

Town of Coaldale Finalizes List of Official Competitions for the 2024 Southern Alberta Summer Games

Registrations for the Games will open on May 3 via the official Southern Alberta Summer Games website (<https://www.southernalbertasummertimegames.ca/>) and remain open until May 31.

On Thursday, March 28, the Town of Coaldale released a finalized list of official competitions for the 2024 Southern Alberta Summer Games (SASG).

In September of last year, Coaldale was chosen by the Southern Alberta Recreation Association to host the 2024 Games, which will be the first to offer full programming since 2019 when the Covid-19 pandemic put a stop to the Games for 4 consecutive years. Since September, Town staff have been busy organizing the Games, including finalizing a list of official competitions that eligible athletes from across southern Alberta can register to compete in.

Official competitions include:

- o 3/5/10 km runs
- o Lacrosse
- o Equestrian
- o Swimming
- o Pickleball
- o Beach volleyball
- o Badminton
- o Mini soccer
- o Flag football
- o Track & field
- o Soccer
- o Cribbage
- o Baseball
- o Photography
- o Golf
- o Mountain biking
- o Softball
- o Weightlifting
- o Basketball (3 on 3)

“A lot of people may not realize it, but the SASG Games have a long history of including competitions for games like cribbage and skills like photography, as well” said Mark McIntosh, Southern Alberta Summer Games Coordinator for the Town of Coaldale. “These competitions serve as a fantastic way to encourage diverse demographics to participate in the Games and make the Games even more inclusive – which is definitely something we want to foster moving forward. The more participants we can include and the more skills we can highlight, the better.”

“As a local coach and photographer, I am excited for all of

the competitions at this year’s Games, as we showcase the top talents both physical and creative”, said Blair Takahashi, who is chairing the photography competition. “The photography competition doesn’t favor age or physical ability, and will focus on highlighting the skills and dedication of this craft in our community.”

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As for the Games themselves, they will take place from July 3-6 and include other fun-filled family friendly activities such as bbqs, concerts, and dj celebrations. “As a community, we’re honored to have been chosen to bring the Games back to life after a 4-year long hiatus and want to make sure they go off with a bang”, said Clayton Varjassy, Community Experience Manager for the Town of Coaldale. “That’s why we’re also organizing a number of other family-friendly activities for people to enjoy while the Games take place. We want the Games to be a party for the entire community!”

The Town of Coaldale and Lethbridge County would like to thank their initial event sponsors including the Coaldale Fun Run, the Coaldale Chamber of Commerce, Dennis Dirtworx, and Porter Tanner Associates Incorporated, for supporting the Games.

If you, your organization, or business, is interested in becoming an official sponsor for the 2024 SASG, please contact Mark McIntosh (mark.mcintosh@coaldale.ca) for information pertaining to sponsorship packages.

DID YOU KNOW?

The speed limit in all Town alleys is 20km/h. Drivers are encouraged to use caution in alleys, particularly near schools, where kids may be walking and where sightlines may be poor.



Town of Coaldale Holds Second Annual Easter Event

This year's event featured an all-ages colouring contest judged by Coaldale Town Council.

On Saturday, March 30, from 1:00-3:30pm, the Town of Coaldale held its second annual Easter Event.

In keeping with last year's Event, this year's Event once again took place in the atrium of Civic Square and once again featured a number of fun, festive, family friendly-activities including:

- photos with the Easter Bunny;
- wagon rides;
- crafts;
- a petting zoo;
- egg decorating; and
- mini games.

"Given the success of last year's event, we thought it would be a good idea to stick with a similar format and so once again offered a host of activities that everyone could enjoy" said Clayton Varjassy, Community Experience Manager for the Town of Coaldale. "Last year, we had over 300 people turn out, and so our hope was to see just as many – if not more – come out this year."

In anticipation of the Event, the Town also organized an Easter Egg Word Hunt with the Easter Bunny. To join in the fun, all you had to do was track down a series of word clues that were placed at various playgrounds throughout Coaldale. These clues could then be used to complete a broken sentence. Once complete, participants were able to present their completed sentence to Event staff in exchange

for a treat from the Easter Bunny during the Event.

Finally, this year's Event will featured an all-ages coloring contest judged by Coaldale Town Council.

"The colouring contest was another fantastic way to drum up excitement for the Event and get more people involved", said Town of Coaldale Mayor, Jack Van Rijn. "As a Council, we strongly believe in putting on Town events that bring the community together, so we were delighted to participate and enjoyed seeing all the amazing entries."



What's Happening in the Community?

On Monday, April 15, the application period for the Coaldale Community Wellness Association Grant will close. For more information, please visit: <https://coaldalewellness.com/>

On Saturday, April 13, from 10am-1pm, the Coaldale Mennonite Church will hold Coaldale Spring Clothing Fest. Come pick out clothing and shoes (all sizes), toys, and small household items for free!

On Saturday, April 20, from 10am-12pm, the Coaldale Christian School will hold its 13th Annual 5km Family Fun Run. To register or for more information, please visit: <https://www.racepro.ca/coaldale>

On Saturday, May 4, the Gem of the West Museum will hold "Cowpoke Day," a family-friendly event that includes free admission to the Museum, a blacksmith and sawmill demonstration, and many other activities. Don't miss out on the fun!