

Registration is open for the 2014 Cornhusker State Games, and to help celebrate, the event's 30th Anniversary Opening Ceremonies on Friday, July 18, will take place at Lincoln's Pinnacle Bank Arena.

The annual mid-summer sports festival will feature competition July 18-27 in more than 60 sports at 50 different venues in Lincoln, Omaha and surrounding communities.

Officials expect more than 13,000 competitors, with several new offerings including a gravel race for cyclists, a new junior division in baseball and the return of crossfit after a one-year hiatus.

The Cornhusker State Games also welcomes, for the first time, athletes from neighboring states which either have no official State Games of their own or don't offer State Games of America qualifying sports that are offered at the Cornhusker State Games.

Last year, 12,343 Nebraskans participated in the Cornhusker State Games. Top five team sports last year included basketball, soccer, volleyball, softball and baseball. Top individual sports were track & field, shooting, 5K run, triathlon, swimming and wrestling.

Participants ranged in age from one to 87.

All registered participants receive a shirt, souvenir yearbook and pass to the Opening Ceremonies. Entry fees vary by sport based on competition costs, but the average entry fee is \$29 per person.

Those interested can find information or register at CornhuskerStateGames.com.

The Games Opening Ceremonies will move from its traditional home at Lincoln's Seacrest Field to the new Pinnacle Bank Arena to provide an air-conditioned, rain-proof setting with top-of-the industry audio-visual production capability.