



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MIAMI-DADE SPORTS COMMISSION CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONER JOSE "PEPE" DIAZ PROCLAIMS OLYMPIC DAY IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY**

MIAMI – The Miami-Dade Sports Commission (MDSC) announced today that June 23 will be celebrated countywide as Olympic Day with a special event conducted by MDSC Chairman Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz and featuring presentations by Olympians Gary Hall, Sr. (Aquatics) and Orlando Fuentes (Judo).

Olympic Day is a worldwide commemoration of Baron Pierre de Coubertin's June 23, 1984, convening of the first International Olympic Committee (IOC) meeting at the Sorbonne in Paris, and the founding of the Modern Olympic Games. National Olympic Committees (NOCs) throughout the world will also participate in the international celebration, with each Olympic Committee sending Olympic Day greetings to participating nations.

The Olympic Day event in Miami-Dade will begin at 1:00 PM at Tamiami Park in the fairgrounds building. The Ceremony will feature a proclamation from Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz and presentations from Olympians for the over 100 Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation summer campers in attendance.

"The importance of amateur athletics in Miami-Dade County cannot be underestimated," said Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz. "In addition to encouraging a healthy lifestyle through lifetime participation in sports, we are able to share the Olympic dream with these young people."

Mike Sophia, Executive Director added, "The Olympic Movement is important to the future of our community. By supporting this movement we support a more connected and compassionate place to live."

The Miami-Dade Sports Commission was created by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners in 2003, and opened for business in April of 2004. The Sports Commission promotes sports in Miami-Dade County, and works to secure sports events that will generate economic impact for the community. The Miami-Dade Sports Commission is a proud partner of the United States Olympic Committee's Community Partner program.

For more information on Olympic Day and the Miami-Dade Sports Commission, please visit [www.MiamiSports.org](http://www.MiamiSports.org).

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