The Arctic Winter Games are a prominent international sport competition for young athletes in the northern and arctic regions. Currently, nine contingents participate in the biannual games, including northern territories of Canada, Russia and Europe.   Team Alaska has been a participating contingent in the Games since 1970.

- Since the Games' inception, approximately 6,000 Alaskans have been members of Team Alaska, and more than that number have participated as volunteers working at Games hosted by Alaska Communities.

- Over 300 Alaskan youth represented Team Alaska in the 2012 Arctic Winter Games in Whitehorse, Yukon Canada, where Alaskan athletes earned a total of 190 medals!

- The 2014 Games will be hosted in Fairbanks Alaska. Over 2000 athletes, representing nine territories, will participate.   Team Alaska will comprise of 306 athletes and 75 volunteer coaches and staff.

- At the 2014 Games, Team Alaska will compete in 20 sporting & traditional dance and music events, including the Dene[1] and Inuit Games[2].

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[1] Dene games consist of the following events: finger pull, snowsnake, stick pull hand games and pole push
[2] Inuit games consist of the following events: one-foot high kick, two-foot high kick, Alaskan high kick, kneel jump, sledge jump and triple jump. Older competitors participate in the arm pull airplane, one hand reach, head pull and knuckle hop.

It is the mission of the AWGTA Board of Directors to ensure that *every young Alaskan has a chance to participate in either the Games themselves or Regional Trials.*

To date, young athletes from over 90 communities in Alaska have participated in the games. These communities include:

Anchor Point	Golovin Haines	Palmer
Anchorage	Healy	Peters Creek
Anderson	Homer	Petersburg
Angoon	Hoonah	Platinum
Aniak	Hooper Bay	Point Hope
Atka	Houston	Port Graham
Auke Bay	Juneau	Portage Creek
Barrow	Kasigluk	Salcha
Bethel	Kasilof	Savoonga
Big Lake	Kenai	Seward
Buckland	Kenny Lake	Sitka
Cantwell	Ketchikan	Soldotna
Chefornak	Kipnuk	St. Mary's
Chevak	Kodiak	Sterling
Chitina	Koliganek	Sutton
Chugiak	Kotlik	Talkeetna
Clam Gulch	Kotzebue	Tanana
Copper Center	Kwigillingok	Tatitlek
Cordova	McGrath	Tok
Craig	Mekoryuk	Toksook Bay
Delta Junction	Naknek	Tonsina
Dillingham	Napakiak	Trapper Creek
Douglas	Nenana	Tuntutuliak
Eagle River	New Stuyahok	Tununak
Eielson AFB	Newtok	Two Rivers
Elmendorf AFB	Nikiski	Unalakleet
Ester	Ninilchik	Unalaska
Fairbanks	Nome	Valdez
Fort Richardson	Noorvik	Wainwright
Fort Wainwright	North Pole	Wasilla
Galena	Northway	White Mountain
Girdwood	Nunapitchuk	Willow
Glennallen		Wrangell

How are athletes selected to participate in Team Alaska at the Arctic Winter Games?

Team Alaska athletes must be a resident of Alaska, and between the ages of 11 and 18 years of age[3]. Athletes must comply with athlete eligibility policies as defined by the Athlete Eligibility Policy in the AWG International Staging Manual.

All 20 sports have established procedures for selecting sports teams. These procedures are reviewed bi-annually, a process that will be complete at the end of February 2013. The Sport Coordinator selects the athletes, in collaboration with the coaches and confirmation by the Team Alaska Chef de Mission.

Each athlete must provide, at minimum, the following information in order to apply for Team Alaska:

- A written application is submitted to www.awg.teamalaska.org. There is no fee to apply.
- The application packet must include:
  - Copy of birth certificate or photocopy of passport
  - Two contactable references
  - Recommendation from a coach who has coached the applicant
  - Tape, DVD, or youtube URL required if the coach is unable to see the athlete play in person

Team selection is based upon the following standards:
  - Playing Experience
  - Coach's recommendation
  - References
  - Skills evaluation of tape, DVD, youtube URL, or live performance

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[3] With the exception of the Dene Games, which has an "open" category with no age restriction for male participants

Sample Team Alaska Application

ARCTIC WINTER GAMES TEAM ALASKA (AWGTA)
Please send to Sport Coordinator
Athlete Application – March 15-22, 2014, Fairbanks, AK

Name:		Home Ph:
Address:		Work Ph:
City:		Cell Ph:
Zip:	E-mail:	
Birthdate:	Sex: M F	Yr in 9 10 11 12 Coll-Fresh Coll-School: Soph
Height:	Passport: Yes No	Alaska Resident: Yes No

Competition Experience:

Coaches and reference contact information

Please describe your reasons for wanting to represent Team Alaska in the Arctic Winter Games:

In signing below, I affirm that this information is truthful and accurate. I will abide by all AWGTA rules, regulations and code of conduct. I understand that if I will be 18 years of age at the time of the Games that Team Alaska will run a background check on me.

Signature of Applicant   Date

Arctic Winter Games Team Alaska Office: PO Box 240061 Anchorage, AK 99524; e-mail: shawn@teamalaska.org