Hamilton athlete will be housed with a participating Flint athlete and their family. The billeting matchup will occur after opening ceremonies on Friday, August 8th at 12:30 p.m.*

*The CANUSA Games Board of Directors, Sport Coordinators, and Coaches hope that you will enjoy the billeting experience. If you have any questions regarding billeting, please contact the CANUSA Office by emailing [info@canusahamilton.com](mailto:info@canusahamilton.com).*

*Thank you for your support of the CANUSA tradition.*

*CANUSA Hamilton Housing Committee*

\*\*\*\*\*

1. All participants under 18 years of age are to be billeted with a Flint family for the entire weekend. Modified Billeting Program is an option.
2. Participants will be billeted with a host family, or matched with a host family, based on age, gender, and sport area or event, where possible.
3. The Housing Committee will not reassign billets unless good cause is shown. **Any change of assignment unauthorized by the Housing/CANUSA Committee will result in the participant's suspension for the balance of the weekend's activities and competitions.**
4. Special billet requests are to be noted on the Registration Form and arranged prior to roster deadline. Arrangements are handled by the Hamilton and Flint Housing Committees.
5. **The CANUSA Games Board of Directors expect participants to be in the homes of their hosts by 11:00 p.m. on Friday, August 8th and Saturday, August 9th, 2025.**

## ATHLETE ITINERARY

### **PRIOR TO CANUSA WEEKEND:**

- Hand in Registration Form and Registration Fee, \$75.00 (\$125 for hockey) to your Sport Coordinator before **July 20, 2025**. Indicate any special billet requests on your form.
- Obtain your CANUSA participant shirt from your Sport Coordinator.
- The CANUSA Games provides insurance coverage, however you might wish to purchase additional coverage with "Ontario Blue Cross" or other applicable sources.
- We recommend that all items of value be labelled with your name and sport. The CANUSA Games will not be responsible for any lost or stolen personal possessions.

### **FRIDAY, AUGUST 8<sup>th</sup>:**

- Opening Ceremonies will begin around 12:30 p.m. at the Morgan Firestone Arena in Ancaster, Ontario – 385 Jerseyville Rd. W, Ancaster, Ontario. You should be wearing your CANUSA shirt. After the Opening Ceremonies are complete, Flint athletes will be matched up with their billets/host families.
- Some sports competitions are scheduled to begin as early as 3:00 p.m. Check the "Schedule of Events" for competition times or the CANUSA website. Hosts transport their billet(s) to the sport site(s).
- Hosts provide lunch and dinner for their billet(s).
- Curfew is 11:00 p.m.

### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 9<sup>th</sup>:**

- Hosts provide breakfast, lunch and dinner for their billet(s).
- Sports competitions are scheduled to begin as early as 8:00 a.m. and continue until approximately 3:00 p.m. Check the "Schedule of Events" for competition times or the CANUSA website. Hosts transport their billet(s) to their sport site(s).
- Host Sport Coordinators will distribute participant mementos.
- Curfew is 11:00 p.m.

### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 10<sup>th</sup>:**

- Hosts will provide athlete breakfast before departing for Closing Ceremonies at the Morgan Firestone Arena, Ancaster, Ontario – 385 Jerseyville Rd. W, Ancaster, Ontario.
- Hosts are to provide snacks for the team bus ride back to Flint.
- Closing Ceremonies begin at 9:00 a.m. at the Morgan Firestone Arena in Ancaster. Hosts will transport their Flint billet(s) to the Closing Ceremonies, unless a participant is in the Modified Billeting Program, and to buses for departure to Hamilton.

# 2025 CANUSA GAMES – MODIFIED BILLETING PROGRAM

The CANUSA Games Board of Directors has determined that a modification of the traditional billeting system is being offered to Flint athletes for the 67<sup>th</sup> CANUSA GAMES.

## Modified Billeting Program – 67<sup>th</sup> CANUSA Games in Hamilton, Ontario, August 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### August 8 – 10, 2025

**Objective: To modify, not eliminate, the billeting program, in order to retain the billeting tradition.**

- The majority of Flint athletes will continue to billet with a Host Family for the entire weekend following CANUSA's traditional format and we will continue to encourage this. However, if requested, a Flint athlete will be granted permission to stay with their parents at night in a Hamilton area hotel, under CANUSA Games guidelines, signed contract must be adhered to, or participation in competition will be revoked.

### **Friday, August 8, 2025:**

- **MANDATORY:** All Flint athletes must take the CANUSA bus to Opening Ceremonies to ensure the full team arrives together and no one is held up at the border.
- Flint athlete will still be matched with a Host Family/athlete for the weekend. Match up will take place after Opening Ceremonies. Flint athlete's family will exchange contact information with the Host Family.
- As per standard protocols, Host Families will continue to have police checks in accordance with the CANUSA Games Hamilton policy.
- The Host Family will take the Flint athlete after Opening Ceremonies to start building the friendship component which is an essential part of the Games.
- The Host Family is responsible for feeding the Flint athlete lunch and dinner and for transporting athletes to the Friday games and social activities.
- Flint athletes officially registered in the Modified program will be able to stay in their parent's hotel room. The Flint parents are responsible for coordinating a mutually agreed time/location with the Host Family to pick-up their child and transport them back to the hotel, after the conclusion of sports schedules and organized activities; **after 9 pm and no later than 10:45pm.**
- **Non-Negotiable:** A Flint athlete can only stay with their parents; they CANNOT stay with another Flint parent/family or relatives in the hotel. In no circumstance should a host athlete stay with the Flint family.

### **Saturday, August 9, 2025:**

- Flint athletes who stayed with their parents on Friday night will be transported to their sport venue on Saturday morning by their parents. Flint parents are responsible for feeding their athlete breakfast.
- After the Saturday sport competitions, the Flint athlete will go with their Host Family to participate in the host's predetermined activities (e.g. bbq's, movies, chill at home etc.).
- The Host Family is responsible for providing lunch and dinner to the Flint athlete.

- Flint athletes officially registered in the trial program will be able to stay in their parent's hotel room. The Flint parents are responsible for coordinating a mutually agreed time/location with the Host Family to pick-up their child and transport them back to the hotel, after the conclusion of sports schedules and organized activities; **after 9 pm and no later than 10:45pm.**
- **Possible adaptation:** If the Flint athlete wants to sleep at the Host Family residence on the Friday and/or Saturday night; the **CANUSA Games Headquarters at the Sheraton Hamilton Hotel MUST be promptly notified** by the Flint athlete's parent or Host Family parent. In no circumstance should a host athlete stay with the Flint family.

#### **Sunday, August 10, 2025:**

- Flint athletes who stayed with their parents on Saturday night will be transported to Closing Ceremonies by 9am on Sunday morning by their parents.
- Flint athletes who stayed with their Host Families on Saturday night will be transported to Closing Ceremonies by 9am on Sunday morning by their hosts. Host Family is responsible for feeding the Flint athlete breakfast.
- **Closing Ceremonies start at 9am sharp; Attendance is mandatory.**

#### **NOTES**

- All times/locations listed in this manual are subject to change. We recommend checking the website at [www.canusagames.com](http://www.canusagames.com) and our Facebook page prior to the event.
- Unless an event is listed in this manual, on the official website or the official schedule for the CANUSA Games, it is **not an official CANUSA event**. Please feel free to email the CANUSA Office/Headquarters if additional information is required.
- All participants **under 18 years of age** must be billeted, unless a participant in the Modified Billeting program.
- The CANUSA Games Board of Directors expects all participants to be in the homes of their hosts **no later than 11:00 p.m.** on both Friday, August 8th and Saturday, August 9th.
- **FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND IN THE EVENT OF ANY DIFFICULTIES, THE CANUSA HEADQUARTERS IS ACCESSIBLE ON A 24 HOUR BASIS DURING THE GAMES STARTING AT NOON ON FRIDAY AUGUST 8th UNTIL 11:00 A.M. ON SUNDAY AUGUST 10th.**

**Headquarters location:**  
***Sheraton Hamilton Hotel***  
***116 King St. W***  
***Hamilton, Ontario, Canada***  
***L8P 4V3***

***PHONE: 905.529.5515***  
*(Ask for CANUSA Headquarters)*

## ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

As a participant, you will serve as ambassadors of goodwill for CANUSA and for your own family. The CANUSA Games Board of Directors expects you to abide by the Code of Conduct herewith presented:

- To conduct myself as a participant showing the highest level of sportsmanship at all times.
- As an athlete under the age of 18, I will honour the 11:00 p.m. curfew as established by the Hamilton and Flint Boards of Directors.
- To be neat in my appearance, warm and friendly in my behaviour, and not be inappropriate or use profane language.
- To abide by all rules set down by the CANUSA Games Board of Directors, and respect the house rules of our host family.
- Wherever possible, I will strive to make friends with all the participants, hoping that these new friendships will continue through the years.
- I will not consume alcoholic beverages if under the legal age (Ontario law is 19 yrs old). I will not use illegal drugs.
- I will attend the Opening and Closing Ceremonies (please wear your CANUSA shirt).
- I will remember that my city and country will be judged by the way I conduct myself during the Games.

**In the event of extreme misconduct, the CANUSA Games Board of Directors will:**

- Notify the participant's parents/guardians of the improper action.
- Disqualify the participant from further competition.



## HISTORY OF THE CANUSA GAMES

The CANUSA Games were created in 1958 through the joint efforts of the Canadian and United States Amateur Athletics Unions.

Having conducted their Flint Olympian Games in July of the previous year, Flint officials were looking for another competition for their Olympian winners and contacted their A.A.U. for a City of comparable size and interests. Hamilton was selected, hence the birth of the CANUSA (Canada-U.S.A.) Games. It was also decided that the site of the Games would alternate yearly between the two cities.

In 1958, a caravan of cars set out for Flint on the second weekend in August, led by Chairman Wilf Thomas and his volunteer committee. That year approximately 200 athletes from each city competed in seven sport areas and from these meager beginnings, the volunteer spirit caught on and the ideals continue today.

Various means of transporting the athletes have been used including the aforementioned caravan of private vehicles, a special CANUSA Games train, and in more recent years, a convoy of up to 20 chartered buses.

The CANUSA Games presently have over 800 athletes participating in 13 sport areas, and while the organization has grown considerably, the ideals remain the same - volunteers working in their community for the social and recreational betterment of young and old.

As part of the Opening Ceremonies the National Anthems of both countries are sung by all in attendance. The Mayor of the host city then presents the FRIENDSHIP TROPHY to the Mayor of the visiting city as a token of peace, brotherhood and true friendship, not only between Mayors, but also between all competitors, the two Cities and the two Countries.

## CANUSA GAMES PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy of the CANUSA Games is to demonstrate the practicality of a community approach to international goodwill between the cities of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada and Flint, Michigan, United States, through the participation of amateur athletics.

Families from the host city open their homes to the people from the visiting city in the spirit of goodwill and neighbourliness that marks the friendly rivalry between the competitors of the two cities.

The CANUSA Organization believes that world peace and understanding among people must begin in peoples' hearts; that neighbours must understand neighbours, and that people must learn to live together in neighbourhoods and cities before nations can understand nations and the world can live in peace. To this end, the CANUSA Games provide an opportunity at the grass roots level to learn to understand each other's similarities, differences, and problems, to work together, and to find the means for individuals to improve themselves and their cities.

## CANUSA GAMES CREED

The CANUSA Games Creed was composed by the late Ivan Miller, a long-time Sports Director with the Hamilton Spectator.

*We swear  
That we will take part in the CANUSA Games  
In fair competition  
Respecting the regulations which govern them  
And with the desire to participate  
In the true spirit of sportsmanship  
For the glory of sports  
And for the honour of our country.*

## WORLD CLASS CANUSA ATHLETES

### **JIM ABBOTT**

Played Baseball for Flint. Became a pitcher in the Major Leagues.

### **CARL BANKS**

Played Basketball for Flint. Later played with the New York Giants in the NFL.

### **STEVE BOROS**

Played Baseball for Flint. Went on to play for the Detroit Tigers and San Diego Padres in MLB.

### **MATEEN CLEAVES**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play for the Detroit Pistons in the NBA.

### **MARTY EMERY**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play in the European Pro League.

### **JEFF GRAYER**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play for the Milwaukee Bucks in the NFL.

### **PETER GIFTPOLOUS**

Played Basketball for Hamilton from 1976 to 1982. Went on to help Penn State catch the NCAA football championship. Played for the Hamilton Tiger Cats in the CFL.

### **JEFF HAMILTON**

Played Baseball for Flint. Went on to play for the LA Dodgers in MLB.

### **PAUL KRAUSE**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play for the Minnesota Vikings in the NFL.

### **JOANNE MALAR**

Participated on Hamilton's Swim team. Represented Canada at the Olympics Games and Commonwealth Games.

### **JOHN MATTHEWS**

Participated in Wrestling for Flint. Became the U.S. Greco-Roman Wrestling Champion.

### **DAVE ANDREYCHUK**

Played Basketball and Table Tennis for Hamilton. Played in the NHL and won the Stanley Cup for Tampa Bay.

### **CHARLIE BELL**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play for the Milwaukee Bucks in the NBA.

### **KEN BRADY**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play in the European Pro League.

### **MARK DALY**

Played Basketball for Hamilton from 1983 to 1988. Went on to play for Boston College and the Hamilton Skyhawks.

### **LAMAR GANT**

Participated in Weightlifting for Flint. Became a U.S. Champion Weightlifter.

### **TERRANCE GREEN**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play in the European Pro League.

### **MACKENZIE HUGHES**

Played Hamilton Golf. Went on to play professionally.

### **LINNELL JONES**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play in the Italian Pro League.

### **RICK LEACH**

Played Baseball for Flint. Became a member of the Toronto Blue Jays in MLB.

### **EUGENE MARVE**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play for the Tampa Bay Bucs in the NFL.

### **PAM McGEE**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play in the WNBA. Became Assistant Coach with the WNBA Detroit Shock and Olympic Basketball Team.

**BOOKER MOORE**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play for the Seattle Seahawks in the NBA.

**DENNA NOLAN**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play for the WNBA Detroit Shock.

**MORRIS PETERSON “Mo Pete”**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play for the Toronto Raptors and in the NBA.

**GLEN RICE**

Played Basketball for Flint. Became one of the top guards in the NBA for the Miami Heat.

**ROBAIRE SMITH**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play for the Cleveland Browns in the NFL.

**POLLY STOCKTON-BRETZKE**

Played Badminton for Flint. Went on to become a U.S. Badminton Champion

**JOEY TENUTE**

Played Soccer for Hamilton. Became a professional hockey player.

**ERIC TURNER**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play in the CBA and European League.

**REGGIE WILLIAMS**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play for the Cincinnati Bengals in the NFL.

**MIKE MORREALE**

Played basketball for Hamilton. Went on to be a CFL athlete for Hamilton Tiger Cats.

**SUE NOVAR-WEBER**

Participated on Flint's Cycling team. Went on to become the U.S. Women's Cycling Coach.

**MERV RETTENMUND**

Played Baseball for Flint. Went on to play for the Cincinnati Reds in MLB.

**JACK SELTZER**

Played Golf for Flint. Went on to play in the PGA.

**PAM STOCKTON-BRADY**

Played Badminton for Flint. Went on to become a U.S. Badminton Champion.

**BARRY STOKES**

Played Soccer for Flint. Went on to play for the Detroit Lions and Atlanta Falcons in the NFL.

**TRENT TUCKER**

Played Basketball for Flint. Went on to play for the New York Knicks in the NBA

**HERB WASHINGTON**

Participated in Track for Flint. Went on to play for the Oakland A's in MLB.

**JOHN OBROVAC**

Hamilton basketball player who won a Provincial Championship with McMaster.

## CANUSA GAMES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LAUREN O'GRADY	President
JUSTINE AJANDI	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-President
GLENN OSTROSSER	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-President
RYAN HILTON	Treasurer
LISA ROGERS	Director
PATRICK BRENNAN	Director
EMERSON HEASLIP	Director
VICTORIA KEREKESCH	Director
LISA MAYCHAK	Director
JUSTIN ISMAEL	Director
DAVE GLOVER	Director
LOUISE PALCIAUSKAS	Director
MIKE SAVOY	City of Hamilton Liaison
JESS MCCONNELL	Event Coordinator
IZZY BADEAU	Event Coordinator

## CANUSA GAMES COORDINATORS

### **SPORT AREA**

BASEBALL  
BOYS BASKETBALL  
GIRLS BASKETBALL  
10 PIN BOWLING  
DARTS  
FLAG FOOTBALL  
ICE HOCKEY  
PICKLEBALL  
SKEET  
GIRLS SOCCER  
BOYS SOCCER  
SWIMMING  
TRACK & FIELD  
TORCH RUN/TRIATHLON  
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL  
HOUSING  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
SALES

### **COORDINATORS**

Glenn Ostrosser  
Vincent Kuber  
Amanda Heeren  
Marc Skelton  
Peter Riehl  
Ed Valtenbergs  
Gerry Rush  
Jeff Morgan  
John Kapron  
Carrie Boschman  
Carrie Boschman  
Michael Vukmir  
Val Sargeant  
Mat Reid  
Calogero Coccoaro  
Justine Ajandi  
Storm Harding  
Andrea Rogers

### **ASSISTANT COORDINATORS**

Pam Ostrosser  
Nick Bennett  
Patti Dawson  
  
  
  
  
  
Jeff White  
Jeff White  
Lisa Hodge  
Marlene Sarjeant  
  
  
  
  
  
Leanne Brennan, Paul Palciauskas

**Interested in becoming a volunteer? Contact the CANUSA Office for more info.**  
[info@canusahamilton.com](mailto:info@canusahamilton.com)

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

# CANUSA GAMES OFFICE

Mailing Address:

City of Hamilton  
Community Services, Recreation Division  
Lister Block Building – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 2040  
Hamilton, Ontario  
L8P 4Y5

Office Location:

Bennetto Recreation Centre  
450 Hughson Street North  
Hamilton Ontario  
L8L 4N5

[info@canusahamilton.com](mailto:info@canusahamilton.com) (email)  
[www.canusagames.com](http://www.canusagames.com) (website)

Open Year Round

## CANUSA GAMES HEADQUARTERS

**Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup> 2025**

***Sheraton Hamilton Hotel  
116 King St. W  
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada  
L8P 4V3***

**905.529.5515  
(Ask for CANUSA Headquarters)**

***For your information and in the event of any difficulties, concerns or questions, the CANUSA HEADQUARTERS is accessible on a 24 hour basis during the Games. Hamilton and Flint representatives will be available.***

The CANUSA Games would like to thank the following community and corporate sponsors for their support in making the 67th CANUSA Games a success.

**COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

**GOLD SPONSORS**



Hamilton

**SILVER & BRONZE SPONSORS**

Hamilton Athletic Trust  
The Sheraton Hamilton  
McMaster University  
Pauliegraphics

**SUPPORTING SPONSORS**

Too many to name, thank you to all CANUSA friends for your support.

For more information on partnering with the CANUSA Games, please contact the CANUSA Games Office by emailing [info@canusahamilton.com](mailto:info@canusahamilton.com) or on the web at [www.canusagames.com](http://www.canusagames.com)