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2024-2025 Edition



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Cadet LTC Donevin Burkeen, Commander of the Alvarado High School Indian Battalion, an Army JROTC unit from Alvarado, Texas, commanding the Spearhead drill team during their Armed Exhibition in the Ocean Center Arena.



Inside, see Event Recap Information and Photos from the Various Service Championship Events as well as learn how your cadets can be a part of these 2025 events, featuring the incomparable... NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DRILL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS IN DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA!



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## DrillNATION

## Official Publication of the Internationally Recognized JROTC Drill & Ceremony Spectacular, the National High School Drill Team Championships

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### **On The Cover**

Cadet LTC Donevin Burkeen is the battalion commander of the Indian Battalion at Alvarado High School in Alvarado, Texas. As he commands his Armed Exhibition performance, he is seen in front of the iconic eagle banner that hangs in the Ocean Center Arena during the All-Service Nationals in Daytona Beach, Florida. The cover photo and several others contained within this publication are courtesy of US Army Cadet Command Public Affairs Office.

### **MAGAZINE DEDICATION**

With troop deployments that stretch across the globe, the 2024-25 <u>PrillNATION</u> Magazine is dedicated to both the active duty and reserve components of our American Armed Forces, along with the National Guard. These brave and selfless individuals continue to provide the blanket of freedom that Americans enjoy every day. Thousands of former cadets who have attended the Nationals in the past are currently serving around the globe in all branches of the Armed Forces, helping to protect the interests of the United States of America. SNI is honored by their commitment to duty and wish them all a safe and speedy return home when they complete their mission.

Sports Network International thanks the many exhibitors who help make the Nationals a special home for JROTC drill: Army Decide to Lead, Army Marksmanship, Cadet Portfolio, Crossman Rifles, Daisy Outdoor Products, Drill Dojo, Forward Flow, Georgia Military College, Glendale Parade Store, Marion Military Institute, New Guard America, New Mexico Military Institute, Norwich University, OnlineDonations.com, Pershing Rifles, Poppin Popcorn, Schreiner Institute at Schreiner University, StrengthApp, Texas A&M University, The Citadel, The Drill Hub, U. S. Naval Academy, University of North Georgia, University of the Potomac, US Army 1st BDE, US Army 75th Regiment Weapons Display, US Merchant Marine Academy, USAGC 2nd BDE, USAGC 3rd BDE, USAGC 4th BDE, USAGC 6th BDE, USAGC 7th BDE, Valley Forge Military College, Virginia Military Institute, Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

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The largest growth in the National JROTC Fitness Challenge **Championships** since its 2017 inception occurred at the 2024 event when 74 Male, Female and Mixed teams braved the sun and stormed the beach seeking that overall title. Representing all four major service branches, word has truly gotten out nationally about this spirited event. The runs, jumps, lifts, carries and throws are specifically chosen to create a broad-spectrum test of athletic excellence for JROTC teams. The event does provide a fantastic overall test of stamina, toughness, and even strategy for these hard-working cadets. Much was learned from the 2024 event and we know these changes we will undertake for the 2025 event will make it the best event yet!

The day starts strong for most teams on the soft high sands of Daytona Beach with a challenging **3K Team Beach Run** followed by a grueling **Physical Team Test** obstacle course that gets more and more difficult each year. Soon after, the teams grabbed lunch and then moved indoors into the beautiful Ocean Center Ballroom for the Standing Broad Jump, Seated Power Throw, and Pull-up/ **Flexed Arm Hang** events. All teams hoping to take home many of the 81 spectacular trophies built for this prestigious national event.

The efforts on display by teams and individual cadets left spectators in complete awe! When competing on the beach, weather and tides are always a consideration and this year both were non-factors. We were able to complete the run largely before the high tide came and wonderfully the sun shined brightly all day so no rain issues. For the first time we tried using electronic timing, but the spacing on the beach made it problematic so stopwatches ruled the day!

In the Female Division... five schools REALLY excelled with the two top schools taking control and topping the field. The Physical Team Test pushed cadets to maintain a balance between technique & speed. Two schools Clarkrange HS (Lady Buffaloes) and Haines City HS (Lady Hornets) had the speed but staying low on the low crawl proved to be a costly hit to their final time yielding a 12th and 15th place finish, putting them in 4th & 5th overall respectively. The steady Marines from Lake Cormorant **HS** pierced the Army domination gaining five solid finishes (three with trophies) by nailing down the 3rd overall placement. The Lady Bolts from **Ridge Community HS** gained FOUR trophy finishes paced by a first place PTT to take home the Overall Runner-Up & Runner-up trophies. The buses were filled

title, while the **Live Oaks HS** Lady Wolfpack trophied top three in *every team event* and also grabbed 1st place in BOTH the Broad Jump and the Power Throw to take home the 2024 Female Fitness Overall Championship.

In the Mixed Division... The Mixed Division was the largest division with 29 entries with the top five placements

filled by three Air Force teams, including both Brandeis HS and **Clover HS** who finished 4th and 5th overall respectively. Army Raiders from **Spring Hill HS** was solid grabbing three trophies featured by a 1st place finish in Pull-ups/Flexed Hang putting them in 3rd place overall. Richwoods HS Marine Corps



Knights had FOUR top finishes but again the low crawl technical aspect of the Physical Team Test bit into their score hard leaving them as the Mixed Division National Runner-Up. The AFJROTC unit from Air Academy HS had JUST ENOUGH to top the field. With a 1st place (PTT) and two 2nd place (Broad Jump, Pull-up/Flexed Arm Hang), the Centurions eked out a hard fought Mixed Division National Fitness Championship.

In the Male Division... there was a solid diversity of both TALENT (16 out of the 26 teams took home trophies) and SERVICE (Army, Air Force and Navy gained top five finishes). Green HS AFJROTC Band of Bulldogs (1st place 3K) and Navy strong John Marshall HS Mavericks (two trophy finishes) finished 5th & 4th overall. 2022 and 2023 Overall Champion



Haines City HS Army Hornets grabbed TWO first place finishes but got tripped up on the low crawl of the PTT killing their chance of a threepeat. But two teams left the field distanced far behind and separated by a single placement point. The Clarkrange HS Buffaloes grabbed three team trophies to give the Army JROTC program the Runner-up Overall finish. This allowed Perry HS just enough room for the Panthers to grab top trophy finshes in four of the five events and edged out the competition to gain the Male Division National Fitness Championship.

The Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening wrapped the long day and it was packed with almost 2,000 eager parents, cadets and instructors! The event was blessed to feature Colonel Ken Jones, Director of Army JROTC, U.S. Army Cadet Command as the guest speaker. The cadets sat on the edge of their seats listening to his poignant words and then ran with motivation to accept their hard-earned hefty hardware.

Individual awards were highlighted by the top finishing cadets best known as the "Ultimate Fitness Cadet". In 2024, this went to G.C. Scarborough HS's Camarrion Davis as the male winner and Live Oaks HS's Sarah **Brown** as the female winner.

Team awards were presented to include the six monster Division Champion

and the best teams were already plotting how to excel next year. Great job to all who attended. We look forward to seeing many of you here on the beach again in 2025!





## Greetings from Daytona Beach!

We are very happy to host the National JROTC Weekend here in Daytona Beach, for May 2025! On behalf of the Daytona Beach Area Convention & Visitors Bureau, we want to welcome you to the Daytona Beach area!

While you're here, we hope you'll explore some the endless adventures our area has to offer such as putting your toes in the sand along 23 miles of white-sand beaches, experiencing high-speed thrills at Daytona International Speedway, visiting the Smithsonian-affiliated Museum of Arts & Sciences, exploring the historic Ponce Inlet Lighthouse (Florida's tallest!), attending one of our many annual festivals, and of course, delighting your palette with our exciting dining and nightlife scene.

In addition, shopping opportunities abound including Tanger Outlets (I-95/LPGA Blvd.) and ONE DAYTONA, the new retail, dining and entertainment district across from Daytona International Speedway. Or go downtown to stroll among unique shops, boutiques, galleries, eateries and more – on Beach Street in Daytona Beach and Granada Boulevard in Ormond Beach.

We invite you to experience what makes Daytona Beach a great place to visit and the specialized services we offer. More information is available at DaytonaBeach.com. We look forward to ensuring that your visit is perfect in every way!



Sunny Regards,

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Lori Campbell Baker Executive Director Daytona Beach Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

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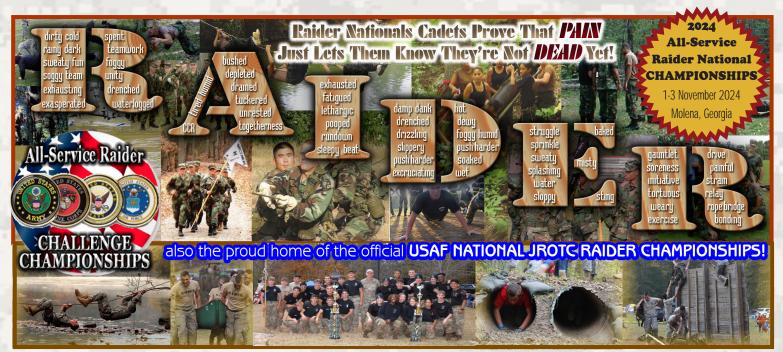


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2023 Air Force JROTC

**National Raider Champions** 

Peabody, Massachusetts Woodstock, Georgia

**MIXED DIVISION** 

**Etowah HS** 

**Eagles Mixed** 

**FEMALE DIVISION** 

Peabody Veterans Mem. HS

Peabody Girls

For nearly two decades, early November Raider calendars are marked with the date for the All-Service JROTC Raider National Championships. With nearly 100 teams split between a Challenge & Masters format, competition raider teams of all skill levels make the Lawhorn Scouting Base in Molena, Georgia their temporary home for this wild weekend of natural tent camping, fire pit cooking and raider excellence!

New schools and returning powers pepper the horizon as teams from roughly 15 states gather annually to put their raider mettle to the test. Most returning teams will say there is no place like this in the raider universe. The camaraderie and camping atmosphere make this a true outdoor raider team building activity. A few slots still remain for the 2024 event but that window will be closing in the coming days so call now for your school to

MALE DIVISION

Perry HS

**Perry Panthers** 

Perry, Georgia

gain that experience first-hand!

Scores of Air Force teams mix with many Army, Marine, Navy, and Coast Guard teams getting boots on the ground in south Georgia annually, making this an allservice event everywhere you look.

The top Male, Female and Mixed Division AFJROTC teams in the Masters Level

will take home additional recognition and hardware **as the Air Force JROTC Raider Champions**! AFJROTC is leading the nation in raider expansion and nowhere do you see that more than at the All-Service Raider Nationals. In fact, seeing the wide-eyed nature of so many new schools to the raider universe on site, it sure makes any veteran raider onlooker positive for the future!

**CHALLENGE LEVEL:** The **Challenge Male Division** came down to a three-horse field as **Campbell County HS** (Army) just nudged out **River Ridge HS** (Air Force) for the division Runner-up slot despite both schools winning two events! But the Owls from **Ooltewah HS** (Army) put forth a very strong top three finish in all FIVE events to grab the top slot. Their dominating performances will push all three teams into the Masters Level in 2024.

In the **Challenge Mixed Division**, two schools really separated from the pack and made it very close between them in the end. **Spring Hill HS** (Army) Raiders looked to be cruising to the finish line with three wins and a 2nd place but a tough 14th place Rope Bridge finish nearly threw everything out the window but gave them just enough to grab the top slot. Overall strong **North Forsyth HS** (Marine Corps) always maintains that quiet consistency and 2023 was no exception with "Meal Team Six" gaining two 2nds and two 5ths (and the best team name at the event!), but a 7th place finish in Gauntlet left them only two points shy of the top having them settle for the Runner-up placement.

**MASTERS LEVEL:** In the **Masters Male Division**, only two teams captured trophies in all FIVE team events but the **Tiger Pride** from **Adairsville HS** (Army) nailed two 1st, two 2nds and a 3rd place finish overwhelming their competitors to grab the All-Service Masters Male National Championship in a tsunami of excellence. **White County HS** (Army) gained an assortment of five trophy finishes which powered the **Warrior Chiefs** to a National Runner-up Finish. In the **Masters Female Division**, it quite literally came down to a few seconds and feet! Three teams distanced themselves and fought hard for every point. The **Adairsville HS Lady Tigers** (Army) were simply too strong grabbing three 1st place finishes, one 2nd and one 3rd to again show the world who is boss in the Female Division of Raider! The **Lady Wolfpack** from Live Oaks HS (Army) pushed the Champions hard pacing them just a step behind grabbing a 1st place and three 2nd places and a 3rd to gain a National Overall Runner-up title. Always-strong Osborne HS (Army) trophied top four in every event and won the grueling Cross-Country Rescue event but the **Lady Cardinals** finished just outside the top overall placements.

In the loaded Masters Mixed Division, the Buffalo Stampeders from Clarkrange HS

(Army) dominated three events and pushed through for a Mixed Division National Championship. **Etowah HS Eagles Mixed** (Air Force) nailed the other two events and took home the Mixed Runner-up title. **Marion HS Giants** (Army) trophied in every event but finished one placement point behind in 3rd place overall.

On Sunday morning just before the awards ceremony, one male and one female cadet from each Masters Level team compete in the **Ultimate Raider Competition**. This is a grueling 1.4 mile run with obstacles most of which is accomplished while carrying a 35-pound ruck!. This year Male Division **Cadet** 

**Brice** (Etowah HS-10:39) and Female Division **Cadet Aguirre** (Osborne HS-12:23) were the Ultimate Raider Champions. The times keep getting closer and closer each year as the talent level of cadets continue to rise.

The awards ceremony gathering is special and always spirited. The mass horseshoe formation near the Grand Pavillion always yields a sense of accomplishment with bonds forged in sweat and sometimes in blood. This ceremony above all else truly defines the raider experience in Molena. With then **HQ AFJROTC Director Colonel Johnny McGonigal** speaking to the Challenge cadets on Friday and **Mr. Wayne Barron** from AFJROTC HQ speaking to the Masters cadets on Sunday, the words were passed and the trophies quickly followed. Schools then packed up to return home and carried with them not only awards, but insightful words and great memories. What a weekend knowing the future of America looks bright with these amazing cadets leading the charge!







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## 2024 U.S. Army Cadet Command JROTC National Drill Championships - Daytona Beach, Florida

## "WITHOUT PARALLEL, THE LARGEST SINGLE SERVICE COMPETITION DRILL EVENT IN THE WORLD"

The sand, the surf, the sun...the Army excellence! Daytona Beach, Florida is the epic home of the "Army Nationals." This year, on 3 May of 2024, over eighty-five Army drill & ceremony competition teams took over the venerable Ocean Center Arena showcasing their dedication and commitment to the art and skill of military drill. The Army again leads the way in showing off the future leaders of this nation with a massive crowd of impressive young men and women as they competed in various disciplines of drill with precision & excellence.

As teams began filling the arena early in the morning, you could feel the buzz of excitement as the 32 judges swarmed the competition floor with scoresheets in hand. Army programs from across the world soon gathered in every corner of the building to compete for the biggest prize in Army JROTC. As the day progressed, the cream rose to the top and the trophies would soon be handed out to the best of the best.

### ARMED DIVISION

It was a Texas Stampede at the top of the standings with six of the top seven overall finishes being from the Lone Star State! The 2022 & 2023 Champion **Central Catholic HS** came up short nabbing only a 3rd & 4th place in two events giving them a very respectable 5th place overall finish. **Ronald Reagan HS** nipped the past champs by a mere 2 points grabbing three top five trophies, only to be outdone by **Sam Houston MSTC HS** who squeeked by only 4 points to a 3rd place overall finish by taking home three top finishes as well.

Finally the Texas drill domination was ended by the powerful cadets from **Leavenworth HS** from Leavenworth, Kansas. By dominating Inspection with a 1st place finish and Regulation with a 2nd place finish and just as importantly, gaining solid finishes in the other events, the Pioneer Guard clearly differentiated themselves to the judges in gaining the Armed Division National Runner-up title.

But Texas rode to the front once more as the Storming Tigers from **Mansfield HS** obliterated the field to claim their firstever Army National Drill Championship. The Texas terrors gained top-five finishes in *EVERY TEAM EVENT* (1st in Regulation & CG, 2nd in Inspection and 4th in Exhibition). This all-around excellence made them impossible to stop, separating themselves by more than 100 points!



COL Anthony Marante. US Army 6th Brigade Commander (left), and CSM Joshua Dumond, 6th Brigade CSM (right) present the Armed Championship trophy to Mansfield HS.



https://thenationals.net

### **UNARMED DIVISION**

This division saw a massive variety of styles and talents making the judges work extra hard to rank the teams they saw throughout the day.

The parade of past presidents began with **Ronald Reagan HS** double dipping from the Armed Division and gaining the 5th place overall placement led by two 2nd place team finishes (Regulation & Exhibition). John F. Kennedy HS nailed down the 4th place overall with an excellent 2nd place Inspection performance that wowed the judges. Just nosing out the POTUS duo was the Cavalry Angels from Leavenworth HS. Their 1st place Inspection and 3rd place Exhibition propelled them into 3rd place overall by just 2 points out of 4,800.

The White House again powered onward as **Theodore Roosevelt HS** from San Antonio, Texas stormed to the Overall Runner-up finish. The Riderettes performance featured 1st place Exhibition, 2nd place Color Guard and 3rd place Regulation finishes. A great day for this annual power!

Again proving that all-around strength wins, **Smith-Cotton HS** from Missouri showed they were ready to take on everyone as they handily took home the Overall Championship title. No one could catch the tail of the Gold Tigers drill team as they were the only team to gain a trophy finish in every team event (1st Regulation & Color Guard, 4th Inspection, 5th Exhibition). Their core strength and consistency proved to be TOO MUCH!

A long but impressive day was wrapped up by a quick Ocean Center turnaround with trophies & plaques brought to the floor with an impressive and unprecedented gathering of senior leadership to congratulate the winning cadets. This gathering of Brigade excellence was led by Keynote Speaker COL Anthony P. Marante, 6th Brigade Commander, US Army Cadet Command who gave an inspired and impressive speech to the thousands of assembled cadets, instructors, parents, and school supporters. Overall excellence was

> spotlighted also when 15 Army JROTC cadets were presented "Big Scholarship Checks" toward their college Army ROTC dreams totaling more than one million dollars!

> Hats off to those who worked hard to give these dedicated cadets the big stage to show off the excellence, loyalty, selfless service and other Army values drill is uniquely set-up to put forth!



COL Marante and CSM Dumond, 6th Brigade USACC celebrate the Unarmed Championship trophy going to Smith-Cotton HS.

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## AFJROTC Open Nationals - Historic Dayton, Ohio The Finest Midwest Migration of High Flyers in AFJROTCI

Air Force JROTC - Integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do!

The vast Nutter Center Arena in Dayton, Ohio, annually plays host to the famous Air Force JROTC Open Drill Nationals. This gathering of blue excellence is attended by AFJROTC

programs everywhere. A chance to view the FINEST Air Force Museum in the world near Wright-Patterson AFB and the ability to participate in drill with Midwestern schools and beyond is a treat for these deserving cadets. Always held in mid-March, this event provides that perfect mix of camaraderie and competitiveness that makes for a very positive experience for all involved.

The "Air Force Nationals" remains a grand spectacle of discipline and precision. The arena's quiet breaks early as the doors open with young cadets' nervous chatter, but a few glide in cool and confident with loads of talent and their game faces on. The intricate drill routines and patriotic color guard displays begin while the precise regulation and high flying exhibition routines follow leaving the spectators with goose bumps as they watch the top teams.

While the event remains a testament to the competitive spirit of the cadets, there is always a sense of unity and mutual respect underscoring the fundamental values of AFJROTC. It makes the event an honor to be a part of each year!

### **ARMED DIVISION**

In the Armed division, **Beavercreek HS** from Beavercreek, Ohio CRUSHED the competition, capturing 1st place in each



of the four team events. The B-1 Bombers repeated as 2024 Overall Armed Division Champions and will look for a "threepeat" unless someone can step up and stop them!

**Unity Reed HS** from Manassas, VA grabbed the Runner-up position paced by two spectacular 2nd place performances (Inspection & Exhibition) and one 4th place Color Guard finish by the Roaring Lions.

The always strong **West Aurora HS** from Aurora, IL dazzled in Regulation (2nd), Exhibition (3rd), and Color Guard (5th) which landed the Thunder Rifles in Third Place overall. **UNARMED DIVISION** 

While a sweep eluded the B-2 Bombers by only 20 points in the Exhibition event, the **Beavercreek HS** juggernauts



again took command of the drill pad and powered their way to capture the Unarmed Division Championship. They dominated the events taking first place in Inspection, Regulation, and Color Guard with an impressive 3rd place finish in Exhibition against stout competitors. This powerhouse unit will have a target on their backs in 2025!

**Green HS** from Uniontown, Ohio showed the type of allaround talent and consistency that wins in competition drill gaining a trophy finish in every team event. The Band of Bulldogs gained two very impressive 2nd place finishes in Inspection and Color Guard, a 4th in Regulation, and a 5th in Exhibition. The team continues to improve every year and is sure to challenge Beavercreek for the top spot next year.

**Unity Reed HS** barely missed out on the Runner-up title by just five points out of 4,000. Their stellar Exhibition routine grabbed 1st place, they had a solid 4th place Inspection, and came close to trophies in the other two events.

The most recent Air Force Nationals will be remembered for

many things, the biggest was the appearance and keynote speech of **Mr**. Alex Wagner, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Manpower & Reserve Affairs) shown here presenting the overall championship trophies in front of a thousand spectators! It speaks very highly of these hard-working cadets that they have gained the attention of someone so prominent in the Air Force. He was duly impressed with the talent on display.



As the evening ended, dozens of buses were filled with cadets and spectators holding memories that will remain with them forever!

March 2025 will again bring back many of the nation's best Air Force JROTC cadets for this venerable Air Force JROTC Open Drill Nationals event. Read the invitation, the event SOP, and add the date to your calendars NOW. Make sure to grab YOUR competition slot when event registration opens on <u>Oct 1, 2024</u>. Go to the home of Air Force Nationals to register and hold your competition space.

https://thenationals.net





# 2024 USMC JROTC Drill Championships

With the Iwo Jima Memorial and the Nation's Capital in close proximity, these deserving Devil Dog JROTC Drillers wowed the judges at the 2024 Marine Corps JROTC Nationals!



The few, the proud, the MARINES is not just a saying...it is a way of existing even in JROTC. It denotes excellence and exclusivity, and nothing exemplifies that more than the **USMC JROTC National Drill Championship.** From hundreds of programs, the "USMC JROTC Nationals" drills down to accept just EIGHT Armed & EIGHT Unarmed drill units deemed the best around the world for a day of unparalleled drill. Marine judges are flown in from both major training centers and the day simply flies by. Every year the results are different but every year the intensity, the oneness, and the singularity of purpose remain the same.

The spacious **Fredericksburg Expo & Convention Center** is preferred for this small but stellar gathering. With MCJROTC HQ just up the road in the shadows of Washington, DC, it allowed the nearby attendance of the Silent Drill Platoon and the attending schools access to the many featured attractions of the nation's capital. But sightseeing is the dessert for these hard-chargers, and performing is the meat & potatoes.

Judges who come in the day prior receive both a 2-hour briefing on both the rules of the meet and their duties in ranking teams in competition drill. They then receive a detailed walk through of their specific duties to ensure they are ready for business - and these Marines are ALWAYS READY for business when tasked to find excellence!

In that early April crisp morning the doors were opened and the world began to change for roughly 500 cadets, instructors and spectators in a way they will never forget. With a compact number of slots, the event is designed to have all teams compete within Inspection and Color Guard before lunch, then feed directly into the Armed & Unarmed Regulation and Exhibition events in the afternoon.

As the scores began stacking, **Mountain View HS** (Stafford, VA) and **The Woodlands College Park HS** (The Woodlands, TX) nabbed the top spots in Armed Inspection & Color Guard top slots respectively.

Unarmed Division results followed right behind with **Kubasaki HS** (Okinawa, Japan) winning Inspection and **Brenham HS** (Brenham, TX) winning Color Guard distancing the field.



After lunch, the *Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon* turned up the intensity with a rousing performance before the JROTC cadets restarted fanning the flames of mastery! The rock stars from 8th & I set the stage for greatness and the cadets who followed chasing their dream did not disappoint. With the balance of the points on the line and the top trophies stacked neatly in plain sight, the judges were ready to sharpen their pencils even further.

On the Armed side of the house, **Brenham HS** again powered to a 1st place finish this time in the Regulation phase with **Reading HS** (Reading, PA) destroying the field with a high flying rifle spectacular within the armed Team Exhibition event.

On the Unarmed side, **Kubasaki HS** nailed the daily double with two convincing wins in both Regulation and Team Exhibition in *Sugoi* fashion! This set-up the weary travelers from half-way around the world well for the final tallies as cadets and parents moved their encampments from their assigned school areas to the awards ceremony.

The surprise 2023 Unarmed champs from **Kubasaki HS** won three of the four team events this year and blew away the field to recapture the Unarmed National Championship! **Brenham HS** powered to a 1st place, two 2nd place finishes and a 3rd place easily distancing the rest of the field to grab the Unarmed Runner-up title. **Tomball Memorial HS** (Tomball, TX) had just enough to edge **Cibola HS** (Albuquerque, NM) to gain the Overall 3rd place Unarmed Division finish.

In the Armed Division, it was tight with four events maintaining four different winners. **Brenham HS** squeezed by **South Iredell HS** (Statesville, NC) for the 3rd place overall Armed finish. **The Woodlands College Park** dazzled the crowd with a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finish sequentially in Color Guard, Inspection, and Regulation but faced a disappointing finish in Exhibition. This gave the 2023 Champions an impressive USMC JROTC Armed Division Runner-up title.

As is always the case with competitions like this, consistency across the board wins the day. Never before is this more evident than in the race to the top spot in the Armed Division. Reading HS won Exhibition and placed 2nd in Color Guard. But even with a 5th place in Inspection and a 7th in Regulation, they still pulled out the Overall Championship by a solid margin over the rest of the field.

The Awards Ceremony presentation was electric and brought out the big guns where **Col. Robert Oltman**, Director MCJROTC hosted & welcomed **Anthony Greco**, ex-Deputy (SES) Training & Education Command, to say a few words to the assembled drill devotees. He thanked those who made the event possible and watched with great pride and support the cadets who streamed to the stage after their impressive day of performances. It was an amazing Devil Dog Day!

https:/thenationals.net



Kubasaki HS - Unarmed Champions





At the NJROTC Nationals, teams don't run from the adversity; they run towards it!

The tranquil waters of NAS Pensacola, Florida annually surround this pantheon of excellence otherwise known as "The Navy Nationals." Coming through the Area Managers, these 24 schools represent the best all-around NJROTC programs found throughout the nation.

Ten events in two days that fully test the mental, physical and even the emotional fortitude of these cadets make this competition unlike any other. The 2024 event brought forth a few changes in venue on base but the teams adjusted, overcame, and put forth maximum effort.

The first day of the two-day event is the longest day in JROTC competition by design. Numerous uniform changes with event variety are an expected part of this grueling beginning for the cadets. Those who have been here before have a BIG advantage from the logistical end alone.

**DAY ONE:** In the early hours of the morning with coffee pots bubbling, judges and Area Managers flow into the massive AD hangar to begin the Unit Personnel Inspection event. Once complete, those teams get 15 minutes to gear-up their four finest Color Guard members while all other cadets quickly change their dress uniforms for PT gear.

When the graphite had settled, last year's Inspection champion **Pace HS (Pace, FL)** gave their best effort and grabbed a Unit Personnel Inspection 2nd place this year. They just edged out **Pacifica HS (Garden Grove, CA)** who grabbed the 3rd place finish. But the top dogs in this highly prized event came from **Allen D. Nease HS** (**Ponte Vedre, FL).** Their discipline and preparation was on huge display to the judges in capturing this massive point total event. The scoring is always tight but a solid start is almost required as few overall event champions are crowned without a top five finish in Inspection!

The patriotic color guard competition was decided by a whisper as 4th place **Middleburg HS (Middleburg, FL)**, 3rd place **Troy HS (Lake Elsinore, CA)**, and 2nd place **Gaither HS (Tampa, FL)** were each seperated BY JUST A SINGLE POINT at 389, 390 & 391!

But clearly standing out from this patriotic pack was **Shawnee Mission North HS (Overland Park, KS)** who decisivly topped the field in Color Guard.

All schools start athletics with Team Curl-ups and then 30 minutes later the Team Push-ups event, followed immediately by the 16x100yd

Team Shuttle Run. No rest for the weary! The Florida sun was tough on the northern visitors with shade outside at a premium, but excellence always rises to the top regardless of geography or hurdles. The top three finishers smoked the field by a wide margin with 3rd Place going to J.W. Mitchell HS (New Port Richie, FL) with 3,431 team Curl-ups. Shawnee Mission North HS with 3,632 powered to 2nd place. But annual power Colts Neck HS (Colts Neck, NJ) amassed a dizzying 3,817 total team Curl-ups dominating the competition field.

New judges for push-ups made life hard for those without proper form but again, the cream rises to the top. **Pacifica HS** just edged out **EI Camino Real (Woodland Hills, CA)** for 3rd place overall by just 9. Getting some revenge, **Shawnee Mission North HS** grabbed a narrow championship in Team Push-ups over **Colts Neck HS** setting up both teams well in the points race for the events to follow.

The final athletic event is the crowd-favorite 16x100yd Shuttle Relay and it did not disappoint. Four heats of blistering speed ran as the sun began to sink toward the horizon. The California duo of **Troy HS** (1st place 3:04.76) and **Pacifica HS** (5th place 3:08.59) bookended the top finishers separated by less than five seconds total! **Allen D. Neese HS** landed in 4th Place, **J.W. Mitchell HS** in 3rd Place and fresh-faced **Catawba Ridge HS** from **Fort Mill, SC** surprised many by grabbing the 2nd place Shuttle Relay finish. The final Overall Athletic finishes found Colts Neck HS solidly in 1st place followed by J.W. Mitchell HS in 2nd and Shawnee Mission North HS in 3rd.

The first day ends with the Academic Exam which provides big points for the teams able to capture the top spot. This is a 100-question, 50 minute test for 15 members per team with each gaining one point per correct answer. When the scantron grading system cooled, **Gaither HS** (906) grabbed 1st place over always tough **Troy HS** (867) with **Pacifica HS** (803) nailing down 3rd place and closing out the 13-hour competition day.

**DAY TWO:** The second day of competition welcomes a four-event rotation of both Armed & Unarmed Basic Drill, and Armed & Unarmed Exhibition drill. Teams do NOT know their standings from the previous day's events so the pressure is still very intense to capture every available point.



**Troy HS** really rushed the deck as one of only two schools who gained a top five finish in every drill event! This along with 2nd in Academics and 4th in Inspection totally propelled them to the Overall Navy National Championship. Pacifica HS also gained that all-around top drill distinction and with other great finishes and took home the National Runner-up title. Previous multi-year champion Pace HS placed 2nd overall in drill but just barely missed the Overall Event Runner-Up placement coming in 3rd. Gaither HS landed in 4th Overall with Shawnee Mission North **HS** rounding out the top five Navy Nationals finishers.

The awards ceremony was electric as **Rear Admiral Jeffrey Czerewko**, **Naval Education and Training Command** provided a spirited keynote speech. The excitement was palpable as the amazing awards (presented annually by the **Navy League)** were distributed.

We thank NAS Pensacola, NJROTC Headquarters, the Area Managers and JROTC Instructors who judged for this prestigious event. They gave the cadets a great experience to remember forever.

## 2024 Navy National Champs Troy High School



See the Full Results: https://thenationals.net

# REGISTER NOW TO BRING YOUR CADETS TO THE.... NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DRILL TO For over four decades, THE Premier AII-S



## Join the over 300,000 cadets, parents and instructors wh

### THE NATIONALS - what makes this the greatest event in drill history?

- ★ Premier All-Service National Drill Championship Event, in its 43rd year
- Sponsored by U.S. Army Cadet Command and supported by all service headquarters
- Schools can attend with full teams in multiple levels and divisions
- \* Schools can attend with stand alone Color Guards and/or individual exhibition cadets
- Produced by SNI, with experience in managing over 300 competitions in the past 42 years
   Nationals Judging Corps brings together professional judges from active duty
  - military training facilities across the nation; with extensive pre-event/on-site training, this gives the event the finest judging available in the world of competition drill
- ★ Schools submit and track all paperwork & payments online
- SNI works with all services to ensure payments and receipts are done in strict accordance with all military requirements
- Awards ceremony streamed on-line
- ★ Daytona Beach Ocean Center Arena & Conference Center is a state-of-the-art facility, including elevated fixed seating for over 6,000, complete concessions, ample parking, extensive indoor and outdoor practice areas, and private meeting rooms
- Beachfront location of venue and many hotels, nearby theme parks, Kennedy Space Center and college tours make a trip to the Nationals awesome on and off the drill floor

### **EVENT REGISTRATION - register by 6 December for automatic acceptance**

- 🖈 School Registration Fee is \$300 per school for up to 2 teams entered into Masters, Advanced, or Basic
- ★ Open Level Color Guard & Stand Alone Solo/Dual registration \$75 per team
- All fees paid are fully refundable prior to 6 December 2024
- All schools who register by the 6 December deadline have a guaranteed entry slot!
- Contact SNI for registration fee details if you have any questions regarding the Divisions
- ★ See the custom MySchool website where all schools register at: https://myschool.thenationals.net

## PACKAGE PLAN - what your cadets & instructors will receive

- All participants are required to attend through the Hotel Package Plan to cover all event costs
- ★ Discounted billeting in standard through premium hotels in the Daytona Beach area
- NHSDTC attendees receive a bronze medallion on a chest ribbon, NHSDTC collared sport shirt for adults and t-shirt for cadets (ordered to size), NHSDTC embroidered 4" event patch, 8" x 10" color team photograph taken during the event

The price of the four day / three night Package Plan (based on four people in a room) starts at only \$195 per person, three, two & one-to-a-room prices are slightly higher, used primarily for instructors & other adult supporters (all prices shown online). Parents may stay through this package with the school, but this is optional. Schools interested in the Hilton Hotel package (located directly across the street) or other upgraded and premium accommodations should check the website for those rates at https://thenationals.net

The Ocean Center Arena & Conference Center

Go to the Faceboo for photos, vie https://www.faceb

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# EAM CHANRED SHIPS ervice National Championship Drill Event y 2025

o have made "The Nationals" a part of their unit's history!

## **COMPETITION EVENTS**

Masters, Advanced, and Basic Levels with Armed & Unarmed divisions Saturday, May 3, 2025 - Sunday, May 4, 2025

- VIIT INSPECTION (D1 & D2: 12 cadets + cmdr, D3: 8-12 cadets + cmdr)
- TEAM REGULATION (D1 & D2: 12 cadets + cmdr, D3: 8-12 cadets + cmdr)
- COLOR GUARD (2 rifles + 2 flags only)
- TEAM EXHIBITION (All divisions: 8 cadets + Commander & over no maximum)
- ★ SOLO EXHIBITION (Armed Divisions)
- ★ DUAL EXHIBITION (Armed & Unarmed Divisions)
- ★ OPEN LEVEL COLOR GUARD competition
- WORLD DRILL CHAMPIONSHIPS (Post High School Drillers see pg 25 for details)

## **AWARDS, TROPHIES & ACCOLADES**

- ★ The finest event trophies and cadet competition awards presented anywhere!
- ★ National Championship trophy stands over six-foot tall

T

- ★ 1st-5th awarded in all events due to the amazing depth of talent & sheer number of schools
- Schools attending are featured within the DrillNATION Magazine, Service Headquarters websites, and the event Facebook page

With over 40 years of experience and history, "The Nationals" remains without parallel in the 3,500+ program JROTC and non-affiliated drill community. The Nationals provide the finest all-service drill & ceremony competition available anywhere! Your program's fundraising dollars and quest for excellence are precious, so make sure to invest in the best and most trusted experience possible for your cadets by attending the only national drill competition with a proven track record for excellence.

Become a partner in the history and excellence of the Nationals. See, be seen and become part of the brother and sisterhood that only comes from competing with the best schools & the best instructors. Over a dozen colleges on-site offering information along with many national drill supporters/vendors. For full competition details, see the NHSDTC website online at: <u>https://thenationals.net</u>

ok site for the Nationals deos and fun for all! book.com/NationalsDrill For additional information:<br/>Event ManagerSports Network International, Inc.<br/>388 Muddy Creek Lane<br/>Ormond Beach, Florida 32174800/327-9311 T 386/274-1919<br/>website: <a href="https://thenationals.net">https://thenationals.net</a>

Sunny Daytona Beach, Florida

Where do PT/Fitness teams, Raider teams and other JROTC Athletic teams want to end their year?

## 2025 NATIONAL JROTC FITNESS CHALLENGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



FOR THE ANNUAL FITNESS CHALLENGE THE SWEAT WILL FLOW IN THE ULTIMATE FITNESS BATTLE ON THE SHORES OF THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS BEACH!

Imagine your cadets competing on the shores of the World's Most Famous Beach in the most exciting and fun fitness competition ever hosted! This one-day, all-service JROTC-only competition held in Daytona Beach, Florida

during the National H.S. Drill Team Championships will provide your cadets the ability to pull together an entire year of effort into one stellar weekend!



The "Fitness Nationals" will have teams from 20 states. The "World's Most Famous Beach" is the competition home and is traffic-free. This area hosts the morning 3K



Team Beach Run and Physical Team Test (obstacle course) events. The Pull Ups/Flexed Arm Hang, Standing Double Jump and Weighted Ball Throw are held inside the Ocean Center facility just a few blocks away.

Divisions for the event include a MALE Division, a MIXED Division

and a FEMALE Division. Nine cadets compete in every event with a team maximum of 14 cadets on a team.

Events for the National Fitness Challenge include:

- 3K TEAM BEACH RUN -P.T.T. BEACH OBSTACLE COURSE - PULL UPS/FLEXED ARM HANG -STANDING DOUBLE JUMP -SEATED POWER THROW -



COME TO WHERE THE ALL-SERVICE CHALLENGE, EXCITEMENT AND PROFESSIONALISM WILL BE HIGH!

COMPETE ON THE FAMOUS SHORES OF DAYTONA BEACH AND GIVE YOUR CADETS A FITTING END TO THEIR SEASON!

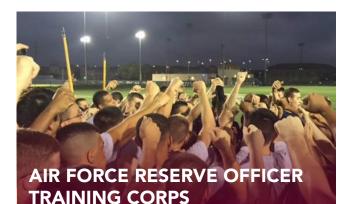
See the FACEBOOK PAGE for all of the latest details:



https://www.facebook.com/JROTCFitnessNationals/

GOTO THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE FOR THE EVENT: <u>HTTPS://THENATIONALS.NET</u>





Schreiner University participates in a cross-town agreement with the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) AFROTC Detachment 842. Students who are interested in participating in Air Force ROTC will be able to do so while also attending Schreiner University. On Tuesdays and Thursdays the university will provide transportation for students to attend ROTC required activities located at the UTSA campus.

MILITARY ACADEMY PREPARATORY SCHOOL (MAPS)

The Schreiner Institute Military Academy Preparatory School is a 10-month intensive academic program for post-high school students seeking a nomination to one of the five US military service academies. Students will focus on academics, physical fitness, leadership and ethics training, and community service. During our 10-month program, the behavior and character of the cadet candidate will be modified and developed, respectively.



## Schreiner University

schreiner.edu schreinerinstitute@schreiner.edu (830) 792-7492



**T**ROTC cadets can now be a part of a one-of-a-kind military drill experience! A full immersion camp that is fully focused on all things drill! Trained by world-caliber judges, instructors & former national champion cadets, attendees will learn what it takes to become the best! Nationals Drill Camp cadets spend six days of intensive drill training on the ground and in the classroom, learning all the tools to create a championship drill team. Whether you want to become the best unit in your county, your state or the entire nation, we can help you get there.

COME HUNGRY TO LEARN ... AND LEAVE READY TO COMPETE WITH THE BEST!

For further information on the Nationals Drill Camp, Contact Sports Network International email: sni@thenationals.net \* website: <u>https://thenationals.net</u> \* toll-free: 800/327-9311

VISIT THE NATIONALS DRILL CAMP WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS!





High school JROTC cadets have many choices when it comes to co-curricular activities. All have benefits, but there is nothing in the military framework of JROTC that promotes lifetime exceptionalism more than military drill. These young people who gravitate to the hard work, delayed gratification, high standards and exactness of championship caliber drill & ceremony competitions are most often a

cut above later in life. And these individuals and teams come together from around the world annually to showcase their skills and compete on the biggest stage under the brightest spotlights at the **National High School Drill Team Championships** (**NHSDTC**). Hosted at the renowned Ocean Center Arena in sunny Daytona Beach, Florida, this event brings together the best JROTC units from around the world for a thrilling showcase of precision, camaraderie, and patriotic pride.

The 2024 NHSDTC was an embodiment of the core values instilled in every JROTC cadet. More than just mastering intricate marching routines and executing flawless rifle spins, it reflected selflessness, dedication, discipline and excellence. These young individuals and their powerful instructors demonstrated a level of commitment that goes far beyond their years. The event wasn't about winning; it's about embracing discipline and the pursuit of excellence.

The two-day extravaganza is a part of a larger military weekend that brings to town over 5,000 competitors, instructors and observers in various related events - but without parallel the NHSDTC is the feature event. The Nationals includes a variety of events, such as team inspection, regulation drill, color guard and both team and individual exhibition drill performances in both Armed & Unarmed divisions with three levels of talent. These events and levels are designed to be a fair, all-around test of a program's D&C excellence. The best teams display technical skills and precision but also will emphasize the cadets ability to work as a team, remain poised under pressure, and exhibit unwavering professionalism at all times. The NHSDTC competition is a culmination of months, even years, of rigorous training and practice. The event provides them with an opportunity to put their dedication and hard work on display for peers, instructors, and spectators alike.

### **Division 3 Basic**

The Basic Division is for programs that have limited competition experience. **Dunedin HS** (FL) just nosed out **Oak Ridge MA** (NC) for a 3rd place overall Armed finish. **St. Francis Xavier**  HS (NY) paced by a stout Armed Exhibition win had enough to gain the Division 3 Runner-up title. Union HS (NJ) Maroon Guard trophied top three in all events led by a 1st place Color Guard finish to take Armed Division 3 top honors.

In the Unarmed Division, Alexandria City HS (VA) was strong but pushed down to 4th place by just 14 points (out of 4800) by the Union HS Infantry



Guard (NJ). Grabbing the Unarmed Division 3 Runner-up slot was **G.C. Scarborough HS (TX)** Sparta Elite and the Unarmed top finisher in Division 3 were the Marines from **Walker HS** (LA) who were paced by top finishes in both Inspection & Regulation!

### Division 2 Advanced

Tight scoring is the hallmark of Division 2 with Armed 1st place through 5th place separated by just 125 points total

out of 4,800. By just 10 points, Claudia Taylor Johnson HS (TX) was nudged to 5th place overall Armed by 2023 Division 3 Champion Mansfield HS (TX). Fern Creek HS (KY) gained a solid



3rd place overall paced by a championship in Regulation. **Ringgold HS** (GA) gave max effort but a tough finish in Exhibition gave them a 2nd place overall as the Striking Bolts from **Ridge Community HS** (FL) dominated in Exhibition and placed 4th in both Regulation and Color Guard handing them the Division 3 Armed National Championship.

In the Division 2 Unarmed events, West Creek HS (TN) and Chester Nimitz HS (TX) placed in 5th & 4th place overall respectively. Tomball Memorial HS (TX) pushed hard to grab the 3rd place slot. Mansfield HS (TX) Lady Tigers nailed 1st in Color Guard and a 4th in Exhibition which gave them the Runner-Up title. The Marines from **Reading HS** (PA) Lady Red Knights nailed top finishes in Regulation & Exhibition and near misses at 6th place in both Inspection and Color Guard giving them what they needed to land as the Division 2 Unarmed Champions.

# ALL TEAM CHARDEN OF THE OF THE

## Division 1 Masters

The Division 1 Masters Level is where the best of the best compete. These cadets don't practice until they get it right, they practice until they can't get it wrong! The



Texas onslaught began with 2023 Armed Champion **The Woodlands College Park HS** (TX) who was bumped to 5th place this year by 2023 Level 2 champion and fast rising **Central Catholic HS** (TX). The **Flour Bluff HS** (TX) Sea Devils rose again strong taking third place Armed Overall just being held off by always-tough **Brandeis HS** (TX) Nighthawks who placed 2nd in Inspection and Regulation as well as 3rd in Inspection and nailed the Overall Armed National Runner-up title. But clearly distancing themselves was the Patriot Guard Drill Team from **Francis Lewis HS** (NY). Their 1st place Regulation, 1st place Exhibition, 2nd place Color Guard, and 3rd place Inspection proved just too tough to stop, gaining them the Divison 1 Masters Armed National Drill Championship.

Masters Unarmed had **Ronald Reagan HS** (TX) tripped down to 5th place by cross-town rival **Theodore Roosevelt HS** (TX). Very impressive **Waller HS** (TX) came up from a Level 2 championship last year and made a strong run grabbing the 3rd place overall. The Cavalry Angels from Leavenworth HS (KS) had a slip in Color Guard but placed 3rd in Inspection and Exhibition with a near-miss 6th place in Regulation grabbing them the Overall Unarmed National Runner-up title for the 2nd consecutive year. When the scoring was over, the Blue Aces from **Brandeis HS** (TX) had just enough with wins in BOTH Inspection & Color Guard and 4th in Exhibition to take home the Division 1 Masters Unarmed National Drill Championship.

With thousands on-hand and twice that watching on-line, the closing night Awards Ceremony begins with the arrival of the Official Party and the posting of the colors. The Awards Ceremony keynote speaker was **Colonel Johnny McGonigal, Director AFJROTC**. No stranger to huge JROTC Awards Ceremonies, Colonel McGonigal delivered many key points for cadets to consider and again showed his immense support of JROTC in all services.

The National High School Drill Team Championships, in its 42nd year, stands as a testament to the dedication, commitment, and unwavering spirit of the next generation of leaders. As these young cadets marched onto the stage, they carried with them the legacy of generations of JROTC



participants who have come before them. And as they compete on the grand stage, they remind us all on or off the drill floor, excellence is achieved through hard work, dedication, and a shared commitment to something greater than oneself.

## Open Level Color Guard / Solo & Dual Exhibition



From Alaska and more than 30 other states, the Open Level Color Guard and the Solo/Dual Exhibition events were PACKED! The Ozark Mountainettes from powerful **Ozark HS** (MO)pushed past the **J. Frank Dobie HS** (TX) Lady

past the **J. Frank Volle H3** (1X Longhorns to grab the Open Level Color

Guard crown. All of these cadets should be proud of the job they did honoring our nation's flag.

In the NHSDTC Armed Solo event, minds were blown when 92 entries went at it for the title.



Prelims to finals, the winner was cadet **Ethan Rader** from North Bullitt HS (KY) who took the armed solo championship! **Cadets Andrade & Spreckels** from Waller HS (TX) took the Armed Dual Championship. **Taylor McNeil** from Ridge Community HS (FL) nabbed the female Armed 1st place and **Parell & Hooker** from Ringgold



HS (GA) nabbed the Armed Mixed Dual championship.

With 57 dual Unarmed Exhibition entries and some incredibly strong competition, 1st and 2nd place were separated by a tie-breaker! Cadets Lee & Cyr from Ronald Reagan HS (TX) reigned supreme over Granados & Rios from Waukegan HS (IL).



## 2024 National High School Drill Team Championships Attending Schools - All Levels

Admiral Farraqut Academy Navy JROTC St. Petersburg, Florida

Aiken High School Navy JROTC Aiken, South Carolina

Alexandria City High School Army JROTC Alexandria, Virginia

Alma Hiqh School Navy JROTC Alma, Arkansas

**Alvarado High School** Army JROTC Alvarado, Texas

BEAVERCREEK High School Air Force JROTC Beavercreek, Ohio

Bellaire High School Army JROTC Bellaire, Texas

Benson High School Magnet Army JROTC

Omaha, Nebraska

Blue Ridge High School Air Force JROTC Greer, S. Carolina

Bluffton High School Army JROTC Bluffton, S. Carolina **Blythewood High School** Army JROTC Blythewood, S. Carolina

> **Bob Jones High School** Air Force JROTC Madison, Alabama

**Bonanza Hiqh School** Army JROTC Las Vegas, Nevada

**Bradford High School** Army JROTC Starke, Florida

Brandeis High School Air Force JROTC San Antonio, Texas

Brenham High School Marine Corps JROTC Brenham, Texas

> Canyon Lake High School Army JROTC Fischer, Texas

Central Catholic High School Army JROTC San Antonio, Texas

Chester W. Nimitz High School Navy JROTC Irving, Texas

Cibola High School Marine Corps JROTC Albuquerque, New Mexico Claudia Taylor Johnson High School Army JROTC San Antonio, Texas

Clover High School Air Force JROTC Clover, S. Carolina

Coffee Co. Central High School Air Force JROTC Manchester, Tennessee

> Dodge City High School Air Force JROTC Dodge City, Kansas

Dunedin Hiqh School Navy JROTC Dunedin, Florida

EAST AURORA Hiqh School Navy JROTC Aurora, Illinois

EAST HAMILTON High School Army JROTC Ooltewah, Tennessee

Enid High School Air Force JROTC Enid, Oklahoma

Enloe High School Army JROTC Raleigh, N. Carolina

FERN CREEK High School Marine Corps JROTC Louisville, Kentucky Flour Bluff High School Navy JROTC Corpus Christi, Texas

Floyd Central High School Navy JROTC Floyd Knobs, Indiana

FRANCIS LEWIS High School Army JROTC Fresh Meadows, New York

G.C. Scarborough High School Army JROTC Houston, Texas

> GREEN High School Air Force JROTC Uniontown, Ohio

> Harlingen High School Army JROTC Harlingen, Texas

J. Frank Dobie High School Air Force JROTC Houston, Texas

John F Kennedy High School Army JROTC Denver, Colorado

John Paul Stevens High School Air Force JROTC San Antonio, Texas

**JONESDORO High School** Air Force JROTC Jonesboro, Georgia Karen Wagner High School Army JROTC San Antonio, Texas

Kenwood High School Army JROTC Clarksville, Tennessee

LEAVENWORTH High School Army JROTC LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

Loudoun County High School Navy JROTC Leesburg, Virginia

Lucy Beckham High School Coast Guard JROTC Mt. Pleasant, S. Carolina

> Mansfield High School Army JROTC Mansfield, Texas

MARMION Academy Army JROTC Aurora, Illinois

MEMORIAL High School Army JROTC Tulsa, Oklahoma

Missouri Military Academy Army JROTC Mexico, Missouri

Montgomery Central High School Army JROTC CunningHam, Tennessee ANTÖNALÖR .....

Mount Diablo High School Army JROTC Concord, California

MOUNT DORA High School Air Force JROTC MOUNT DORA, Florida

Mountain Home High School Navy JROTC Mt. Home, Arkansas

Mulberry High School Army JROTC Mulberry, Florida

North Branch Area High School Air Force JROTC North Branch, Minnesota

> North Pole High School Air Force JROTC

North Pole, Alaska

North Salem High School Army JROTC Salem, Oregon

Oak Ridge Military Academy Army JROTC Oak Ridge, N. Carolina

Olive Branch High School Marine Corps JROTC Olive Branch, Michigan

Omaha Central High School Army JROTC Omaha, Nebraska



## 2024 National High School Drill Team Championships Attending Schools - All Levels



Osceola Hiqh School Air Force JROTC Kissimmee, Florida

Ozark High School Army JROTC Ozark, Missouri

PERRY High School Air Force JROTC Perry, Georgia

**Reading High School** Marine Corps JROTC Reading, Pennsylvania

Ridge Community High School Army JROTC Davenport, Florida

**Rinqqold Hiqh School** Army JROTC Rinqqold, Georgia

Ronald Reagan High School Army JROTC San Antonio, Texas Sam Houston MSTC High School Army JROTC Houston, Texas

> Science Hill High School Army JROTC Johnson City, Tennessee

Smith Cotton High School Army JROTC Sedalia, Missouri

**Sparkman Hiqh School** Army JROTC Harvest, Alabama

Springboro High School Air Force JROTC Springboro, Ohio

Springfield High School Army JROTC Holland, Ohio

constantly CHALLENGE yourself ST. FRANCIS XAVIER High School Army JROTC New York, New York

St. Johns Northwestern Military Academy Army JROTC Delafield, Wisconsin

Summerlin Military Academy Army JROTC Bartow, Florida

The Guard of Providence High School Navy JROTC Charlotte, N. Carolina

The Woodlands College Park High School Marine Corps JROTC The Woodlands, Texas

Theodore Roosevelt High School Army JROTC San Antonio, Texas

Thomas Jefferson High School Army JROTC Denver, Colorado

Tomball Memorial High School Marine Corps JROTC Tomball, Texas

Union High School Army JROTC Union, New Jersey Unity Reed High School Air Force JROTC Manassas, Virginia

VETERANS High School Air Force JROTC Kathleen, Georgia

Waipahu High School Army JROTC Waipahu, Hawaii

Walker High School Marine Corps JROTC Walker, Louisiana

Waller High School Air Force JROTC Waller, Texas

Wando Hiqh School Air Force JROTC Mount Pleasant, S. Carolina

Waukeqan Hiqh School Army JROTC Waukeqan, Illinois

WEST CREEK High School Army JROTC Clarksville,

TENNESSEE

West Forsyth High School Army JROTC Clemmons, N. Carolina WESTERN HEIGHTS HIGH School Navy JROTC Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

> William Howard Taft High School

Air Force JROTC San Antonio, Texas

William J. Brennan High School Air Force JROTC

San Antonio, Texas

Winston Churchill High School Army JROTC San Antonio, Texas

WoodRow Wilson Hiqh School Air Force JROTC Beckley, West Virginia

Zion Benton Township High School Navy JROTC Zion, Illinois

















# Unlock the leader in you.

Two-, three-, and four-year scholarships are available for qualified students at Senior Military Colleges (SMC) and Military Junior Colleges (MJC). Army ROTC scholarships cover tuition and fees, room and board, a book allowance per semester, and a monthly stipend. Become an Army Officer in just two years through the Military Junior College Early Commissioning Program.

For more information about Army ROTC scholarships and Military Colleges, email MC-info@army.mil or text MCINFO to GOARMY (462769).

# **BE ALLYOU CAN BE.**





The Mationals Juolues A powerful forward push in Web Design, Client Management and even AI is changing the future of the MySchool & theNationals.net websites.

Sports Network International has been producing events since 1982. That's 43 years of working with Junior ROTC programs, handling scoring, training judges and managing events.

SNI has grown from our first event, which is still our largest, the National High School Drill Team Championships to a world that now includes every service's National Drill Championship, multiple Raider championships and even a Fitness championship. We coordinate drill training in the summer and still, every year, we work toward making our events better.

In 1982, there wasn't an internet. In fact, SNI didn't buy its first computer until 1987. It was hard for us to fathom how it could make things better. As naive as that thought was, it took years of growing with computer programs and employees who evolved our systems to take us as far as we have grown.

Every school that has attended these events is likely familiar with the initial website of thenationals.net, mostly because it has never changed! Certainly that was not because we didn't see the need for change, or because we didn't get offers daily from companies wanting to update our website. But we knew that the complexity of what we produce and how much it would take to start from scratch and create it all again, would be a job that only we could do.

It has taken some giant steps forward in concept development, tons of editing and endless searching for the right pictures and the right words that could answer most everything a school needs to know without overwhelming them with too much text. The new website has been built on the principle of 'less is more'.



The growing pains are real and as we've learned over the past year, web developers cannot easily grasp the community of JROTC and how to best present the information. So we have been working to build it page by page.

As this magazine goes to the printer, the website is still in its final stages before birth. Before all is finalized, it will surely have some tweaks needed. But we promise it will be worth the wait.

Beyond the need for updating our online information world, we have internally longed for a rebuild of our MySchool website, where every school that registers for an event gets all of their information and handles all the necessary tasks to attend. MySchool is over a decade old and with the vast amount of data it processes, that's ancient.

Enter MySchool 2.0 as we have fondly named it. Under the skilled supervision of her original creator, Mr. M. Keith Warren, and Fern Creek Software, the new website is a dramatic improvement on many fronts. And thanks to the dedication and complete control of his professional team, the new MySchool is alive and kicking as of this past week. MySchool.thenationals.net will be open for registrations starting the first week of October and we hope that the look and functionality will be a pleasant surprise for everyone.

There are still a few tabs within MySchool that will need a couple of weeks of building to make sure it is perfect, but that will all be ready in no time. The website will not only handle everything it did in the past, but will also manage WDC registrations as well as Drill Camp applications.

The Nationals.net and MySchool will also work together in one key aspect --- KNOWLEDGE. Built into both websites will be an AI tool that will start by knowing all information that is published within our websites. SOPs, scoresheets, FAQs, and more will be within its knowledge base and schools will be able to ask a question and have the answer provided along with a source provided for WHERE that question was answered. We are putting many safeguards in place to ensure that the tool does not quess or interpret the answer but instead, it will find the answer and give you the precise source and text you need.

Both of these websites will undergo a reasonable amount of growing pains during this school year. They have a lot to learn, and so do we. We want ensure that the experience of interacting with these tools is a pleasant one that makes your job in planning these trips easier.

We thank everyone in advance for their patience as these changes unfold and we work out the kinks. Feel free to communicate what you think works well along with anything you think needs more tweaking. One thing is for sure, this old dog is learning some new tricks!



# CHAIDPIODSHIPS

# **Dare Mighty Things**

## Where the Elite Meet to Compete!

Drillers from across America and the world make the World Drill Championships their annual home each & every May. The "Worlds" remain the finest collection of post high school exhibition drillers ever assembled in a single location each & every year. Founded by Drill Hall of Fame member and former nationally-ranked driller, Mr. Abdul Al-Romaizan, the WDC welcomes all drillers who feel they are ready to be a part of the best drill weekend ever presented. Be surrounded by the legends in drill every year and see dozens of the newest superstars, graduating cadets from the championship ranks of the NHSDTC. There is no other weekend in the world of competition drill that can compare to the Nationals weekend!

## THE BUZZ CAN **ONLY** BE EXPERIENCED IN THE OCEAN CENTER COMPETITION ARENA!

This WDC event is ONLY for those who are post-high school. Solo & Tandem are the two competition divisions available to enter and provide excitement that can become legendary overnight! This international event is operated for independent, college, military reserve or active-duty drillers. With the motto, "Dare Mighty Things", the WDC serves to take drill to the next level beyond the high school arena. Winners are crowned on the biggest stage in drill during the Awards Ceremony of the National High School Drill Team Championships. The WDC is without parallel - ask anyone who has been there! Drillers of all skill levels are urged to be a part of the brother and sisterhood that is the trademark of the WDC. There is simply nothing like it!

## World Drill Championships Saturday/Sunday 3-4 May 2025 at the Ocean Center Arena in Daytona Beach, Florida

COMPETE ON THE BIG STAGE SET YOUR CALENDAR TODAY!

For more information on the finest gathering of post-high school, professional drill talent ever assembled in one location, please contact Sports Network at sni@thenationals.net

2024 Solo Exhibition Winners First Place: Jackson Rainwater Second Place: Andrew Katz Third Place: Trey Davidson

2024 Dual Exhibition Winners First Place: Rainwater & Ludwig Second Place: Ramos & Paulino Third Place: Alano & Edgeworth



WORLD DRILL



### A View Around the Nationals & JROTC Universe!



Summer 2024 brought together nearly three hundred JROTC cadets & instructors for two weeks of unparalled training and fun in the heat of Texas!

Schreiner University near San Antonio in Kerrville, Texas serves as the official host for the dual 7-day training weeks of the Nationals Drill Camp. Cadets & instructors annually marvel

at the jump start they gain through their total immersion into drill at the NDC. Led by many of the most celebrated & awarded JROTC



instructors and other legends in drill, SNI sees booster clubs, Navy Areas, Army Brigades and even parents sending campers with great success. Rarely does anyone get the chance to be surrounded by drill lovers, with those who know how to excel - the progress is astounding.

The USMC JROTC HQ hosted an exclusive week-long summer drill camp prior to the long-standing All-Service Nationals Drill Camp. BOTH CAMPS maintained roughly 125 cadets each. Plan to attend in 2025!

Read about it, work to make it happen, then gain benefits for life! Visit the National Drill Camp website to learn more: <u>https://thenationals.net</u>

## The Jean K. Weil Scholarships for 2024 found two worthy homes with these high-flying seniors!



Two graduating seniors lept off the page as a cut above in a stellar way. Dedication on the drill floor, excellence with the academics, and impactful within the interview conducted onsite only cemented the belief that these two have amazing futures awaiting them.

The prestigious Jean K. Weil Scholarship recognizes the most outstanding overall graduating cadets at the NHSDTC. The finalists submit their transcripts, an essay, personal recommendations and more.

Finalists are then chosen to go through on-site interviews. The results were again amazing as these two are stellar!

Shown above are the victors with **Samantha Ste. Claire**, (Left) CEO of Sports Network International, **Shawn Sullivan** (Center) - Leavenworth H.S. - Army JROTC from Leavenworth, Kansas and **Havannah Sierra** (Right) - Waller H.S. - Air Force JROTC from San Antonio, Texas. It is outstanding that two people who will undoubtedly offer so much to the future of this great nation were selected this year and featured on our stage. We expect great things!

Along with the notoriety of such an award, each of these two graduating cadets earned a \$1,000 scholarship to be used for future scholastic expenses. To see more on this award or how to ensure your top graduating senior cadets apply for the award at the upcoming 2025 Nationals, go to the on-line home: <u>https://thenationals.net</u>

When your calling card is overcoming every obstacle, on & off the drill floor, Cibola HS from New Mexico locked up the prestigious 2024 Spirit Banner Award!

Every year at the NHSDTC, SNI selects a single school that epitomizes the hard work, excellence in the face of adversity, overall champion spirit and glorification of drill & JROTC to



reign as the Nationals Spirit Award winner for the following school year. For the 2024-2025 school year, the school selected was the venerable Marines from **Cibola HS in Albuquerque**, **New Mexico**. . *learn more at: <u>https://thenationals.net</u>* 

They have been attending SNI events for two decades - always showing class and distinction in all they do. You can feel the discipline, honor and goodness within each of their cadets. Always the first to volunteer to help, always the first to make the sport better for others. But they always do everything with a smile and a sense of fun. Coming from such a great distance, the unit faced many challenges attending this year and moved mountains to make sure that their deserving cadets were able to shine. Their efforts made our choice an easy one. Please join SNI in congratulating this top program which continues to set the standard of overall excellence and embodies the JROTC Spirit.

### **Coast Guard & Space Force JROTC taking hold.**

As of June 2024, the United States Coast Guard has 10 Junior Reserve



Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) programs, with seven more set to open in the upcoming school year. While this number is still modest, it shows a strong increase that will continue to climb.



The Coast Guard established its first JROTC unit in 1992 and under recent federal legislation, the Coast Guard is expanding the JROTC program to every Coast Guard District by 2025.

The program aims to develop citizens with character who are serviceminded, teaches leadership, and prepares young high schoolers for the real world. Currently in order for a school to request to be a host school for a CGJROTC unit, they must have a minimum student enrollment of 500 students. The curriculum includes coursework on leadership, civics, health and wellness, Coast Guard operations and history, maritime sciences, seamanship skills, teamwork, ethical decision-making and more. The curriculum is based on the principles of performance-based, learner-centered education and promotes development of core abilities: capacity for lifelong learning, communication, responsibility for actions and choices, good citizenship, respectful treatment of others, and critical thinking techniques.

Air Force JROTC has really pushed Space Force excellence as well. The first 10 JROTC units converted their affiliation from the Air Force to the Space Force beginning in 2022. Space Force JROTC aims to convert a total of up to 100 units in the near future, according to Anthony "Todd" Taylor, chief of the program development division at HQ Air Force ROTC. Budget considerations could affect final numbers, he wrote.

"AFJROTC's curriculum is approximately 40 percent leadership, 40 percent aerospace science, and 20 percent fitness and wellness. For SFJROTC, space will of course take lead in the aerospace science area, such as our existing space textbook, which covers the space environment, space exploration, manned and unmanned spaceflight, space technology, as well as commercial use of space." stated Taylor.

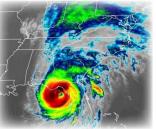
As these programs become more prevalent, it is only a matter of time before one of these fine programs hoist a championship trophy of some type onto their trophy case. Be ready cadets - they are coming hard!

## In the Aftermath of Hurricane Helene

On September 26th, Hurricane Helene made landfall in Florida as a Category 4 storm. Its path northward has wreaked a level of devastation that has not been seen since Hurricane Katrina in 2005. In just a week since the storm, 175 deaths have already been confirmed, with countless more missing. The vast scope of flooding in rural communities will likely take months to discover the true toll of this storm.

Given the vast expanse affected, there are no doubt dozens of schools and thousands of cadets that have been affected by this storm. Directly or indirectly, this will make a powerful impact on these programs as they

begin the slow process of rebuilding their communities. We are all aware of the devastating effect that Katrina made, and that it took a decade to appreciate how profound the impact was on the survivors. Let us hope that history taught us lessons on how we can best support these states as they search for survivors and rebuild their lives.



SNI is praying for the communities and individuals affected by this disaster. If you are able to help, please consider a donation to the Red Cross. https://www.redcross.org

#### Pieper HS NJROTC Named 2024 Navy League Most Improved Unit in the Nation

In only its third year in existence, the Pieper HS Warrior Company is making headlines as the Most Improved Unit in the Nation. With keynote events such as the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb and the Bataan Death March Memorial hike, the program is making a difference both on its campus and in its surrounding communities.

This national award is quite an honor for the program and school which has been in existence for only three years just recently graduating its first senior class. This is the second year in a row that the program was nominated for this award.

"This is quite an accomplishment for these young leaders who are competing against long established programs," says Major Dave Bower USMC retired, the program's senior Naval science instructor, who explains that being a Navy National Defense Cadet Corps unit (NNDCC) is a forerunner to becoming a Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) unit.

"This award recognizes the incredible work and time spent from each cadet, making the Warrior Company one of the best in the Nation," he continues. "These leaders have built an incredible legacy; built on selfless service and grit."

This year, the unit grew to 103 cadets, almost double where it began three years ago. This number includes the addition of eighth-grade students from Pieper Ranch Middle School. Through various competitions, service projects and keynote events, the program continues to make headlines even earning an invitation to attend Navy Nationals in Pensacola. We at SNI congratulate this shining example of excellence and have no doubt we will see you one day soon at the Navy Nationals competition in Florida.



### WHAT IS OLD IS NEW AGAIN - AND JROTC DRILL TEAMS ARE GREATLY BENEFITTING!

Winning at the highest levels of JROTC drill takes many things. Sure, dedicated cadets, supportive parents and knowledgable instructors make it happen. But you have to build a culture for success or that success is fleeting. You have to have a routine and methods that work with ongoing improvement and accountability. Enter *Dominate the Drill Pad*.

This company started by recently retired JROTC instructor and Drill Hall of Fame member **1SG** (Ret.) **James Tadayeski** takes a bit of a different approach. "1SG" himself assists instructors in learning how to modify their team culture from the ground up for a more lasting change. Taking his collective decades of experience as a top level athlete, 20+ years of active duty military culminating with a 1SG role with the legendary U.S. Army Old Guard, he then took a tiny JROTC program in central Louisiana to multiple Drill Championships.

**Dominate the Drill Pad** imparts concepts, actions, procedures, and on-floor training routines (and more) for YOU AND YOUR CADETS which can lead YOUR cadets to greater success. Then, on-going feedback to keep the drill saber sharpened. The results are immediate and more important, lasting! Contact 1SGT at <u>dominatethedrillpad@gmail.com</u> to get drill strong today!

#### The Army Raider Competitions in Ft. Knox is FULL!

After a fantastic inaugural event hosted by the BIG ARMY in November of 2023, the U.S. Army Raider Competition at Ft. Knox is again bursting with teams and looking to redefine Army Raider excellence on the biggest stage of all. The meet moves up a week to later October but this Raider event is poised to break records and provide a 4,000-plus cadet field with a weekend they will not soon forget.



This year, the Army settled on 160 teams competing

on Friday and 160 teams competing on Saturday & Sunday. While this seems like an amazingly high number, the Army has everything covered with planning for this event beginning just days after the inaugural event ended! With the Army again offering Army Brigade nominated teams no charge attendance including free transportation, food and billeting space, filling the multitude of competition slots proved little problem with scores of teams also filling the waiting lists.

SNI is again honored to be assisting this effort with trophies, registration personnel and software, judge training and event scoring, but this competition is all run by the Army. The greater Raider landscape is busy and being a part of this landmark Raider event is both an honor and a serious obligation we put 110% effort behind.

All of Army JROTC wishes those brave competitors good luck and safe travels.

## LEARN ABOUT THE CANDIDATES, THE ISSUES THEY SUPPORT - THEN GET OUT AND VOTE!



Junior ROTC is a program that builds citizenship, leadership and solid decision making. The Fall of 2024 brings forth a unique opportunity in the lives of young JROTC cadets. Those who have turned 18 and have met the registration obligations of their state will be able to VOTE for the 47th

President of the United States. Nothing more steeped in responsibility and patriotism than a citizen voting for the leadership they believe will allow themselves and their country to prosper.

Other local elections and state elections will likely be held on the same ballot. You can vote on election day or many states now offer advanced voting to avoid the lines that often are a part of election day voting.

Mostly, remember, you have political power today, whether you are 18 or not, and you can use that power to strengthen our democracy.

Help get your friends get registered to vote. Show up at public meetings, write to or call officials and let them know you are registered. Exercise your rights as a U.S. citizen.



The extent of your power is guite significant. Over 5 million

high school students will be old enough to register and vote in this important election. Double check you are eligible and ensure you know where the correct polling place is for you.

Study & learn about the issues you believe are most important to you and to your nation. Listen to others but remember, this is YOUR decision. Many young people say that social media can be toxic and politics is exhausting. Give yourself permission to take a break and decide for yourself what is worth your time.

Dreams are a proud part of our history as Americans and your dreams are our shared future. Make the time to be involved to make the USA strong!







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### Drill Dojo Velcro Slings NEW!

We worked with Drill Dojo to create a sling with Velcro<sup>®</sup> hook and loop fasteners that secure the sling to the rifle, yet help prevent injuries during Exhibition. Each sling also includes optional metal hardware. Available in 14 colors. Drill Dojo certification is required to purchase slings with the Drill Dojo logo. See below.

# 0.)

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