The Arkansas Senior Olympics is a non-profit organization whose annual games are open to anyone who is 50 years or older as of December 31 of the tournament year. Team event age divisions are 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, and up. Athletes may participate in only one age division, with the age bracket determined by the youngest player on the team.

Competition for this year’s Arkansas Senior Olympics comprises more than 15 separate categories, with most of the events taking place in Hot Springs. Event categories range from archery, bowling and competitive shooting to cycling, track and field events, golf, tennis, swimming, recreational events, weightlifting and more. Only competitors registered with the Arkansas Senior Olympics (501-321-1441, P.O. BOX 1577, HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS 71902) will be allowed to compete in chosen events.

The Hot Springs Village Pickleball Auxiliary is proud to host the 2014 Pickleball Senior Olympics. Sept. This year’s medal event will be played at the Jessieville High School gym Sept. 19-21. Singles play will occur on Sept. 19, Doubles on Sept. 20, and Mixed Doubles on Sept. 21.

The 2014 competition will be a qualifying tournament for the national tournament held in Minneapolis this year. We’ll be using the lime green Jugs ball. The usual age categories will be in effect. However, two consecutive age groups may be combined if too few people are registered for a particular age category.

Play will be double elimination. However, for matches of age brackets with four or fewer Singles players, or four or fewer Doubles teams, play will be round robin. In that case, Singles matches will be first to 15 points (no two-point lead), and Doubles matches will be first to 21 points (no two-point lead). Total points will be used to determine winners.