



JROTC National Championship @ The Kalahari Classic

VEX V5 Robotics Competition



Date	25-Jan-2026 - 26-Jan-2026 Add to Calendar
Event Code	RE-V5RC-25-0198
Program	VEX V5 Robotics Competition
Event Type	Open Tournament
Event Format	In-Person Invitational
Field Control System	Smart Field Control
Capacity	120
Spots Open	58
Event Region	Ohio
Standard Registration	1-Sep-2025 16:00 EDT
Opens Registration	9-Jan-2026 16:00 EST
Deadline Payment	1-Jan-2026 16:00 EST
Deadline Price	\$970.00

A maximum of 50% of team registrations can be from any one event region

Region	# Spots Allowed	# Spots Remaining
New Mexico	60	57

Team Number *

All



[Register](#)

Our Sponsors

General Info

General Info

Event Dates &
Locations

Code of
Conduct

Agenda

Volunteer

Emergency/Bad
Weather Policy

Refund and
Payment
Policies

Webcast

Judging
Format

Payment

Hotel
Information

Documents

Teams

Waitlist

Results

Awards

Welcome to the JROTC National Championship @ The Kalahari Classic 2026!

The Kalahari Classic was the very first VEX Robotics Competition Signature Event, and this year we are proud to celebrate its 10th Anniversary! We're especially excited to welcome all branches of the JROTC to a brand-new location for your National Championship this season. We're confident you'll enjoy an unforgettable experience filled with fun, camaraderie, and high-level competition at this exciting new venue!

Please note that included with your team registration will be five breakfast and lunch vouchers per day that apply to the Sunday and Monday event days only.

ARMY JROTC teams Please Note: A large number of prepaid slots have been prepaid for Army JROTC teams. When you register please mark "PAY LATER" as you check out. Then please notify Chris_Stewart@recf.org that you are an Army JROTC team that has registered for the National Championship and he will go in and mark you paid if there are still prepaid slots remaining, or notify if if there are no prepaid slots remaining.

This will be a fun, challenging, and competitive event for all.

It's fun because you have access to one of the largest indoor water parks in the United States of America. It's challenging because we aim to bring the best of the best VEX JROTC Robotics teams together from all over the United States so we can offer high-level competition and better prepare our students for the future. Our setup is similar to VEX Worlds, enabling us to provide a great student experience for all! Your National Championship starts with a team procession where every team gets to walk the stage, includes an experienced & knowledgeable key volunteer staff, and continues to offer an upbeat, high-energy, fun competition environment!

There will be five World Spots offered at this event: Excellence (1), Tournament Finalists (4)

We will contact registered teams closer to the event with more details, including event information, directions, event maps, schedules, and food information. In the meantime, you can find us here:

- Online: kalahariclassic.com
- Instagram: [@kalahariclassic](https://www.instagram.com/kalahariclassic)
- Facebook: [The Kalahari Classic](https://www.facebook.com/TheKalahariClassic)

Date: 25-Jan-2026 - 26-Jan-2026

Venue/Location:
Kalahari Resorts &
Conventions - Sandusky
7000 Kalahari Drive
Sandusky, Ohio 44870
United States

Contact the Event Partner

Primary Contact

Rob Smith

Email:

robsmith@neo.rr.com

Phone: 4195125414

Event Day Phone:

4195125414

Secondary Contact

Kristi Matlack

Email: [kmatlack@nu-](mailto:kmatlack@nu-district.org)

[district.org](https://www.nu-district.org)

Phone: 740-272-1343

Event Day Phone: 740-
272-1343

- YouTube: [KalahariClassic](#)

Ready for a Water Game? Plan your stay at one of the nation's largest indoor water parks!

Please see the Hotel Information tab about room rates and the link to reserve your room.



Grade Level: All

Skills Challenge Offered: Yes

Judging Format: Remote Engineering Notebooks

Skills Challenge Offered for VURC/VAIRC teams: No

Eligible Teams: JROTC Air Force, JROTC Army, JROTC Coast Guard, JROTC Marine, JROTC Navy, JROTC Space Force



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