

## **2018 Nikkei Games 4-on-4 Co-ed Basketball Tournament**

### **Overview**

This year's Nikkei Games 4-on-4 Co-ed basketball tournament is being held on Saturday and Sunday, August 11-12, 2018 in the beautiful Pyramid on the campus of California State University, Long Beach. This is the largest single-location basketball tournament in Southern California, if not the nation, with over 1,950 participants last year. This is an opportunity to play in a world renowned venue. There may be four divisions, Gold, Silver, Bronze and perhaps Copper depending on the number of teams within an age group. The divisions are based on skill level and experience.

The format is the team on the court must have two women, nine minute run-time games, half-court and winning team after the nine minutes. Loser's out after each made basket and every change of possession requires the ball to be cleared to the 3-point line. In addition, games are played with a women's ball (28.5") and men cannot shoot inside 15 feet nor can they attempt to block a woman's shot. Four games, all on the same day - either Saturday or Sunday. First three teams in each division receive awards (gold, silver and bronze like the Olympics). All players receive a Nikkei Games T-shirt and a program book.

It is a different style and game than 5-on-5 full-court. All players get in the game; no "hiding" on the court. Emphasis is on man-to-man defense, give and go, and pick and rolls. The participants who have played in the past have a great time in the tournament playing this unique format. It is fast paced and the players have a wonderful time regardless of their team's tournament performance.

We also have had "Family divisions" in the past where for example, fathers and sons or fathers and daughters or uncles and nephews or nieces have formed teams and played against teams with the same composition all in the spirit of families playing together and having fun. What other tournament can a family do this? If you are interested in putting a Family division together, please contact Gail Matsui at [gail.matsui@gmail.com](mailto:gail.matsui@gmail.com).

All applications are due July 1, 2018. However, we are pushing to get the applications in earlier. This year, we expect to firm the number of teams by age and division by mid-June, if not sooner. Last year, almost all divisions were closed over a month prior to the tournament date. Finally, there is a mandatory coaches meeting Friday, August 10, 7:00pm at the Orange County Buddhist Church gym (909 S. Dale Ave., Anaheim 92804) to review game rules, get t-shirts, coach pass, etc.

Remember our motto: "The Nikkei Games: Games for the Generations". We hope you will join us in sharing this dream and making the Nikkei Games something our grandchildren will be able to enjoy.

We know we can count on your help to make the 2018 Nikkei Games the best ever.

Thank you for your support!

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