



Athlete Profile: Jimmy Green

U.S. Army Veteran
49 years old | Ocala, Florida

The year was 1987. Seriously injured in a car accident while on active duty with the U.S. Army, then 18-year-old Veteran Jimmy Green was paralyzed from the waist down and thought his life was over.

Nine years later, he would find new life when he was introduced to the National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Seattle, Wash., by a Paralyzed Veterans of America National Service Officer. He says the experience redefined him and gave his life purpose.

That was 22 years ago and Green has participated in every Wheelchair Games since, competing in up to seven different wheelchair sports and earning an impressive 67 medals.

He is excited about competing with fellow Veterans during the 38th National Veterans Wheelchair Games coming to Orlando July 30th to August 4th. He will take part in wheelchair softball, basketball, field events, 9-ball and archery – the latter being a new sport for him.

“To see real athletes playing real sports and doing it so impressively, well, the games enlightened me. I learned that you can be the athlete that you once were—in a different way. And there are so many wheelchair sports to compete in. The Games literally opened the door to the rest of my life,” he said.



“I have made so many friends through wheelchair sports and the National Veterans Wheelchair Games. I especially look forward every year to new Veterans participating in the Games. They leave enlightened...I love seeing what it once did for me do for them.”