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**December 9, 2016**

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### **Cape Coral's Robert Welter Continues Winning Pickleball Ways at Florida Senior Games**

**CLEARWATER** – On the first of three days of Pickleball at the 2016 Florida Senior Games, Robert Welter, of Cape Coral, picked up right where he left off at the 2015 Games.



On the courts at The Long Center Friday, Welter (*at left*) won four matches in the Men's Singles 60-64 age group, for his fourth consecutive gold medal in the age group. He defeated Paul Cash, of The Villages, in the final, 11-9, 7-11 and 11-9. The last time Welter left The Long Center Courts, it was with a gold medal, winning the mixed doubles 60-64 age group championship on the final day of play at the 2015 Games.

In winning two gold medals and a silver at the 2015 Games, Welter played 18 total matches in singles, men's doubles and mixed doubles. Following today's success, Welter will once again play mixed doubles Saturday and men's doubles on Sunday.

After winning a gold and two silver Table Tennis medals on Monday, Deb Harrison, of The Villages, returned to Clearwater to win the women's singles Pickleball gold medal in the 65-69 age group at the North Greenwood Recreation Complex. Harrison defeated Darlene Miller, of The Villages, 11-6, 11-6 in the final match.

Harrison's winning performance earned increased her Florida Senior Games Pickleball gold medal count to 29 since 2005. She will also play mixed and women's doubles on Saturday and Sunday.

At the Horseshoes Championships at Ed C. Wright Park, it took two tie-breakers to declare Tom Edge, of Fort Myers, the 55-59 age group gold medalist. Edge, Alan Makar, of Fort Myers, and Eric Kube, of Kissimmee, all finished with two wins in three games. Since their head-to-head competition all cancelled each other out, it finally came down to Edge's 92 total points, in three games, over 85 for Makar and 80 for Kube.

Edge has won the 55-59 age group gold medal three of the last four years.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Florida Senior Games, featuring more than 2,600 athletes competing in 24 sports over nine days, continue on Saturday with the busiest day of the event, with nine sports in action.



All events of the 2016 Florida Senior Games have no admission charge and the public is encouraged to attend.

**Schedule for Saturday, December 10**

Cycling (20K and 40K Road Races), Crest Lake Park, Clearwater, 7:30 a.m.

Pickleball (Mixed Doubles), The Long Center and North Greenwood Recreation Center, Clearwater, 8:00 a.m.

Track and Field (Field Events Only), Clearwater High School, 8:00 a.m.

Basketball Shooting, Ross Norton Recreation Center, Clearwater, 8:30 a.m.

5K Road Race, John Chestnut Sr. Park, Clearwater, 8:30 a.m.

5K Race Walk/Power Walk, John Chestnut Sr. Park, Clearwater, 8:35 a.m.

Powerlifting, Safety Harbor Community Center, 9:30 a.m.

Billiards (Nine-Ball), Stroker's Sports Bar and Grill, Clearwater, 10:00 a.m.

Bag Toss, Stroker's Sports Bar and Grill, Palm Harbor, 11:00 a.m.

Basketball 3-on-3, Ross Norton Recreation Center, Clearwater, 12:00 Noon