



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Attn: News Director
May 31, 2018

Contact: Becky Johns
(815) 561-3663 x354
bjohns@skydivesc.com

**US National Skydiving Championships to be held this September in
Rochelle, IL**

Chicagoland Skydiving Center chosen to host top competitors in largest US event

ROCHELLE, IL...Chicagoland Skydiving Center (CSC) has been chosen by the United States Parachute Association (USPA) to host its largest US event: the National Skydiving Championships. The competition will take place September 4-18 at their campus at 1207 West Gurler Road, Rochelle. Winners in 10 competitive skydiving disciplines will be named National Champions, a selection of which will represent the US at the World Meet this October in Australia.

This honor is particularly special for CSC as the company celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. CSC was originally established in 1968 in Hinckley, Illinois as Chicagoland's first skydiving school. The company moved to Rochelle in 2011, expanding to a larger facility with the specific goal to someday host the US National Championships.

USPA conducts the National Parachuting and Skydiving Championships each year to recognize national champions in the sport's competition disciplines. CSC will host all the freefall and wingsuit events this fall. Parachuting events will compete later this year in Florida.

Chicagoland Skydiving Center prepared a bid to host the event and presented it to the USPA Board of Directors and competition committee. The vote by the board was nearly unanimous. CSC was chosen over two previously successful host cities, making it the first new host chosen in nearly two decades.

More than 700 competitors will participate in the competition. CSC expects teams from 40 US States and 6 countries to attend. Nearly two thirds of the competitors will be making their first visit to Chicagoland Skydiving Center and Rochelle, IL. With the addition of coaches, families, and various supporters, approximately 1500 guests are expected to attend the meet.

“We are embracing the challenge of being a new host, ready to show USPA and the competitors hospitality they have never seen before,” said Douglas Smith, President/CEO Chicagoland Skydiving Center. “The construction of the new facility, our growth plan, and the way I built my team were all aimed toward the goal of hosting Nationals, and now it’s coming to life”, he added.

Becky Johns, Director of Marketing and Events at CSC is collaborating with skydiving industry manufacturers and local businesses to make the event a success. “Our team and our dropzone will be ready to deliver smooth skydiving operations,” she said. “But the more exciting part is how our city is so excited to welcome these guests. We are really rolling out the red carpet for our sport, and I can’t wait for competitors to see that.”

Because of the large numbers of competitors, USPA staff, judges, aircraft providers, and spectators, the event will significantly impact the local economy. Local and regional businesses can collaborate with Chicagoland Skydiving Center in a variety of ways from sponsorships to food vending to volunteer opportunities.

“Local retail stores, hotels, restaurants, food vendors, and convenience stores will profit from the sheer size of the event”, said Peggy Friday, Rochelle Chamber of Commerce Executive Director/CEO. “Over 1500 people will be spending time and money in Rochelle because of the world-class facilities, safety record, and reputation of CSC in the skydiving industry.”

Spectators are welcome during the event, and there is no charge to watch. CSC will also be operating regular first-time jumper operations during the event for people interested in making a tandem skydive. The Flight Deck Bar & Grill on-site at CSC will be open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily. Additional food vendors will be also be attending.

For more information, visit nationals.skydivecsc.com.

###