Contestants sought for games

The Greatland Games are in their second year, and their sponsors are searching for contestants. Great Land Games organizers will be writing to all of Alaska's rural schools to get out information on the games to potential participants.

Games organizer John Hale who lived for three years in Aniak, wants to see junior high and high school students from rural areas participating.

'I know there are some excellent athletes in rural Alaska," Hale said. "We would love to see some of these folks compete in our Games. I urge people from the bush if they are going to be in town to come join these events," Hale said.

Games coordinator Nan Mucha said competition includes many skills "that are naturals to rural" residents." "We have pistol, rifle and basketball shooting, kayaking, wrestling, karate, weightlifting, table tennis and team aerobics," she said.

Ergometer rowing is this year's new sport. Ergo races have proven popular nationwide, and now there are enough of the machines to make an ergometer "boat race." Ergo racers will have a chance to take trial runs on the strange looking machines on June

11. Ergo competition will be held June 18.

The games start April 14 with girls gymnastics and end June 9 after four days of competition in 10 events. The ten events include: 10 Kilometer race, 100 and 800 meter runs, shotput and running longjump, 100 yard freestyle swimming, 100 yard backstroke swimming, archery, a basketball shootout and weightlifting.

People interested in participating should contact Great Land Games, 203 A West 15th Ave., Rm. 207, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501. There is a fifteen dollar registration fee for participants.