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## Glendale Homenetmen Ararat Chapter Hosts 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Friendship Games

GLENDALE, California – Homenetmen Glendale Ararat Chapter is hosting and organizing the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Friendship Games for the Glendale community. Over 250 athletes ages 10 and up have signed-up to participate in tournaments that include basketball, soccer, and table tennis making these games one of the largest multiethnic youth and adult athletic events ever hosted in Glendale.

The Basketball games will be held on Saturdays and Sundays at the Glendale Homenetmen Ararat Chapter North Campus located at 3347 N. San Fernando Road, and the Glendale Sports Complex, 2200 Fern Lane, 91208 October 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. The table tennis competitions are open to everyone and will take place on October 12<sup>th</sup> at Homenetmen Glendale Ararat's North Campus. The Youth Soccer Tournament coordinated in conjunction with Glendale AYSO region 88 teams will begin October 22 and end on November 5<sup>th</sup> at the Glendale Sports Complex.

"The goal of these Friendship Games is to bring together community members from different cultures and ages and foster goodwill, create new and lasting friendships and unite the Glendale community in a friendly competitive manner. We want to give the opportunity for aspiring athletes, professionals and especially the younger generation to show-off their talent, pursue athletic excellence and show true sportsmanship," stated Tomik Abrahamian of the Homenetmen Glendale Ararat Chapter.

The Friendships Games are sponsored by Glendale Adventist Medical Center, Allen Gwen Chevrolet, the Glendale University College of Law and many other local businesses. Proceeds from the games will go to support future activities of the Glendale STAR program and Glendale Police Explorers.

(more)

## Friendship Games 2-2-2

Glendale City Manager Scott Ochoa and the Glendale Police and Los Angeles Police Departments will also be competing in basketball. Any group or individual can still sign up to play. For more information or for a complete schedule of the games call (323) 256-2564, or visit <a href="www.araratgfg.com">www.araratgfg.com</a>. Follow the Friendships games and post updates using @my\_ararat and #glendalefriendshipgames.

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The Armenian General Athletic Union and Scouts, referred to as Homenetmen, is a non-profit organization founded in 1918. As a strong believer in the strong mind in a strong body concept, Homenetmen provides our youth with moral, physical and social education. In addition, it exposes the youth to the wealth of the Armenian culture and heritage, prepared outstanding and law abiding Armenian American Citizens. The Glendale Ararat Chapter is the largest chapter in the United States, with nearly 2,300 members. The most important part of our organization's function is provision of healthy and clean programs for teenagers and young adults through organized and supervised after school and weekend activities in a family oriented environment. They are taught volunteerism, community and cultural values, citizenship, teamwork, receive leadership training, and are kept away from the strong negative influences facing our youth including drugs, gangs, and crime.