

Your Air Force JROTC unit is invited to be a part of a new era at the...



2012 U.S. Air Force National JROTC Drill Championship Saturday, March 17th, 2012 Macon Centreplex - Macon, Georgia



"Official Home of the U.S. Air Force JROTC Drill Championship"

Introduction

This invitation is extended to all Air Force JROTC units to apply for entry into the upcoming **2012 U.S. Air Force National JROTC Drill Championship**. This annual competition is sponsored by the **U.S. Air Force JROTC HQ** and the **Air Force Association** with national drill host **Sports Network International, Inc.** tasked to serve as the Event Manager. All Air Force JROTC programs in good standing throughout the world are eligible to apply for entry into this prestigious competition. The "Air Force Nationals" are the annual home of the finest Air Force drill and ceremony units. Each year, the U.S. Air Force units will compete in both Armed and Unarmed competition in this single day event.



Competition Events

As most schools are well aware, the Air Force Nationals has now combined to be in one location for an unparalleled weekend of Air Force Excellence. With this single Air Force Drill & Ceremony Championship, roughly 1,000 cadets & instructors will showcase many of the finest Air Force JROTC programs in the world of military drill. Calls and emails have already been maintained and many of the finest programs in the nation are gearing up to attend from drill hotspots Texas, Georgia, Maryland, California and Florida, as well as many states in between! The units that attend the Air Force Nationals will have lifetime memories that the cadets and their families will cherish for a lifetime.

Team Events, scoring & cadets required at the Air Force Nationals are as follows:

- Unit Inspection:** 12 cadets+ CDR (25%)
- Color Guard Drill:** 2 rifles / 2 flags only (25%)
- Flight Regulation:** 12 cadets+ CDR (25%)
- Exhibition Drill:** 8 cadets + CDR min. w/no max. (25%)

The **Unit Inspection** event involves cadets and a Cadet Cmr standing inspection in front of event judges. Both **Regulation & Color Guard competition** are comprised of graded, memorized movements performed in sequence. **Exhibition Drill** uses a 6-9 minute time limit and the movements are left to the imagination of the drill team within a military framework. All drill areas have a single entry/exit point unless otherwise noted. Complete drill floor layouts/maps are available on-line with all other event paperwork at the official website of the Air Force Nationals: <http://af.thenationals.net>.

Schools may enter up to two full teams (one Armed, one Unarmed) per level (note-schools may petition to enter two of one type as well). While a single cadet may compete within all four competitions in either the Armed or Unarmed Division, cadets may not "cross-over" and compete for more than one team. Therefore, schools entering two separate teams can have **no individual cadet competing for both teams**. Allowing this would reduce the total number of schools able to participate in this championship event while allowing some cadets to compete twice. Schools may enter either one or two full drill teams (generally, one armed and one unarmed team) but many schools attend with just a single team competing for an overall title. A few very select schools may be accepted entering a partial team if space allows.

Competition Locations

The Air Force Nationals are held indoors at the beautiful **Macon Centreplex Arena in Macon, Georgia**. This 8,000-seat facility is a fantastic facility for a meet of this scope. This fine facility has large common areas for plenty of spectator space, however dressing room space is limited but available. The Centreplex will also have ample city-run parking available and concession stands for drinks and snacks on site. This facility has easy access to the Atlanta airport and is easy to reach right off the major interstate highways. Macon, Georgia hosts several nearby military facilities and other cultural and public facilities for tours for your cadets, and also for possible sleeping accommodations (contact the base directly for details).



Greater details on the entire event can be found on the Air Force Nationals website. We encourage all teams and their followers to become familiar with the website to ensure they are fully prepared to have a rich, wonderful, and problem-free stay that will generate positive team memories for years to come.

Event Judging & Scoring

Three scoring judges will be utilized in each competition area with four maintained within Inspection. Judges will be active duty military or reserves with background, knowledge and training within the areas they will be asked to evaluate. All judges will receive an extensive event judging manual and briefing prior to attending the event. Additionally, Sports Network International is renowned for its double-check scoring system. Complete scoring packages include detailed score breakdowns for their team, as well as all other teams in their competition division, as well as all event scoresheets returned immediately following the Awards Ceremony.



Air Force Nationals Event Specifics

All teams will receive their competition start times in advance via the event website. The Air Force Nationals event will begin at roughly 0830. Events will be continue all day and early evening. The team events will conclude with the Armed, then Unarmed Knockout Drills. All registered cadets are encouraged to enter BOTH the Armed & Unarmed Knockout events.



Immediately after the competition has ended, the Awards Ceremony distributes stunning Championship & Runner-Up Overall trophies in both Armed & Unarmed Divisions, as well as 1st-5th place team trophies in each team event. The top three finishers in each Knockout will also receive special hand-painted, cloissone medallions. These trophies are sponsored and paid for by the **Air Force Association** for the cadets of the Air Force Nationals. Anyone who has attended the Air Force Nationals event will attest that the trophies are impressive and among the finest in the JROTC drill world!

Competition Guidelines

The complete Air Force Nationals Team Folder is finalized and posted to the MyTeam website. This is where you will upload all of your required paperwork as well. This site is finalized in early January (scoresheets and floor diagrams are made available early). This Air Force Nationals team folder maintains all of the paperwork necessary to attend the event, as well as other vital information.

The Air Force Nationals Team Package Plan

Every competing cadet attends the event through the Air Force Nationals Team Package Plan. The price of the Team Package Plan is currently \$20.00 per cadet and has been since the inception of the event. This plan provides cadets with treasured event mementos while paying the costs of running the drill competition in the first class manner schools have come to expect. **All cadets competing in any part of the Air Force Nationals event must attend using the Team Package Plan.** The Team Package Plan is *optional* for instructors, parents and non-competing cadets. Few other drill events maintain the high quality, first-class atmosphere, lasting memories and beautiful event items that are a part of the Air Force Nationals.



The Team Package Plan provides:

- Air Force Nationals goldtone chest medallion
- Air Force Nationals competition t-shirt, ordered to size
- 8" x 10" glossy color unit team photo with personalized event border
- Ability to participate in all facets of the Air Force Nationals event

Air Force Nationals Registration Information

The School Registration Fee for the Air Force Nationals is \$200.00 per school. This allows one school to enter up to two complete drill units (one per division), as well as allowing your competing cadets entry into both the Armed & Unarmed Knockouts. To apply for entry into the Air Force Nationals, you can register and pay to attend the event on-line beginning in late September. Upon receipt by SNI, your school will be notified that we have received your entry request. It is our hope to include UP TO 35 schools and 55 teams into the upcoming event - make yourself a part of the history and excitement!

SELECTION PROCESS: *All registrations will be reviewed by the SNI Competition Committee beginning on Friday, 9 December 2011 (if your entry ARRIVES after this date, your school will have a reduced chance to gain an entry slot as those with completed entry forms and registration fees paid on this date having first consideration.)* SNI will evaluate all entries on their merits and decide which schools will be accepted. This judgment will be based on many factors but the largest of these include:

- 1) *Overall finishes in past drill competitions (schools list their accomplishments on page two of the Registration Form)*
- 2) *Teams looking to capture an Overall Championship (complete teams entering all team events within a division) are given preference over partial teams not choosing to enter all four team events within a division (schools not competing in every team event may be accepted but this event is designed for those competing for an overall title)*
- 3) *Geographic spread for entries, gung-ho nature & previous entry attempts are all points considered by SNI.*

Additional Registration Info

While most schools who have been looking hard at entering this competition will register within weeks of receiving this invitation, history shows that many will choose to wait. Do not allow the U.S. mail service to cancel your trip before it begins! All schools who enter the competition by this entry deadline will be given first consideration. Schools who have their entry received by SNI AFTER the early December review deadline will have a smaller chance of getting into the Air Force Nationals competition. The one-day competition may be FULL on or near the initial review deadline of 9 December, with only a rarely used "standby slot" available for schools to gain entry after this date - please don't wait to register!



Schools accepted for entry will be e-mailed confirmations and listed as attending on the SNI website beginning on Tuesday, 13 December. Any school not accepted into the Air Force Nationals will have their Registration Entry Fee refunded in full within 10 business days from the review deadline. **Schools should not book non-refundable travel or hotels until AFTER receiving confirmation of acceptance by SNI.**

Schools should prepare in advance for the fact that, several quality schools **may not be able to be accepted based solely on space limitations**. Please ensure your school includes PLENTY of information on page two of the School Registration Form to allow Sports Network International the best chance of accepting your school into the event. Feel free to attach additional pages of information on your unit should you feel it will better make your case why your school belongs in the competition field of this event.

All checks and correspondence should be sent to **Sports Network International** at the address listed below. Schools are encouraged to contact SNI by email or telephone, as well as to check the Air Force Nationals website.

Overnight Housing

Knowing that a large percentage of schools attending the event will need hotel accommodations, numerous quality hotels near the competition site have been contracted and are ready to provide very reasonable billets for competitors and spectators alike. Simply go to the official website of the Air Force Nationals event you are planning to attend and click on the links provided to see the complete, most up-to-date listing of event information. All schools are eligible to stay at any hotel they wish, however it is hoped that the listed hotels will be utilized as every hotel included is a strong supporter of JROTC and the Air Force Nationals event.

In Closing

Several schools asked about getting rooms overnight for an extra day of sightseeing and/or college campus tours in the area. SNI has provided information regarding hotels, guided tours, monument maps and other essential items within the Team Folder, as well as on the Air Force Nationals website, for all entered schools looking to make this trip more than just a one-day drill competition. The most up-to-date listing of these hotels are always posted on-line.

Thank you for considering attendance at the **2012 U.S. Air Force Nationals JROTC Drill Championship**. This event promises to provide a pleasant experience for competitors, instructors and spectators alike. We would like to encourage all of the top Air Force JROTC units from around the world to make the Air Force Nationals a part of your annual competition calendar. It can do wonders for the overall health, vitality and population of your program!

With the strong support from the United States Air Force JROTC Headquarters and the Air Force Association, the upcoming Air Force Nationals event looks to be an unparalleled, single-service platform to display the hard work your cadets have put forward during their years of Air Force JROTC. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call, write or email to the location outlined below. Here's wishing you good health and success throughout the school year.

Sincerely,

Justin Gates

Justin Gates - Air Force Nationals Competition Director

Event Produced By:

Sports Network International

775 Fentress Blvd. - Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

800/327-9311 ☎ 386/274-1919

website: <http://af.thenationals.net> 📧 email: drill@thenationals.net

