



# Team Alaska Arctic Winter Games

# The Mission & Purpose of Team AK

- ***Our Mission:*** To promote the values of respect, fair-play & confidence in Alaskan youth, through participation in international sport competitions and cultural exchange
- ***Our Purpose:*** Team Alaska organizes and selects youth athletes to compete in the Arctic Winter Games, a high-profile circumpolar sport competition for northern and arctic athletes.

Established in 1968 as a nonprofit.  
Participating in the Games since 1970.

# What are the Arctic Winter Games?



An International, biennial, cultural & sporting event for youth in the circumpolar North.

# In the beginning...

**Founded in 1969 under the leadership of**

- Governor Wally Hickel
- Stuart Hodgson  
(Commissioner for the Northwest Territories) &
- James Smith (Yukon Commissioner)




*Ken McKinnon, first president of the AWG Corporation; Walter Hickel, Governor of Alaska; and Malcolm Fraser, first Director of the AWG Corporation, welcome Alaska's partnership in the Arctic Winter Games in 1968.*

# Then & Now



**Chronology**



**Yellowknife NWT** March 8-14, 1970

**Sports (10)**  
badminton, basketball, boxing, curling, cross-country skiing, figure skating, hockey, shooting, table tennis, volleyball

**Contingents & Ufus\***

Contingent	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
NWT	34	20	10	64
Alaska	22	17	20	59
Yukon	7	25	21	53

**Participants:** 500

# The Governing Bodies

International  
Committee



Team Alaska (and the  
8 other Delegates)



The Biennial Host  
Community







# The 9 Delegates

## Arctic Winter Games



Colored pennants indicate host cities for the Arctic Winter Games.

# Alaska as Host to the Arctic Winter Games

- 1974 – Anchorage
- 1982- Fairbanks
- 1988 – Fairbanks
- 1996 – Chugiak/Eagle River
- 2006 – Kenai Peninsula Borough
- 2015 - Fairbanks





# Team AK at the 2018 Games:

- 300 Athletes
- 50 volunteer  
coaches &  
chaperones



# Traditional Sports

- Arctic sports ( high kick, kneel jump, arm pull)
- Dene games (finger pull, snowsnake, pole push)
- Dog mushing







# Arctic Winter Games

March 15 to March 22

Wednesday, March 18, 1992



**GOING FOR THE GOLD:**  
Nicole Johnson of Fairbanks, Alaska makes a six-foot, three-inch kick to win a Gold Ulu in the Women's Two Foot High Kick at Yukon College on Monday night.  
Star Photo by Mike Thomas





# Nordic Sports

- Biathlon ski
- Biathlon snowshoe
- Cross country skiing
- Snowshoeing
- Snowboarding



# Indoor Sports

- Badminton
- Basketball
- Gymnastics
- Soccer
- Volleyball
- Wrestling







# Ice Sports

- Curling
- Figure skating
- Hockey
- Speed skating

# The Culture of the Arctic













Thank you for supporting our Alaskan youth  
and their participation in the Arctic Winter Games.