



MEDIA RELEASE

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USABA GOALBALL NATIONALS – JUNE 22-24, 2017

Fort Wayne, IN-Turnstone is hosting the United States Association of Blind Athletes (USABA) Goalball National Championship, June 22-24 in the Plassman Athletic Center and the Goalball Center for Excellence both located at Turnstone.

This is the second time this championship has been hosted at Turnstone. There will be 18 men's and five (5) women's teams competing for the National Championship. The competition includes athletes and coaches from California, New York, Michigan, Georgia, Ohio, New Jersey, Delaware, Indiana, Illinois, Tennessee, Arizona, Utah, and Florida.

The opening ceremony will begin on Thursday at 5 p.m. with games starting at 5:15 p.m. Games on Friday and Saturday will begin at 8:15 a.m. The championship games will be played at approximately 5 p.m. for the women's teams and 6 p.m. for the men's teams on Saturday, June 24.

"Turnstone is proud to be the host of the USABA Goalball National Championship again. As the official training site of the USA National Goalball teams, the Men won Silver in the Rio Paralympics and the Women won Bronze, Turnstone is the natural location for this tournament. USABA and Visit Fort Wayne have been instrumental in making this possible, and we look forward to hosting many more national adaptive sports tournaments in our nearly 200,000 sq. ft. facility which includes the state-of-the-art Plassman Athletic Center." said Mike Mushett, Turnstone CEO.

"We're thrilled Turnstone is hosting the 2017 Goalball National Championships," said Mark Lucas, USABA executive director. "Their state of the art facilities, expert staff and dedicated volunteers provide the ideal location and environment for this annual tournament."

In addition to the tournament, there will be dedication for the USABA Goalball homes that were constructed with the help of the Lions Club International Foundation. The dedication will be at 12 p.m. on Saturday, June 24, in front of the homes on Livingston (across from Turnstone).

This tournament would not be possible without the volunteer support of our community; we are still looking for volunteers, if you are interested in volunteering for this tournament please contact Beth Moody at beth@turnstone.org or at (260) 483-2100.

Thank you to Thrivent Financial, Parkview Sports Medicine, Visit Fort Wayne, City of Fort Wayne, and Pizza Hut, for sponsoring the USABA Goalball Nationals and providing the support to help make this championship possible.

ABOUT TURNSTONE: Founded in 1943, Turnstone's mission is to provide therapeutic, educational, wellness, sport and recreational programs to empower people with disabilities. It is the only not-for-profit in the region that offers a full range of programs and facilities designed to meet the unique needs of people with disabilities.

ABOUT U.S. ASSOCIATION OF BLIND ATHLETES: Since its founding in 1976, USABA, a community-based organization of the United States Olympic Committee, has reached more than 100,000 blind individuals. The organization has emerged as more than just a world-class trainer of blind athletes, it has become a champion of the abilities of Americans who are legally blind. USABA's mission is to enhance the lives of people who are blind and visually impaired by providing the opportunity for participation in sports and physical activity. www.usaba.org / Twitter: [@USABA](https://twitter.com/USABA) / Facebook: [United States Association of Blind Athletes](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedStatesAssociationofBlindAthletes)

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