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**MEDIA ALERT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Valor Games Southeast 2022 Wheelchair Basketball Tournament – August 6

VISUALS – Veterans with disabilities compete in 3-on-3 wheelchair basketball tournament at Rocky Mount Event Center.
Interview opportunities available with athletes and Bridge II Sports Founder & CEO Ashley Thomas.

Saturday, August 6 – 9 am – 3:00 pm

*[Link to video](#) produced from last year's event for visuals reference

Bridge II Sports, North Carolina adapted sports organization, is honored to bring the spirit of [Valor Games Southeast](#) (VGSE) home for the 10th year this summer with the continued support of presenting sponsor MetLife.

Since 2013, VGSE has engaged over 1,200 Veterans with disabilities through the power of adapted sports competition and camaraderie at this annual event.

After a successful 2-day, 7-sport event at Duke University Cameron Indoor Stadium (May 25) and Lake Crabtree County Park (May 26), Bridge II Sports is excited to continue the 'Summer of VGSE22' with the next big event:

**3-on-3 Wheelchair Basketball Tournament
Saturday, August 6
9am – 3:30pm
Rocky Mount Event Center
285 NE Main Street, Rocky Mount, NC 27801**

Veteran athletes with physical disabilities will hit the hardwood for a fast-paced, full day of wheelchair basketball competition at the Rocky Mount Event Center. This year, Veterans will be joined on the court by non-Veteran wheelchair basketball players as a way to connect to the community.

20-minute half-court games will be played throughout the morning on 4 courts culminating in the semi-finals beginning at 1:00 pm, the bronze medal game at 2:30 pm, and gold medal game at 2:50pm.

Spectators are welcome and encouraged to come catch the action. The event is free and open to the public.

For the first time ever Bridge II Sports will be live streaming the entire day on YouTube. Live stream can be accessed through [Bridge II Sports YouTube page](#) or at www.bridge2sports.org

This life-changing event is made possible through a grant from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and support from several community and corporate partners. For the eighth year running, MetLife is serving as a presenting sponsor of VGSE. Beyond providing generous financial support, MetLife has engaged a strong core team of employees, predominantly Veterans, who have risen in volunteer leadership roles to assist with planning and support of this large-scale event.

“MetLife is a long-time supporter of military veterans, who bring unique skills and diverse perspectives to the workplace and society,” said MetLife Chief Financial Officer John McCallion, who also serves as executive sponsor of the company’s Veterans Initiative. “We are proud to once again sponsor the Valor Games and share in its mission of empowering veterans to make a positive impact in the communities where they live and work.”

For more information on Valor Games Southeast 2022, visit www.bridge2sports.org/valorgamesse

IMPORTANT: MEDIA COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS

Due to COVID-19 Restrictions and the safety of ALL

Media interested in covering the event(s) are REQUIRED to:

- RSVP with a *proposed time and duration of visit* to Brad Rosell, Marketing Manager – Bridge II Sports bradr@bridge2sports.org or 919-907-1532
- Limit attendance to a maximum of 2 individuals
- Follow all COVID-19 precautions while on-site including temperature check and maintaining social distance.
- Review and sign [Bridge II Sports Media Policy](#) and check in for credentials on-site.

About Bridge II Sport

Bridge II Sports is a North Carolina non-profit organization dedicated to developing and implementing opportunities for youth, adults, and Veterans with physical disabilities to realize their potential through sports participation. Through sports programming, special events, awareness initiatives and team development, Bridge II Sports empowers persons with physical disabilities to “Find the Player Within” and challenge perceptions of disability. It is the power of adapted sports that builds healthy bodies, minds, impacting the community with strength. For more information on Bridge II Sports visit www.bridge2sports.org

About MetLife

MetLife, Inc. (NYSE: MET), through its subsidiaries and affiliates (“MetLife”), is one of the world’s leading financial services companies, providing insurance, annuities, employee benefits and asset management to help individual and institutional customers build a more confident future. Founded in 1868, MetLife has operations in more than 40 markets globally and holds leading positions in the United States, Japan, Latin America, Asia, Europe and the Middle East. For more information, www.metlife.com.

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