

# The Olympics of Rocketry Comes to the United States!

For only the third time in 50 years, the World Space Modeling Championships, the Olympics of rocketry, will be held in Austin, Texas July 1-8, 2023. The US will be hosting hundreds of space modeling competitors from around the world for an epic battle of fire and smoke. Want to be part of this exciting event? Want to try out for the 2023 US rocketry team? Want to stand on the podium and receive a medal as they play the Star-Spangled Banner? This page has everything you need to know to get started.

## Introduction to International Spacemodeling Competition

For an overview of international rocketry competition, start here: <https://www.nar.org/fai-spacemodeling/>

There will be eight different international (or FAI) events flown at the 2023 WSMC, and each comes with its own specific rules and construction techniques. The events are:

- S2/P: Precision Fragile Payload (similar to TARC)
- S3: Parachute Duration
- S4: Rocket Glider (free flight)
- S5: Scale Altitude
- S6: Streamer Duration
- S7: Scale
- S8: Radio Controlled Rocket Glider
- S9: Gyrocopter (Helicopter) Duration

**Rules:** Detailed rules for each of these events can be found here: [https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/sc4\\_vol\\_s\\_space\\_22.pdf](https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/sc4_vol_s_space_22.pdf)

**Construction:** If you've never built or flown these types of models before, there are several articles on construction techniques: <https://www.nar.org/fai-spacemodeling/construction-techniques/>

**Help:** If you need help, there are advisors who can guide you through the process: <https://www.nar.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/US-FAI-Spacemodeling-Advisors-Oct-2021.pdf>

**Procedure:** Before you can fly at the World Championships, you'll first need to win your spot on the US Team at Fly-Offs to be held in July 2022. But before you can participate in the Fly-Offs, you must first qualify to compete.

## US Team Fly-Off Qualifications

Date: Now until June 30, 2022

Place: Any NAR launch

Before you can compete to make the US team you must qualify to participate. To qualify for the Fly-Offs you must post one of the 10+ best scores in the country in one or more events. To make official qualification flights you'll need to find an NAR registered launch near you or register your own official launch and then fly your rockets.

**Find a launch near you:** Check out the NAR launch calendar: <https://www.nar.org/launch-calendar/>

**Schedule your own qualification launch:** To schedule your own launch, you must:

- Register your launch at least 48 hours before at: <https://www.nar.org/find-a-launch/register-an-nar-launch/> and
- Have at least two NAR members in attendance.

For each flight that you make, fill out and have an observer sign an official FAI Flight Card (<https://www.nar.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/FAI-Flight-Card-1.pdf>) and present it to the Contest Director of the launch for entry into the US Team Selection Scoreboard: <https://www.nar.org/wsmc-scoreboard/>

You have until June 30, 2022, to submit your entries. The competitors with the top scores in each event will be invited to the in-person US Team Fly-Offs.

## **US Team Fly-Offs**

Date: July 16-17, 2022

Place: Springfield, Missouri

If you have one of the top 10+ scores in an event, you'll be invited to attend the US Team Fly-Offs for that event in Springfield, Missouri. You'll compete head-to-head with the best rocketeers in the country for a place on the US team. The top three or four competitors in each event will be selected to represent the United States at the World Space Modeling Championships in 2023 in Austin, Texas.

For more about the team selection process: <https://www.nar.org/fai-spacemodeling/flyoffs-for-u-s-team-selection/>

## **World Space Modeling Championships**

Date: July 1-8, 2023

Place: Austin, Texas

Congratulations! You made the team! You will be competing in your event(s) against the best rocketeers in the world. For more about the 2023 World Championship for Space Models: <https://www.nar.org/site/wsmc-2023/>

The first official bulletin from the US Team organizers can be found here:

<https://www.nar.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Bulletin-1-2023-US-Team-October-2021.pdf>

