

# Arctic Winter Games sports list

Alpine Skiing was brought to North America by Scandinavian immigrants as an efficient way to travel over winter snows. Alpine Skiing was added to Arctic Winter Games in 1994 due to its popularity in Alaska, Russia and Greenland. 1996 venue: Alpenglow Ski Area

Arctic Sports, divided into Inuit and Dene Games, are unique competitions of the Arctic Winter games. Historically, these competitions were held in a small space or an igloo or cabin during long winter months, to test strength, endurance and agility and to develop the body for hunting and survival. Venue: Gruening Middle School.

Badminton demands a wide range of motor skills, excellent eye-hand coordination, quickness, and superb physical fitness. Greenland has historically dominated this sport. Will they in 1996? Venue: Chugiak High School.

Basketball was invented by Canadian James A. Naismith, in 1891. From the original 13 rules, the game grew into a complex, highly skilled sport with an intricate blend of timing, intuition and cooperation. Venue: Chugiak High School.

Cross Country Skiing originated in Scandinavia over 5,000 years ago and for most of its history was a form of transportation. Cross Country Skiers enjoy being outdoors in the winter and the exhilaration of competition. Venue: Chugiak High/Beach Lake Trails

Curling is an ice sport which is played by two teams; its history goes back to 1511. Teams play alternately throwing the "stone" which weighs more than 44 pounds and clearing the way with brooms. Venue: Anchorage Curling Club

Dog Mushing is a method of winter travel developed by northern Native peoples and adopted by early immigrants. Early French drivers used the voice command "Marche" to spur their teams. This was mispronounced "mush" and now this type of transportation is called "dog mushing." Venue: Beach Lake Trails

Figure Skating is a sport where solo and pair skaters display technical ability in skating prescribed figures and creativity in free skating.

ing. Venue: Harry J. McDonald Memorial Recreation Center.

Gymnastics attracts people of all ages for fun, fitness, competition and social relaxation. Included in most school curricula, children learn the basics of the balance beam, parallel bars, vault, horse and rings. Some develop their natural ability to compete nationally and internationally. Venue: Bartlett High School.

Ice Hockey is the natural sport of the north. Ice hockey at the 1996 Arctic Winter Games will represent the largest single event with 280 athletes and coaches from Alberta, Alaska, Northwest Territories and Yukon competing. Venue: Harry J. McDonald Memorial Recreation Center.

Indoor Soccer involves two teams of five players, compared to 11 players in the outdoor game. Bringing the game indoors has increased its popularity and speed and made it a year-round sport. Venue: Gruening Middle School

Silhouette Shooting athletes will compete in individual and team small bore rifle silhouette events. Venue: Izaak Walton Recreation Park.

Ski Biathlon combines the speed of cross-country skiing with the shooting accuracy of small bore rifle. It is a traditional Nordic sport tracing its history to the military mountain border patrols. Venue: Kincaid Park.

Snowshoe Biathlon combines the speed and quickness of snowshoe running with the patience and accuracy required for sharpshooting. Venue: Kincaid Park.

Snowshoeing became popular in the middle of the last century as a winter sport and social activity. Snowshoes are made of wooden frames laced with animal hide. Snowshoes were used by many northern Native peoples. Venue: Chugiak High School/Beach Lake Trails and Gruening Middle School.

Short Track Speedskating both indoor and outdoor have been popular sports for more than 100 years. Venue: Harry J. McDonald Memorial Recreation Center.

Table Tennis, frequently referred to as Ping-Pong, is a fast-paced indoor singles or two-player team competition. Venue: Fire

Lake Elementary School.

Volleyball was developed in the United States about 100 years ago. As it became more competitive, skills became more sophisticated and intricate strategies of defense and offense developed. Venue: Buckner Field House, Fort Richardson.

Wrestling has been a form of sports competition for centuries. Freestyle wrestling is most common; however, Inuit wrestling will also be demonstrated. Venue: Eagle River Elementary School.

Cultural activities have long been a part of the Arctic Winter Games. Each Cultural Team delegation will present performances representing songs, dance, music and other unique aspects of their homeland. Venue: Chugiak High School Auditorium.