



Best U.S. Skydivers Compete in 2024 USPA National Championships

Elite skydivers compete on the national stage in Chicago and North Carolina

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Top skydivers from across the country will compete in the 2024 [United States Parachute Association](#) (USPA) National Championships, hosted jointly by [Skydive Paraclete XP](#) and [Skydive Chicago](#) this year. The event officially kicks off on Thursday, Aug. 29, with practice and competitions spanning most of September.

The skydivers will compete in various disciplines, ranging from the high-speed challenges of canopy piloting, where skydivers reach triple-digit speeds, to artistic routines and large complex formations, to performances in specially designed wingsuits. The competition will begin with Canopy Piloting on Aug. 29 and end with Canopy Formation on Sept. 26.

Skydive Paraclete XP will host the canopy piloting portion of the competition from Aug. 29 to Sept. 4 on-site in Raeford, North Carolina, just 20 miles outside Fayetteville and 1.5 hours south of North Carolina’s capital, Raleigh. Here, the best canopy pilots will compete in highly visual and breathtaking discipline, where skydivers swoop over a pool of water at over 100 miles per hour before making a quick landing.

“We’re thrilled to have Nationals return to Skydive Paraclete XP this year with the Canopy Piloting competition. This event truly shows the magic of skydiving and what’s possible when you’re in the sky,” said Skydive Paraclete XP Manager and International Skydiving Hall of Famer Kirk Verner.

The remainder of the competition will be held at Skydive Chicago, located in Ottawa, Illinois, approximately one hour west of downtown Chicago, from Sept. 8-26. Both drop zones will be open to media and spectators who wish to get an up-close and personal view of skydiving at its highest level. Attendees at Skydive Chicago can watch fun freefall disciplines from a large LED screen that will broadcast in-air footage from each skydive, in addition to livestream options.

“Elite athletes are coming nationwide to compete in a range of events, showcasing the variety of the sport and how rewarding competition can be,” said CEO of Skydive Chicago and World Champion Rook Nelson. “We’re honored to host at Skydive Chicago and show the world what our U.S. skydivers can do.”

The best competitors from Nationals will form teams representing the U.S. to participate in future international competitions, including the 2025 Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (World Air Sports Federation) World Cup, which will be held in Arizona, Austria and the Netherlands.

“Nationals is our marquee annual skydiving event,” said USPA Executive Director Albert Berchtold. “Just as the Olympic Trials represent the pinnacle of athletic achievement for many other sports, Nationals is the ultimate test of skill for skydivers across the nation, allowing these elite athletes to reach new heights in the sport.”

To learn more about the 2024 USPA National Championships, visit the [website](#). To learn more about USPA, visit www.uspa.org.

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About USPA

Founded in 1946, the United States Parachute Association (USPA) is a nonprofit association dedicated to the promotion of safe skydiving nationwide, establishing strict safety standards, training policies and programs at more than 200 USPA-affiliated skydiving schools and centers throughout the United States. Each year, USPA's 41,000-plus members and hundreds of thousands of first-timers make roughly 3.65 million jumps in the U.S. USPA represents skydivers before all levels of government, the public and the aviation industry and sanctions national skydiving competitions and records. For more information on making a first jump or to find a skydiving center near you, visit www.uspa.org or call 1.800.371.USPA.

About Skydive Paraclete XP

Skydive Paraclete XP is the premier destination for skydiving in North Carolina. Located in Raeford, the 250-acre airport and drop zone is just minutes from Fayetteville and a short drive from Raleigh, Greensboro and Charlotte. Skydive Paraclete XP has one of the most comprehensive and progressive skydiving schools in the country, where you can learn to skydive solo from world-class coaches – or, you can choose to make your first tandem skydive safely harnessed to a USPA-certified professional instructor. Neighboring the drop zone is [Paraclete XP SkyVenture](#), America's largest indoor skydiving wind tunnel. Learn more at www.skydiveparacletexp.com.

About Skydive Chicago

Located along the Fox River in Ottawa, Illinois, Skydive Chicago sits on a 220-acre private airport with a fleet of nine aircraft. Within the 30,000+ sq ft hangar, you'll find our world-renowned skydiving school, a made-from-scratch kitchen, a 300-person auditorium, and more. We are home to some of the largest skydiving events in the world, providing participants with a full hook-up campground, Tiki Bar on the pond, disc golf course, and hiking trails for a resort-like experience. It's no wonder we are considered the “Mecca of Skydiving.” We offer top-of-the-line services to first-time jumpers, students and experienced jumpers. Enjoy the life-changing thrill of freefall today. Learn more by visiting www.skydivechicago.com.

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