2027 PSO Atlantic & After Dark Pole Championships

A Pole Sport Organization event

Event Packet

Welcome! Thank you for coming to the event! We are super excited to host all of you lovely humans. This combined event packet is for all participants of the event: competitors, judges, volunteers, and vendors.

Please email us at info@polesportorg.com if you need help and we'll get right back to you!

See you soon!

- The PSO Team

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GENERAL EVENT INFORMATION

Event dates

April 10-11, 2027

Event links

- Day of event schedule
- Competitor photos and video purchases
- Tickets to the event
- Facebook event page
- Competitor group page
- Hyatt Hotel booking link

Important deadlines

Competitors

February 10	Registration deadline
February 18	Category/level change deadline
March 10	Day of event schedules published
March 26	Music and schedule request change deadline
March 26	Stage name/studio affiliation change deadline
March 26	Name pronunciation form (optional)
April 10-11	Competition days!

Judges & Volunteers

You're good :) No deadlines for you!

Vendors

April 26	Submit logo for event program through intake form, Submit proof of insurance for booth by email to info@polesportorg.com
April 9	Vendor setup - TBA

Event location

Hyatt Regency Dulles

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2300 Dulles Corner Blvd
Herndon, VA 20171

Scam Warning: There has been an account attempting to impersonate PSO events and promote a livestream for in-person PSO events. We do not currently livestream any in-person events. Only our virtual events are streamed, and those are hosted on our YouTube for free.

Parking, travel and accommodations

As a part of the Pole Sport Organization group, you'll also get a 10% discount on food and beverage items, excluding alcohol. Please let your servers know that you are with us in order to receive this discount.

Food note This hotel has a history of being slow with food service. We have had some conversations with them about it, but just a heads up to order early :)

Parking is available at the hotel free of charge to both hotel guests and locals.

Air travelers can most conveniently fly into Washington Dulles International airport (code IAD). There is a free hourly shuttle to the Hyatt provided by the hotel that runs from about 5:15am through 12:15am. You need to call them when you are
ready to be picked up, or make a reservation through the front desk for drop off.

For rental cars, Enterprise offers a 5% discount on car rentals, or National offers 10% off to anyone associated with PSO events! You can get this deal by using this direct link, or using promo code XZ10PSO.

Safety Information

Our medic will be located in the hallway behind the stage with an AED during pole testing and event hours. The hotel has an AED behind the front desk. PSO staff have first aid kits. Please reach out to a PSO staff member (yellow lanyards) if you need assistance.

Our rigger will be backstage or nearby with tools and equipment should the poles need maintenance. Please reach out to a PSO staff member (yellow lanyards) if needed.

You can read our full emergency response plan here.

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COMPETITOR INFORMATION

Suggested checklist for competitors

- ☐ Register to compete
- ☐ Join the Facebook group for competitors
- ☐ Book hotel/travel
- ☐ Purchase your photo/video package
- ☐ Submit music and confirm you're not using disallowed props via the Portal
- ☐ Review costume rules for coverage requirements
- ☐ Download your promo image from the Portal and share!
- ☐ Save music to USB and bring on the day of the event

Check In

On your performance day, please check in at the Tickets & Check In table no later than 1 hour before your start time and with the stage monitor backstage at least 30 minutes before your start time. You will let the stage monitor know your starting position so she can cue our music manager.

We can run up to 30 minutes ahead of the posted schedule, so please listen to announcements and be around so that we can find you!

Poles and staging

We use 2 chrome 45mm X-Poles that are approximately 12 feet tall and attached to a truss system. The stage right pole is on spinning and the stage left pole is on static.

The stage dimensions are: 24 feet wide and 16 feet deep. The poles are approximately 8.5 feet from each other and 8 feet from the front, back, and sides of the stage. The entrance to the stage (stage right versus stage left) will be determined on the setup day before the show.

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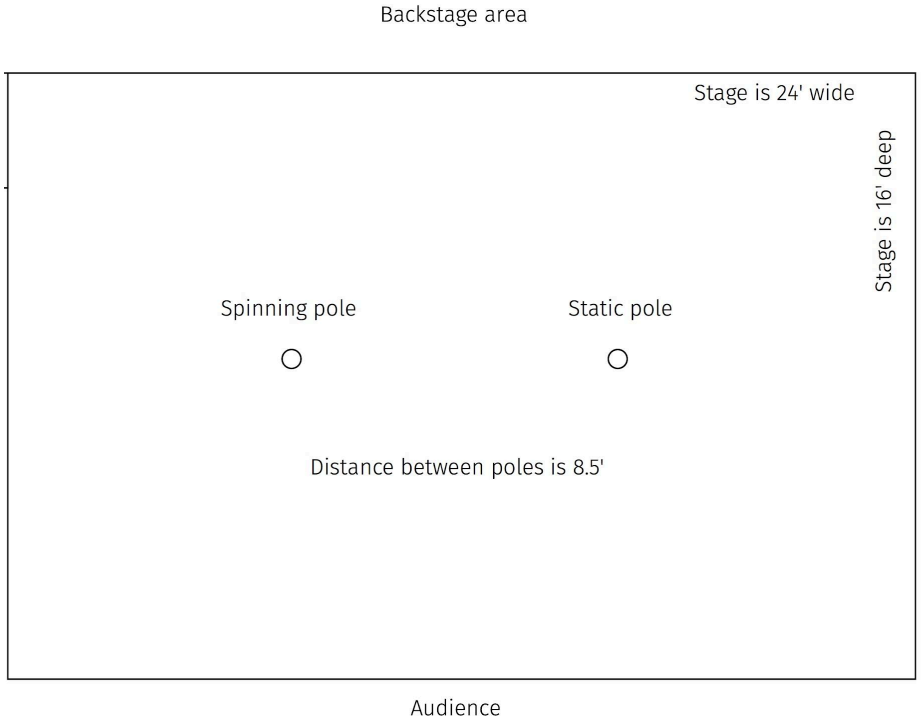

For everyone's safety, you are not allowed to touch, swing off of, push off of, or hang on the truss system that we are using to support the equipment. Just don't do it!

Pole cleaning and grip aids

Grip aids are allowed on your body only. You may not apply grip directly to the poles. Pole cleaners will clean the poles with rubbing alcohol only, they will not apply grip aids.

You can read more about grip aids which are allowed or not allowed in the Rules.

Practice time - at venue

We will designate certain times at the beginning of each section for pole testing times, and sometimes can also allow for pole testing the night before the event. These times will be listed on each Day of Event Schedule when they are released. The designated pole testing times will be the only time during the event that you will have access to a pole for practice.

There will be a PSO staff member supervising the pole testing sessions. How much time each competitor has on stage for pole testing will be up to the discretion of PSO staff, with the aim of ensuring every competitor receives a fair amount of testing time. Due to the number of competitors, you will not have a chance to do a complete run through on the stage during that

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time. Competitors usually get 1-2 minutes per pole.

Space permitting, there will be an X-Stage backstage or in the dressing room area for additional practice.

Legal and releases

You will be required to sign a waiver of liability at the Tickets & Check-In desk upon arrival at the event. You can view the waiver in advance here.

Photo and video services

Photo and video services can be purchased through the Portal.

> Photo Only: 20 photos, captured by our team of world class photographers, selected by you, then edited by hand and delivered electronically.
>
> Video Only: A crisp, smooth single camera video of your performance delivered in high definition.
>
> Photo & Video: The best of both worlds, 20 beautiful photos of your choice and the clear HD video of your whole performance.

You are welcome to bring in phones and tablets only (ex. smartphone, iPad) to record. Any other device is not allowed. In the seating area, please have your device no higher than shoulder level to make sure those behind you can see the performance. Failure to adhere to the camera policy may result in being asked to leave the venue. Just don't do it!

Photo and Video Tips

These are not rules, but they are tips for getting amazing photos and video from our team.

The cameras are going to be able to capture you if you stay in between the tape markings on the stage that come out from the truss. There will also be a line marked off at the front of the stage. If you go outside of those tape marks, you'll be out of frame and out of the light.

Most of our events have either black or blue backdrops. You'll look extra stellar if you wear a bright color that stands out from the backdrop. We'll still see you if you wear black or blue, but the contrast won't be as dramatic.

Music and props

Your music should be uploaded to your account on the Portal. When you upload your music, you will first check a box confirming that you are not using anything on the disallowed props list.

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Individual prop submissions are no longer required.

If your song is too long for your level or the wrong file type, the Portal will reject it. We also have a couple of prohibited words that you need to edit out. You can read about the specific requirements in the Rules.

Please bring a USB to the event with a backup copy of your music on it. Tracks should be labeled with stage name, category, level and age group. We recommend that you only have your song on the USB and no other files - this allows for a super quick retrieval in case of technical issues on site. We would hate for you to miss your performance due to a corrupted file or a download issue! You can keep the USB backstage with you. In case of technical issues, the Stage Monitor will ask for it.

All human props must sign a liability waiver.

Coordinating with all of you beautiful people is made simple and easy when everyone uploads their music by the posted deadlines. The Portal will automatically apply fines for late music as described in the Rules if you are uploading after the deadline. Just don't do it!

Dressing room area and rules

Please be dressed when going outside of our theater and competitor dressing room as we often share the public areas with other groups. Due to space constraints, only competitors are allowed in the dressing room areas and backstage. We love the outpouring of support of friends, coaches, family members, etc, and they are welcome to greet you and hang out in public areas only.

Again, due to space constraints, if you are bringing your own stylist to the event, we unfortunately do not have room for them backstage. They are welcome to do their work in public areas of the venue.

Leveling up

You have to move at least one level up within 2 months of placing 1, 2, or 3 in a division with 8 or more competitors.

Since our virtual events are different from live events, placements in virtual events do not count towards level requirements at live events. Virtual events do not lead to Nationals.

Costumes

Detailed costume rules are listed in the Rules.

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Food/Drinks

We will give you a bottle of water and some fun snacks in your gift bag. Otherwise, delivery food services are an easy way to get food at the venue.

Vendors, sponsors, and volunteers

Vendors and sponsors may be present at the event selling merchandise and promoting their products. Volunteers are helping with setup, breakdown, backstage, pole cleaning, judging, and more. Please thank them for their hard work. Without them, this event would not be possible!

Sportsmanlike conduct

During a competition, we root for our friends, and passions run hot! We ask you to conduct yourself in a supportive, positive and sportsmanlike manner, showing courtesy towards event staff, fellow competitors, judges, and volunteers. Please remember in your interactions that you are also representing your studio, and your actions should reflect favorably upon yourself, your studio and your teammates.

Special discounts and prizes from our sponsors, just for competitors

We have a whole slew of discounts, prizes, and products for you that have been gifted by our sponsors. Please visit our sponsor page to view and support our sponsors. We will send an email after the event detailing how to redeem any prizes you have won.

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JUDGE & VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Suggested checklist

- ☐ Judges only - Fill out conflict check by email
- ☐ Judges only - Complete the online judging course
- ☐ Everyone - Confirm schedules by email when requested

Tickets

You receive free admission to the section of the event in which you are volunteering or judging. If you plan on attending other sections in which you are not a volunteer or judge, you must purchase a ticket. Many volunteers come to help both days, that is not required but it is encouraged!

Attire

We suggest that you wear comfortable clothing and shoes that are easy to walk in.

Pole cleaners, please wear black bottoms and we will provide you with a tank top. You may wear shoes or boots if you wish.

Check in

Please make sure to arrive at the venue at least 15 minutes before you are to start as you will need to check in and receive your wristband.

Getting to your spot - judges

After check in, you can head to the front of the stage where the Judge Wrangler will greet you and assign you a computer. The volunteers at check in can point you in the right direction.

Getting to your spots - volunteers

After you check in, the PSO Operations Manager or another volunteer will review the following information depending on your position:

Volunteer handbook - Tickets & Check In, Door Monitor

Volunteer handbook - Stage Monitor, Pole Cleaner

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VENDOR INFORMATION

Suggested checklist for vendors

- ☐ Pay fees for sponsorship/vendor table
- ☐ Submit insurance
- ☐ Submit logo
- ☐ Clear food/beverage samples (as needed)

Logos

All sponsors and vendors get an included spot on our website and program to promote your business! Please complete this intake form. You must complete by the deadlines listed above in order to be included.

1. Square logo or photo
2. Website link
3. Contact email address
4. Facebook page link
5. Optional: 1-3 sentences about your business

Other program options are available for an additional fee. Please email to discuss options, or review the Sponsorship document here.

Booth

Your booth is a 6' table with 2 chairs, and includes entry to the entire event for up to 2 staff members. We recommend that you bring a small table lamp with extension cord if additional lighting is important to your booth.

Tablecloths are not provided by most venues, so we encourage you to bring your own.

Insurance (vendors ONLY)

We will need you to provide proof of general commercial liability insurance with Pole Sport Organization LLC listed as insured before you'll be allowed to set up. The policy needs to be a minimum of $1,000,000 per occurrence/$1,000,000 per year and must be sent to us at least 7 days before the event. You can email these to info@polesportorg.com.

Info for additional insured certificate:

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Pole Sport Organization LLC
1920 Hillhurst Ave #1215
Los Angeles, CA 90027

If you need to purchase insurance, directions to purchase online from our suggested insurance agent are here.

Food or beverage samples

Please email us if you plan to serve food or beverage samples at your booth so that we can clear them through the venue. Not all venues allow this kind of service.

Marketing and Promotions

Feel free to post on the Facebook page, competitor group or event pages as much as you like to promote your brand. The links are at the top of this packet in General Information.

You are welcome to leave postcards at the registration table or place a postcard or gift in the competitor bags. Registration table items can be brought during setup. Items for competitor bags must arrive the Thursday before the event so that we can get them into the bags on time.

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