



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 14, 2015

Contact: Scott Bruscato

318.387.5691

sbruscato@monroe-westmonroe.org

Local Amateur Athletes Have Chance to Compete in National Event

MONROE-WEST MONROE, LA- Olympians Lolo Jones and Jordan Burroughs are urging amateur athletes to participate in the 2015 National State Games of America to be held this summer in Lincoln Nebraska. First, though, athletes must compete and win at the state level.

The twin cities of Monroe and West Monroe will begin the second annual Louisiana State Games with a softball tournament in March. Most other competitions will be held in May, with football and cross country being held in the fall. This year's Games will offer 15 sports and is expected to draw more than 1200 athletes. All amateur athletes in Louisiana and Arkansas are eligible to participate. Registration for the 2015 games is now open. For a complete listing of sports, how to register and event deadlines, go to louisianastategames.com.

Newly added sports to this year's line-up are powerlifting, horseshoe pitching and cross country. Scott Bruscato, Senior Vice President of Sales, stated that "we hope to add more sports each year so that eventually every amateur athlete in Louisiana and Arkansas will have the opportunity to vie for a place in the national games."

"This is an exciting new venture for Louisiana and Arkansas and we were delighted with the first year's showing," commented Alana Cooper, President and CEO of the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau. She further stated "the Louisiana State Games inaugural year exceeded our expectations, so we are anticipating our second year will bring many more athletes, family and friends in our twin cities this year."

The Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau created the first-ever Louisiana State Games program in 2014, making Louisiana the 32nd state to launch a state games program. Residents of both states attending school or serving in the military in other states are eligible to participate. The winners from the 2014 Louisiana State Games are also eligible to compete in the State Games of America this summer.

For a complete list of sports and event coordinators, visit www.louisianastategames.org.

###