



INVICTUS GAMES BACKGROUNDER

- The Invictus Games is a biennial international sporting competition for wounded, injured and sick service members and Veterans.
- The Invictus Games was founded in 2014 by Prince Harry, The Duke of Sussex, who is the Patron of the Invictus Games Foundation, the Governing Body of the Invictus Games.
- Returning from deployment in Afghanistan, Prince Harry, The Duke of Sussex, watched as the coffin of a Danish Soldier was loaded aboard for repatriation, alongside three injured British soldiers. That moment had a profound impact on him and, following a visit to the US Warrior Games in 2013, he was inspired to create the international Invictus Games.
- Invictus means ‘unconquered’ and the term embodies the courageous spirit and resilience of the Invictus Games’ competitors.
- The name of the Games was inspired by the poem written in 1875 by William Ernest Henley entitled *Invictus*, which describes the dark and difficult journey of recovery and is testimony to strength, determination and courage.
- I AM is the motto of the Invictus Games and is inspired by the last two lines of the same poem: “I am the master of my fate; I am the captain of my soul.” I AM reflects and defines the Invictus Games’ core purpose: to provide a platform for personal achievement, to compete not just against each other, but against oneself.
- Since 2014, the Invictus Games has been hosted in London (UK) in 2014, Orlando (USA) in 2016, Toronto (Canada) in 2017, Sydney (Australia) in 2018, The Hague (Netherlands) in 2022 (known as the Invictus Games The Hague 2020, due to covid related postponements) and Düsseldorf (Germany) in 2023. The seventh Games will take place in Vancouver and Whistler (Canada) in 2025.
- Invictus Games Vancouver Whistler 2025 will host a maximum of 25 nations with up to 550 international competitors.
- Participation in sports recovery through the Invictus Games has a significant short and long-term positive impact on the recovery of wounded, injured and sick service members and Veterans. Research has shown that competitors experienced greater post-traumatic recovery than those who did not participate.

INVICTUS GAMES VANCOUVER WHISTLER 2025

605 Robson Street, 10th Floor
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- Beyond the Games, the Invictus Games Foundation improves lives through access to international opportunities for sports, esports and adventurous challenge, and building a supportive digital community.
- This year, in 2024, the Invictus Games Foundation celebrates its 10-year anniversary of changing lives and saving lives through sport.
- Birmingham, UK has been announced as the host of the Invictus Games 2027. Washington DC, USA, was the other city on the final shortlist. Six cities expressed initial interest in hosting the Invictus Games 2027.
- The Invictus Games Vancouver Whistler 2025 is the first to host the sporting competitions across two communities, Vancouver and Whistler. It is also the first Invictus Games to host winter adaptive sports, with six out of the eleven sports falling into this category. It will also be the first time that an Invictus Games organizing committee has partnered with First Nations within a host country.

For more information:

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