



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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COMMUNITY INVITED TO LEARN AND PLAY ANCIENT GAME OF LONGBALL AT GANONDAGAN

Summer sports and games at Ganondagan begin on June 5

Rochester, NY— Generations before the “all-American sport” of baseball, Native Americans were busy playing the game of longball. **On Saturday, June 5, from 1-3 pm, Ganondagan State Historic Site** is offering the opportunity for the community to come to the Site, learn about this sport, then join together to play a longball game as a fun and different way to spend a summer afternoon.

Long ball is an ancient game of hitting and running using a leather ball and a long slender wooden bat. Teams are drawn with equal numbers of players. A pitcher is chosen for each side as well as an impartial referee to keep score. The first team to score 21 wins. What complicates and excites such a simple game are the rules. Site staff will be on-hand to teach and oversee the game. For a full description of the rules, visit www.onondaganation.org/culture/sports_longball.html. Native American team sports such as longball emphasize the importance of strength of both body and mind and of leadership and responsibility to others. As the game involves a lot of running, participants are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and bring food and drinks. Picnics and cameras also are welcome.

This event is included in the regular admission to Ganondagan State Historic Site: \$3/Adults, \$2/seniors (65+) and students with ID (including college). Admission is free for Friends of Ganondagan members. All individuals participating in this event need to check-in at the Visitors Center.

For more information, visit www.ganondagan.org/programs/Longball.html or call 585-742-1690.

Note to Media: Hi-res photos of longball at Ganondagan are available.

CALENDAR:

What: Ganondagan Community Longball Game

When: Saturday, June 5, 1-3 pm

Where: Ganondagan State Historic Site, 1488 State Route 444, Victor, NY

Tickets: Included in the regular admission for Ganondagan State Historic Site: \$3/adults, \$2/seniors (65+) and students with ID (including college). Friends of Ganondagan members are free.

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Ganondagan State Historic Site (www.ganondagan.org) in Victor, NY stands at the location of what was one of the largest, most vital 17th-century Seneca towns until its destruction in 1687. Today, it is a destination for visitors to explore the replica of a bark longhouse and hunting lodge and enjoy self-guided tours through trails on the Site's 600+ acres. It also acts as a resource for students and educators about the Iroquois Confederacy, or Haudenosaunee, and its message of peace. Every summer, *Friends of Ganondagan* hosts the Native American Dance & Music Festival, attended by more than 4,000 people from all over the world. *Friends* also sponsors the annual Canandaigua Treaty Day and presents lectures, workshops, and programs reflecting the vibrancy of a living culture and promoting a sustainable future.