



UNITED STATES NATIONAL SKINDIVING SPEARFISHING CHAMPIONSHIP BID 2025

*Sanctioned by the Underwater Society of America (USOA) - member of
World Underwater Federation (CMAS) and United States Olympic Committee (USOPC)*

Host: National Freshwater Spearfishing Association (NFSA)

Date: April 09-11

Location: Lake Pleasant, Morristown, AZ

Prepared by Mike Livingston – National Freshwater Spearfishing Association (NFSA) President

TO: Scott Turgeon - Director USOA

FROM: Mike Livingston - President National Freshwater Spearfishing Association (NFSA)

Contact: Mike Livingston 801-310-4961, mjlivingston2@gmail.com

National Freshwater Spearfishing Association (NFSA) is honored to submit this bid to host the 2025 USOA Skindiving Spearfishing National Championships. The Championship will be held the week of April 9-11, 2025. The captain's/observers meeting will be held Wednesday April 09, nationals' tournament day Friday April 11 with awards ceremony banquet Friday April 11.

Location:

Lake Pleasant - Pleasant Harbor Marina

Located at: Pleasant Harbor Marina

Lake Pleasant Regional Park is a large outdoor recreation area straddling the Maricopa and Yavapai county border northwest of Phoenix, Arizona. The park is located within the municipal boundaries of Peoria, Arizona, and serves as a major recreation hub for the northwest Phoenix metropolitan area.

Competition:

The tournament will be held over one day (Friday April 11) with 6 hours of diving and 30 minutes travel times at both the beginning and end of the dive time.

Schedule of Events

Wednesday April 09, 2025

- 6:00pm Mandatory Competitor's Meeting & USOA Rules Meeting
Location: TBD
Meeting attendance is **MANDATORY** for **ALL Competitors**.
- 7:00pm Mandatory Captains Meeting and USOA rules meeting

Friday April 11, 2025 **National Championship Tournament – Rough and Game Fish**

- 7am – 7:30am..... Check in/boat inspection on the lake at starting location
- 7:30am Start of 30 minute travel time. All boats will start at sound of horn.
- 8:00am Official dive time begins. (Official time defined as GPS time on phone/GPS)
- 2:00pm Official dive time ends. (Official time defined as GPS time on phone/GPS)
- 2:30pm All divers must be checked in with a tournament official. (Pleasant Harbor Marina)
- 2:30pm Weigh-in begins (Location TBD)
- 3:30pm Cut off for divers to check in for weigh in

Friday April 11, 2025.....**Banquet & Awards Ceremony**

- 7:00pm – 10:00pm Location: Near the corner of Ramp Rd & W Pleasant Dr
..... (33°50'52.6"N 112°15'14.5"W)

Diving Conditions:

<u>Visibility</u>	15 - 20 feet typical
<u>Temperature</u>	60 -70 degrees F but can get thermoclines past 30 feet down can be cooler.
<u>Depth</u>	05-30 feet average.
<u>Wind</u>	Average wind 10 - 15 mph throughout month of April.
<u>Air Temp</u>	Average highs in the low 80's with daytime lows in the low 50's.
<u>Bottom</u>	Sand, rock, brush and mud.

Fish List

Striped Bass

No limit

Carp

No limit

Shad

No limit

All legal possession limits and state regulations must be adhered to. Arizona regulations allow for taking of Striped Bass, Carp and Shad. Any violation of State or Federal law will result in automatic disqualification of the diver. Every diver must possess a State of Arizona fishing license. Fish must be kept separated (separate coolers, stringers, etc.) while on the boat during tournament. Fish appearing not fresh or improperly handled will be disqualified. Each diver is responsible for the safe handling and keep of all game fish. No game fish will be wasted. NFSA will provide proper fish disposal for all rough fish. Chumming is not allowed. Team members are strictly prohibited from shooting fish for another team member - NO sharing/trading of catch. No loaded spear guns allowed on the boat. All guns must be loaded and unloaded in the water. Individual diver is required to load their own gun and no assistance with loading is allowed.

Points:

Game fish (defined as Striped Bass). Each diver will receive three points per game fish. Each diver will select their largest game fish to be weighed for biggest game fish trophy. Reminder – Striped Bass are the ONLY game fish allowed to be taken in AZ waters. No white bass may be shot.

Rough fish (defined as Carp and Shad). Each diver will receive one point per rough fish. Each diver will select their largest rough fish to be weighed for biggest rough fish trophy.

Boats:

Dive teams are allowed to use boats for this event. One dive team or multiple dive teams are permitted to dive from a single boat. Local teams are highly encouraged to bring their own knowledgeable captain. Dive teams should be intimately familiar with local fishing laws and knowledgeable about water safety practices to best protect their team's interests. Each diver will be required to have a dive float and flag that is visible to other vessels on the water. It is the responsibility of the boat captain to ensure that divers remain within line of sight of the captain. Boat captains should also maintain 150 distance from other divers in the water but are allowed to approach their team's divers to assist in their support duties. NFSA will oversee an independent inspection and safety check of all vessels prior to the event start to ensure appropriate rules and guidelines are being followed. They will confirm presence of dive floats, flags and other safety devices as well as ensure that no previously shot fish are in the possession of the vessel. A checklist of each vessel will be completed and signed off on by all participants and dive teams at check in and prior to event start. This is in lieu of having mandatory observers on each boat.

Protest:

In the event of a protest, the below USOA established rules will be followed.

7.2 An official competition Protest Committee shall be selected, by the Tournament Referee or Head Official, to rule on any protests by competitors during a competition. No individual with a conflict of interest may serve on the Protest Committee.

7.3 The protest committee shall be comprised of three individuals.

7.4 All members of the Protest Committee shall be announced at the Competitors/Captains Briefing and/or at the start of competition.

7.5 All protests shall be submitted to the Tournament Referee or Head Official in writing, signed by the complainant, and shall be accompanied by a \$100.00 (USD) protest fee (cash or check) which will be refunded if the protest is upheld.

7.6 All protest fees not refunded shall be submitted to the USOA Treasurer within 15 days of the end of the competition.

7.7 All protests shall be made within one hour of the incident or within one hour of completion of the event in question.

7.8 The complainant and the defendant may each have no more than two people at the protest hearing.

7.9 Upon receiving a protest, the Tournament Referee or Head Official shall convene the Protest Committee, examine the evidence available and call for a vote of the Committee.

7.10 Each Protest Committee member has one vote. USOA Standardized Competitive Rules as of October 1, 2022, Page 5

7.11 If any member of the protest committee has a conflict of interest in the specific protest, the Tournament Referee or Head Official will appoint alternate(s) to replace those members for that hearing.

7.12 All protest hearing decisions shall be made within two hours of receipt and prior to the start of any event affected by the protest.

7.13 Penalties will be defined by each sports committee rules.

7.14 All protest decisions are final

For more information please refer to: USOA Skindiving Rules (2022) and USOA Standardized Competitive Rules (2022).

Eligibility:

Competitors must represent a USOA Club and Council in good standing which has been in existence at least 3 months prior to the National Championships and must be individually registered with USOA at least 30 days prior to the Championships. Competitors must be citizens or legal residents of the United States of America.

There are 4 team categories: Men's, Women's, Mixed and Masters Team. A Men's Team is made up of 2 men, a Women's Team is made up of 2 women, a Masters Team is made up of 2 divers 55+ and a Mixed Team is made up of 2 divers - either an adult male with adult female or an adult (male or female) with a junior (male or female under 18 yrs. old).

Entry Fees:

The entry fee is \$190.00 per competitor. Tournament t-shirt and banquet fees included for each diver. Anybody who wants additional tickets for the awards dinner banquet on Saturday, April 11 can purchase them for \$25 each. Additional tournament t-shirts offered for \$25.00 each. The deadline to register for the 2025 Nationals is April 1st - if you want you and your Team to appear in the tournament program. There is a cap for participants at 100 total divers. Please see registration form at the end of this bid to register your team and order banquet tickets and tournament shirts.

NFSA 2025 Tournament Map (will be added later)

Zone:

More information forthcoming.

Boat Rental:

Westside will give a group discount TBD for multi-day rental and will launch at 6 AM on April 11. 6 pontoons available.

Scorpion Bay will be able to open early on tournament day, 8 20' pontoons at \$450 per day.

Pleasant Harbor boat rental has many pontoons starting at \$590 per day, but they have yet to reply whether they will allow us to pick up early on 4/11 and their rental day is 7 hours not 8.

Contacts:

<https://westsideaz.com/rates/>

Guy is the manager – 623-302-4202

<https://www.scorpionbayaz.com/rentals/rental-fleet/>

928-501-7368

National Freshwater Spearfishing Association is appreciative of the opportunity to be hosting the 2025 Nationals. We look forward to an exciting event. We wish all the divers best of luck and a fun and safe Nationals! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mike Livingston
President - National Freshwater Spearfishing Association
801-310-4961
mjlivingston2@gmail.com

2025 USOA Nationals Team Registration

It is agreed that I, _____, am entering the Underwater Society of America United States Spear Fishing Championships at my own risk. I do hereby release the Underwater Society of America, sponsors, cooperating groups and individuals from any and all claims of liability arising by reasons of injury or other loss occasioned by me at any time before, during or after the meet.

Team Captain Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ E-Mail: _____

Signature: _____ Parent Signature: (if under 21) _____

Second Team Member Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ E-Mail: _____

Signature: _____ Parent Signature: (if under 21) _____

Third Team Member Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ E-Mail: _____

Signature: _____ Parent Signature: (if under 21) _____

Alternate Team Member Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ E-Mail: _____

Signature: _____ Parent Signature: (if under 21) _____

Council/Club Name/Team #: _____

Signature of Council/Club President: _____

Registration & Entrance Fee due by April 1, 2025.

*Late registration will be accepted up to April 09, 2025 but you & your Team will not be featured in the 2025 Nationals Program if you register later than April 1, 2025.

Men's Team (2 divers per Team) = \$150.00 per diver (\$300.00/Team). Women's, Masters & Mixed Teams (2 divers per Team) = \$150.00 per diver (\$300.00/Team).

Registration will be available on Nationalfreshwaterspearfishing.org.

Team Biographies (with pictures) are also due by April 1, 2025 if you wish your Team to be featured in the 2025 Nationals Program! Please email bio's to Mike Livingston at: mjlivingston2@gmail.com

Please limit competitor bio's to around 50 words per person. Be sure to list your team affiliation.

For any questions/concerns contact Mike Livingston – President - National Freshwater Spearfishing Association (801)310-4961.

2025 USOA Nationals Banquet Order Form

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, and Zip: _____

The tournament will be held on April 09 – 11, 2025.

The Awards Banquet will be held the evening of Friday April 11, 2025 from 7:00pm to 10:00pm at the building located near the corner of Ramp Rd & W Pleasant Dr. (33°50'52.6"N 112°15'14.5"W)

Time : Friday April 11th starting at 7:00 pm

Address: Building located near the corner of Ramp Rd & W Pleasant Dr.
(33°50'52.6"N 112°15'14.5"W)

Cost: Diver fee covered in registration Each additional attendee @ \$25.00 per person

Please list total number in your reservation below. Total

number _____ X \$25.00 = \$ _____

Payment for banquet will be available in early 2025 at nationalfreshwaterspearfishing.org

Competitors: please purchase your banquet tickets at the time of your tournament registration! If others decide to join you later, extra tickets can still be purchased at a later date for the same price but there's a minimum seating number we must meet to be seated in the bigger, nicer room that we are currently booked in so, please try to plan ahead and order all your tickets when you register for the tournament. Thank you!

2025 USOA Nationals Shirt Order Form

NFSA is proud to offer the following apparel to help commemorate your 2025 participation in the USOA National Spearfishing Championships in Lake Pleasant, AZ.

ORDER FORM

Cost:

Long Sleeve Competition Shirts..... \$25.00

Short Sleeve T-Shirts @ \$20 EACH

SIZE NUMBER DESIRED OF EACH SIZE

Small

Medium

Large

XL

XXL

Total: _____

Online ordering available early 2025 at nationalfreshwaterspearfishing.org

Note: we have only a limited number of shirts to offer so, by sending in your order form in on time along with your Team registration by April 1, 2025 you will guarantee you get what you want.