



VISION

January/February 2007

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MIAMI SPORTS PARTNERS

Happy New Year sports fans and welcome to the first 2007 edition of *Vision*, the e-newsletter of the Miami-Dade Sports Commission! Designed to keep you up-to-date and in the loop on the latest sporting events and activities taking place in Miami-Dade County and at your local Sports Commission, you can be sure you won't miss a thing!

SAYING GOODBYE TO 2006

2006 marked a great year for your Miami-Dade Sports Commission. In addition to bringing on two new team members, the Sports Commission hosted more than 12 events, bringing over \$26 million in economic impact to the Miami-Dade County community.

In 2006, the Miami-Dade Sports Commission secured an additional \$47 million in potential economic impact running through 2009, over 30,000 roomnights, and first time events for Miami such as the 2007 US Fencing Summer Nationals and the 2009 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Regionals.

Miami Sports successfully launched new events such as the Inaugural Miami-Dade Senior Games, and broke records with the 2006 Dodge FHSAA Football Finals. Miami is proud to boast the greatest overall attendance in FHSAA Football Finals history with 56,435 paid. The previous record, set by Miami in 2005, was 36,112.

2006 was a good year for the Miami-Dade Sports Commission with growth and levels of success beyond all expectations. It is our goal to continue this growth and bring sports to the forefront of our community, benefiting not only our local economy, but also our local youth.

As we welcome 2007, you can expect us to continue our aggressive push to secure new opportunities and large events. We look forward to your thoughts and input. If you have events that you would like to see us pursue, please

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email Info@MiamiSports.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

2007 SUNSHINE STATE GAMES ADULT FLAG FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

The excitement and fun of flag football returns to Miami with the 2007 Sunshine State Games Adult Flag Football State Ranking Tournament. Amelia Earhart Park will host the fast moving physical competition March 25 -26, 2007. The event will be open to all adult teams.

One of six throughout the state, teams competing in four or more State Ranking Tournaments are eligible to compete in the State Championships held in June. The Florida Sports Foundation will offer an Invitational Tournament for teams competing in at least one but no more than three State Ranking Tournaments.

Individual awards and team trophies will be provided amongst the four divisions. If you have a Team or looking to join a Team and participate, please contact Jason Cover at Jcover@MiamiSports.org or download the Team Entry Form [here](#).

Teams must consist of members over the age of 18 and can be either male or female. Additionally, all teams must be certified with the Florida Sports Foundation. Certification forms can be obtained by [CLICKING HERE](#).

VISTA HEALTHPLANS RENEW MIAMI SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

This past January, VISTA Healthplans renewed their partnership with the Miami and will become the Official Presenting Partner of the 2007 Miami-Dade Senior Games. In addition to their participation in the Miami-Dade Senior Games, VISTA will receive recognition as a Presenting Partner of the Miami Sports Youth Summit that will launch in May of 2007.

VISTA is one of South Florida's leading health insurance providers supplying policies to both individuals and groups. Their products include health maintenance organization (HMO), preferred provider organization (PPO) and point-of-service (POS) benefit plans. Headquartered in South Florida, VISTA covers nearly 300,000 members and 10,000 employers in the state of Florida through employer group and individual plans, Medicare, Medicaid and Florida Healthy

Kids.

"We're proud to be affiliated with the Miami-Dade Sports Commission, an organization that supports health-conscious activities for the elderly and sporting events for high school and college athletes," states Rosa Cozad, VISTA Senior Vice President of Government Programs. "VISTA proudly sponsors and participates in a wide variety of activities in the community. Each year, VISTA employees contribute financial support and hundreds of volunteer hours to local charities and organizations. Marketing through sports is an excellent way to reach out to individuals of all ages and cultural backgrounds who want to achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle."

The Miami-Dade Sports Commission offers VISTA a wide array events and opportunities across a variety of different demographic targets. For information on how you can partner with the Miami-Dade Sports Commission, please contact Shawn Thorimbert, Director of Business Development, at SThorimbert@MiamiSports.org or at (305) 818-7188.

BE A PART OF THE MIAMI SPORTS TEAM

Looking for ways to break into the Miami Sports industry? This is your chance to get in and get involved!

Miami is filled with opportunities for you to be a part of the Miami sports scene, and volunteering is your chance to play a role in the exciting sports event experience. There is no better way to connect with the local community and "rub elbows" with the sports and community elite.

It is our goal to best match your interests, talents and availability with the opportunities we have available. Please visit www.MiamiSports.org and check out our events. If an event on our list meets your interests, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate you.

For more information on how you can become a member of the Miami Sports Team please contact us at Info@MiamiSports.org today!

Sports do not build character. They reveal it. ~**Heywood Hale Broun**

Heather Wasek
Miami-Dade Sports Commission

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