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APRIL 2024 SPORTS & CULTURE NEWS

FGG IS COMMUNICATING WITH VALENCIA



As we noted in our March newsletter, in a press release of March 14, 2024 the Valencia Diversitat Foundation, Lambda, Avegal, Dracs and Samarucs announced they will not support, or participate, in the newly created committee for the organization of Gay Games 2026 in Valencia.



The new committee, chaired by the Mayor of Valencia and staffed by members of the Valencia City Council and other Valencian administrators “breaks with the original structure agreed with the previous municipal government and betrays the commitments made with the Federation of Gay Games, putting the continuity of the games at risk,” states the release.

The Federation of Gay Games (FGG) have been monitoring the changes in government and the challenges faced by the local organizers since before the elections took place.

It is the sincere hope of the FGG that both sides can meet, and come to a suitable accommodation that allows them to work cooperatively and collaboratively together, to produce the best Gay Games experience to date in 2026.

In reality, almost all Gay Games host cities face a variety of “challenges” in hosting the Games. The preparation, planning, logistics, organization, funding, and staffing of the hosting committee is a gargantuan task in itself, before the Games even begin. Such challenges are to be expected and anticipated.

FGG will continue to monitor and work with all groups in Valencia to ensure the Gay Games of Valencia are indeed the very best to date, as they will mark a return to the “norm” following the unique two-locations of 2024 in Guadalajara, Mexico and Hong Kong, China.

GG-XII 2030 BIDDING PROCESS CONTINUES

Twenty-five cities on 6 continents expressed an interest in hosting Gay Games XII in 2030 by submitting an official response to the FGG’s Request for Information (RFI).

The 25 cities around the world are: **Adelaide, Melbourne, Perth, Sao Paulo, Edmonton, Vancouver, Frankfurt, Athens, Auckland, Cape Town, Johannesburg, Taipei, Liverpool, London, Atlanta, Birmingham, Boston, Denver, Honolulu, Miami, Minneapolis, Oak Creek, San Antonio, San Diego, and Seattle,**

Formal Request for Proposal (RFP) documentation was required by March of 2024 along with the first of four payments to the FGG for participation in the bidding process. This step typically reduces the potential host cities by removing those who were unable to organize and write an RFP by the deadline date.

We have not heard officially from the FGG how many cities have moved to Phase II of the bidding process, but as soon as we do, we will let you know, of course.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES



As an entirely unpaid, volunteer run, nonprofit corporation, Team San Francisco strives to provide value and benefit to all our members.

As the sole city team that was founded at the very genesis of the Gay Games movement itself, we feel it is historically and emotionally vital that Team San Francisco remains viable, pertinent, and influential within the Federation of Gay Games and within the LGBTQ+ sports and cultural community in general.

One of the key benefits of your membership is involvement directly with the site selection process that helps to choose the host city for all Gay Games. As a member we will provide you with access to information about each possible host city, and you will be invited to ask questions of the host through our TeamSF Delegates to the FGG. You will be invited to vote locally for the top three cities you would like to see as hosts for the next Gay Games and our TeamSF Delegates to the FGG will reflect those decisions during the FGG Annual General Assembly meeting when that host city decision vote is taken.,

We are also committed to providing financial support to our members who need a little extra assistance to attend and participate in Gay Games events. In 2023 we provided SIX scholarships to Team San Francisco members, accommodating all who applied for assistance, helping them attend and participate. This is a key function for us and a role we want to continue and expand into the future.

Our Board have recognized however, that instituting a small membership fee is essential to fund our continuing operations and to allow us to focus on the broader goals and mission of Team San Francisco. We are still working on some of the membership registration and payment processes so it will likely be sometime around **June 2024** before we will ask you to formally register with us and pay the membership fee.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

We will ask individuals to pay just \$10 annual membership which will provide:

- Our TeamSF E-Newsletter,
- Access to attend special events we organize throughout the year,
- Invitation to vote in site selection decisions,
- Discounts on TeamSF merchandise.

Membership will run Jan01 to Dec31 each year.

ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS

We will ask clubs and organizations to pay just \$100 annual membership which will provide:

- Access to list in our directory,
- Promote your events through our email and newsletter distribution,
- Access to your liaison to attend our TeamSF Board meetings,
- Support for your special club events for clubs.

Membership will run Jan01 to Dec31 each year.

Gay Games Hong Kong Generate Over HK\$200 Million

By Ken Craig, Secretary, TeamSF



The 11th Gay Games in November of 2023 are well and truly over. The sporting results are already finalized and recorded, but as is always the case no matter where the Gay Games takes place, they always leave a lasting impact financially, socially, and in terms of a far-reaching legacy. These impacts often take years to be fully understood and quantified, but a study conducted by the Department of Economics and Kent State University in Ohio, USA speculates that the Gay Games in Hong Kong generated an economic impact of approximately HK\$200 Million Dollars, or \$101.5 Million US Dollars.

The Games brought around 5,600 visitors to Hong Kong, of whom around 2,380 were participants, and generated around 439 jobs within the local economy. Hong Kong represented a unique Games in many ways, being delayed by a year due to the COVID-19 Global Pandemic, then seeing Guadalajara, Mexico added as a second competition location. Despite these significant challenges, and a lower than initially planned attendance, the Games of Hong Kong were the first to be funded solely by corporate and private donations, without any financial support from the Government.

All Gay Games inject a significant fiscal boon to any host location, with hotel rooms booked, restaurants filled, and visitor attractions attended during the Games by participants. What is often less obvious to attendees is the often-tremendous lasting impact the Games have on those host cities and their populations. It is often the case that welcoming attitudes and openness to the broader LGBTQ+ community increases during the Games themselves, and after they leave. This has been reported by many Hong Kong sports organizers as a positive influence the Games, and the attendees left behind.



Mark Your Calendar

Add your event, tournament, or fundraiser on this calendar. Email the details to TeamSFHQ@gmail.com

April 2024

- [RAINBOW GAMES '24](#) – **Apr04-Apr08**: new and inclusive multisport event, featuring 15 sports in Tamaki Makaurau Auckland, New Zealand.
- [ALL SPIKES 2024 SOCCER TOURNAMENT](#) – **Apr14**: This annual club-wide friendly kicks off the outdoor soccer year at Golden Gate Polo Fields, San Francisco, USA.

May 2024

- [PRAGUE RAINBOW SPRING 2024](#) – **May03-May05**: International sports tournament featuring 4 sports in Prague, Czech Republic.
- [DRAG AROUND THE RINK](#) – **May08**: Skate, dance, and mingle fundraiser in Oakland, CA USA
- [TOURNOI INTERNATIONAL PARIS](#) – **May17-May19**: LGBTQ+ annual sports event featuring 24 sports in Paris, France.
- [SFGSL GOLDEN BEAR CLASSIC](#) – **May25-May26**: Silicon Valley Gay Softball League & SFGSL classic softball tournament in San Jose, CA USA
- [UNITED STATES GAY OPEN](#) – **May25-May27**: Longest running LGBTQ+ tennis tournament in the world in San Francisco, USA.

June 2024

- [SF GIANTS PRIDE DAY](#) – **Jun15**: Celebrate Pride Day at Oracle Park with performances and pregame festivities in San Francisco, USA.

July 2024

- [EUROGAMES 2024 VIENNA](#) – **Jul17-Jul20**: LGBTQ+ annual sports event featuring a range of sports in Vienna, Austria.
- [STONEWALL SPORTS NATIONAL TOURNAMENT & SUMMIT](#) – **Jul18-Jul21**: 10th annual dodgeball event in Minneapolis and St. Paul, USA

August 2024

- No known events at this time

September 2024

- No known events at this time

October 2024

- [EAST BAY FRONT RUNNERS & WALKERS PRIDE RUN & WALK](#) – **Oct12**: 2024 Pride run and walk at Lake Merritt boating Center, Oakland, CA USA.

November 2024

- No known events at this time

December 2024

- No known events at this time

Are you ready to kick it?

SAN FRANCISCO
SPIKES



All Spikes 2024 Soccer Tournament

When: Sunday April 14th starting at 11am
Where: Polo Fields





Save the date

MAY 8TH, 2024

DRAG Around
the Rink

Time & Location

6:00PM TO 9:00PM

10TH STREET, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA



EVENT DETAILS
BUY TICKETS





USGO is the longest running LGBTQ+ tennis tournament in the world. While the tournament was on hiatus for 2020, 2021, and 2023, we are excited to return to its historic home at the Lisa and Douglas Goldman Tennis Center (TGC) in Golden Gate Park and a secondary site to be determined.

USGO is back for 2024!!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)

Memorial Weekend, May 25-27, 2024
Goldman Tennis Center (Golden Gate Park) & TBD

USGO is the longest running LGBTQ+ tennis tournament in the world. While the tournament was on hiatus for 2020, 2021 and 2023, we are excited to return to its historic home at the [Lisa and Douglas Goldman Tennis Center](#) (GTC) in Golden Gate Park and a secondary site to be determined.

The tournament will be held from Saturday, May 25th through Monday, May 27th, from 8am - 10pm on Saturday and Sunday and will finish up by the afternoon on Monday. In addition to tennis matches being held throughout the day, there will be a Friday welcome party (at [HiTops](#)) and a Sunday social held at GTC in the Koret Garden Pavilion.

Welcome Party to be held at [HiTops](#) on May 24th

Find the 2024 draw and results [here](#). For more information email USGO Director, Santi Soumpholphakdy, at USGO@gltf.org.



PRIDE DAY PRIDE LONG SLEEVE HOODED SHIRT

PRESENTED BY GILEAD

SATURDAY, JUNE 15

BUY TICKETS

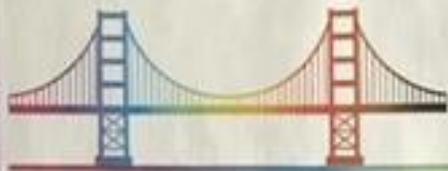




Established 1982



Where The Gay Games Were Born!



SAN FRANCISCO FRONTRUNNERS

SINCE 1974

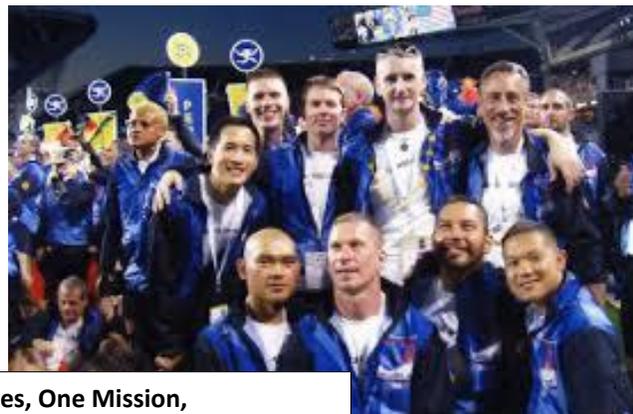


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**All Styles, One Mission,
Empowerment Through Martial Arts**