



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Contact: Anne Cribbs, 650.856.3200

May 28, 2009

## **Northern California Olympians Announce 2009 Grant Program**

### *Travel and Training Grants for Future Olympians and Paralympians*

San Francisco, CA.....The Northern California Olympians (NCO), a chapter of the USOC Alumni Organization, announced today the grant program to provide direct financial assistance to athletes with successful competitive records who have the potential to qualify for future Olympic or Paralympic Teams.

In 2009, assistance for athletes with the potential to be placed on the 2010 Olympic or Paralympic Teams will be given the highest priority. Requests for assistance will be considered for coaching, specialized training, equipment, and travel.

Jim Schmitz, chair of the NCO Grant Program and 1980, 88, 92 Olympian (weightlifting), explains, "This is the fifth time the NCO has awarded grants – and it is always exciting to help provide funding for Olympians and Paralympians from Northern California - to be able to help future Olympians and Paralympians from our hometowns."

Information about the grant program will be sent via email to all Olympic Sports National Governing Bodies (NGB) and to members of the Northern California Olympians. This year, the Northern California Olympians will award grants of \$500 each. The deadline for applications is June 30, 2009. Applications will be reviewed by the Northern California Olympians' Board of Directors and the grants will be announced on August 2, 2009. Grant applications are available at [www.ncolympians.org](http://www.ncolympians.org).

Funds for the NCO Travel and Training Grant Program come from the proceeds of the NCO Welcome Home Dinner, held every four years, just after the Olympic and



Paralympic Games and from contributions from Olympians from past teams and community members.

For more information on the grant program, [www.NCOlympians.org](http://www.NCOlympians.org).

The Northern California Olympians (NCO) is the organization of Olympians and Paralympians from past and present teams who live and work in Northern California. The NCO offers fellowship to past and current Olympic and Paralympic team members, coordinates appearances at youth, community and corporate events; and supports an active, visible, nationwide and worldwide Olympian organization. The NCO is a chapter of the U.S. Olympic Alumni Association. Membership in the Northern California Olympians is open to all Olympians and Paralympians from any country. For more information, please see [www.NCOlympians.org](http://www.NCOlympians.org).