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In the picture: Mart de Kruif and H.K.H. Prinses Margriet.

Thursday, June 3, 2021, Apeldoorn - In the beautiful sun-drenched gardens of Paleis het Loo, the "official Invictus Games The Hague 2020 Tulip" was blessed by H.R.H. Princess Margriet on Thursday, June 3, 2021. The Princess, who is honorary chairman of the committee of recommendation of the Dutch edition of The Invictus Games, blessed the tulip in the presence of Alexander Lamp, one of the members of the Dutch Invictus Team.

Tulip award-winning symbol of Dutch Invictus Games

Invictus Games The Hague 2020 have been postponed twice and will now take place from April 16-22, 2022. From the first postponed edition, the Invictus Tulp has been the symbol for this successful international sports event for physically and/or mentally injured military personnel. The Invictus Games uses the power of sport to encourage recovery, support rehabilitation and generate broader understanding and respect for those who serve or have served their country.

Grown by tulip growers Jan and Jose Ligthart of Den Helder, this unique tulip represents, among other things, the invincibility of the competitors. After their mental or physical injuries, they have all found the inner strength to go on and pick themselves up. Almost always with the help of family and friends, but always partly thanks to the power of sport.

The blessing was performed in the gardens of Paleis Het Loo, next to The King's Leap an impressive fountain. The ceremony was attended by Mart de Kruif, Chairman Invictus Games The Hague 2020, Mrs. Lucy Ferguson, Deputy Ambassador UK and also representative of the Invictus Games Foundation and not to forget the growers Jan & Jose Ligthart.

Alexander Lamp

Alexander (45) from Helmond will compete for the second time in the Invictus Games in 2022. He will participate in powerlifting and rowing. He was diagnosed with MS in 2010, following symptoms of failure in his right leg. As a result, he can no longer perform his work in the Marine Corps. His family, sports and music give him support and strength.

Lamp gave the following reaction: "Playing sports with my team and other fellow sufferers provides motivation and inspiration. And because the Games are now in the Netherlands, we have the opportunity to really do it together with my family this time!"

Mart de Kruif said, "All the hard work and efforts of the 500 participants from 20 countries are very valuable to us as an organizer and our partners and are a huge inspiration to create an even more beautiful event in 2021. This beautiful yet powerful flower symbolizes the Invictus spirit. As an organization, we also want to show our invincibility and the Invictus Spirit by demonstrating our strength to the world in 2022 with an unforgettable event."

More about the Invictus Games The Hague 2020

So the fifth Invictus Games will be held in The Hague from 6-22 April 2022 with more than 500 competitors from 20 countries taking part in a multi-sport event featuring ten adaptive sports. The Duke of Sussex is patron and initiator of the Invictus Games and the Invictus Games Foundation. All participants will bring, at the invitation and expense of the organization, two friends or family members who have helped during the rehabilitation process to the event.

De Invictus Games is een internationaal sportevenement voor fysiek en/of mentaal gewonde militairen. De Invictus Games gebruikt de kracht van sport om herstel te stimuleren, revalidatie te ondersteunen en breder begrip en respect te genereren voor hen die hun land dienen of gediend hebben.

'Invictus' staat voor 'onoverwonnen'. Het symboliseert de vechtlustige geest, van fysiek en/of mentaal gewonde militairen. Het laat zien wat je, ondanks je verwondingen, kunt bereiken.

Aan de Invictus Games, die in het voorjaar van 2022 in Den Haag worden gehouden, doen 500 deelnemers mee, uit 20 verschillende landen. Zij zullen actief zijn in tien verschillende sporten.

Alle deelnemers mogen, op uitnodiging en kosten van de organisatie, twee vrienden of familieleden die hebben geholpen tijdens het revalidatieproces meenemen naar het evenement.

Iedere deelnemer aan de Invictus Games heeft zijn eigen verhaal, maar allen hebben ze de innerlijke kracht gevonden om door te gaan en zichzelf op te richten. Alleen, met hulp van familie en vrienden, maar altijd mede dankzij de kracht van sport.

The Invictus Games is an international adaptive sporting event for Wounded, Injured and Sick Servicemen and women, both serving and veteran. The Games use the power of sport to inspire recovery, support rehabilitation and generate a wider understanding and respect of all those who serve their country.

The word 'Invictus' means 'unconquered'. It embodies the fighting spirit of wounded, injured and sick Service personnel and personifies what these tenacious men and women can achieve post injury.

The Invictus Games is about much more than just sport – it captures hearts, challenges minds and changes lives.

The Invictus Games 2020 will be held in The Hague in the spring of 2022 and invites 500 competitors, from 19 different countries. They will participate in 10 different sports.

All competitors may bring two friends or family members who have helped during the rehabilitation process, at the invitation and expense of the organization.

The participants all have their own story of physical and/or psychological injury or illness. But all of them have found the inner strength to go on and reinvent themselves. Sometimes alone, often with the help of family and friends, but always through the power of sport. The Invictus Games The Hague 2020 is *the* platform to share their stories and add another chapter to their book of life.

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