

## *Vermont athletes triumph in 2011 National Senior Games*

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Vermont Senior athletes triumphed at the 2011 National Senior Games presented by Humana in Houston, Texas. Seventy-seven-year-old Flo Meiler took gold in W75-80 pole vault, high jump, and discus throw; silver in the long jump; and bronze in triple jump. Seventy-six-year-old Barbara Jordan earned silver in the 100m and 200m dash, and bronze in the long jump and triple jump.

Meiler began competing in tennis when she was 40. She attended

her first National Senior Games in 1991. She was inducted in the US Masters Hall of Fame in 2010 and received Vermont Athlete of the Year for the Vermont Senior Games in 1997, 2004, 2005, and 2009.

"I always like challenging events," Meiler said. "It was the same thing when I did water skiing. I was always the oldest lady there. The pole vault really intrigued me."

Jordan first attended the National Senior Games in 1993. She is a coordinator for the Vermont Senior Games.

"Be able to challenge people," Jordan said. "People are much more capable of doing things than they think they are."

Jordan originally approached Meiler about competing in track and field events. Jordan and Meiler frequently train together.

Twelve athletes from Vermont competed in the 2011 National Senior Games. To date, Vermont athletes have earned 13 medals: four gold, five silver, and four bronze.

More than 10,000 men and women athletes over the age of 50 are participating in this year's National Senior Games. They come from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Canada. The games run June 16-30 at 13 different venues in the Houston and Harris County area and is the largest multi-sport event for athletes over 50. Track and field events are being held at Turner Stadium in the Humble Independent School District. For more information, visit [www.nsga.com](http://www.nsga.com).