

FAQ for SKÅL Northeast USA Regional Event

Q: Why should I attend the SKÅL Northeast USA regional event?

A: This is an opportunity to expand your SKÅL network. Many of us have been attending our local meetings without an option to meet SKÅL members of other nearby clubs. Growing our professional network could mean new opportunities for collaboration and business growth. If you are actively involved in the leadership of your SKÅL club, want to learn more about opportunities to support SKÅL's programming and growth and/or seek to expand your presence within the organization, this event is for you!

Q: Who can attend the SKÅL Northeast USA regional event?

A: Any current member of SKÅL, their guests, families, and students are all welcome to attend our 2-day event in January. A SKÅL member must first be registered prior to registering additional guests. Thanks to the generous support of American Dream management, we have a low registration fee of \$199!

Q: What does my event registration fee include? Any discounted fees?

A: Each \$199 fee includes participation at our half-day business meeting, 3 meals (dinner, breakfast, and lunch), welcome toast and admission to Dream Wheel, 2 days free parking (per car), a free 1-day attractions pass (one per reg.), a free discount shopping pass (one per reg.), a \$10 donation to a SKÅL Foundation, a \$5 administrative fee, and all taxes and fees. Currently, discounted fees are not available for this event as we are providing the very best value possible.

Q: What will take place at the business meeting on January 24th?

A: This is an opportunity for those involved in SKÅL club leadership as well as SKÅL Executive Level positions to expand their network, collaborate, share best practices, update on committee progress, encourage chapter growth and engage in social activities. Speakers will inform and provide insights and open discussions will encourage brainstorming in support of our collective clubs.

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate!

Q: Which SKÅL clubs are part of Northeast USA Regional?

A: Although not exclusive, 9 SKAL clubs and 421 SKÅL members have been extended an invite to our December 2024 event. Those chapters are NYC, Long Island, Upstate NY, NJ, Philadelphia, Northeast PA., Boston, DC, and Baltimore.

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Q: Where will events take place for the Jan. 2025 SKÅL Regional?

A: All meals, meetings and activities will take place at various locations at American Dream Shopping and Entertainment Complex in East Rutherford, NJ. More details on exact locations for our reception, restaurants, and general meeting will be provided to those that register for the event.

Q: What is American Dream and is it easily accessible?

A: With nearly 3 million square feet of retail space, American Dream is the largest retail and entertainment complex in the USA! It is adjacent to the Meadowlands Sports Complex in East Rutherford, NJ. With a central location in Northern New Jersey, it lies within 20 minutes of Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) and can be seen just off I-95 Exit 16. This venue was chosen for its central location and excellent accessibility in Northeast USA.

American Dream is less than 25 minutes from NY Port Authority / Lincoln Tunnel and less than 20 minutes from George Washington Bridge and (EWR) Newark Liberty International Airport. From NYC, a shuttle operates daily to Meadowlands from Port Authority.

Coming from Philly, DC or Baltimore by train, Secaucus Train Station is closest (just a short 10–15-minute shuttle or Uber ride).

If traveling within New York State to/from NYC on AMTRAK, a 15% discount has been secured thanks to Tom Martinelli and New York by Rail – thanks Tom!

<https://www.amtrak.com/see-new-york-and-save-15-percent> (rates as low as \$76 round trip).

For more details on travel to and from American Dream -

<https://www.americandream.com/transportation>

<https://www.americandream.com/hours-and-directions>

Q: Why was the Hilton Meadowlands chosen as the host hotel?

A: The hotel is easily accessible from I-95 Exit 16 and the greatly discounted nightly rate of \$129+ is available from January 20-26!

The Hilton Meadowlands is located adjacent to American Dream. It is a full-service hotel and a partner property for American Dream. This hotel offers a free shuttle (every 30 minutes) for up to 13 passengers for the 5-minute ride to American Dream. So, plan to come early and stay through the weekend!

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Q: When did SKÅL Northeast USA formalize holding regional events?

A: In April 2024, SKÅL Philadelphia organized its 70th Anniversary Gala. Members from several SKÅL clubs came to Philadelphia in support of the event. In addition, a SKÅL leadership meeting was held the following day, and it was decided that working together in support of our collective chapters would lead to increased networking, shared best practices, and chapter growth.

We have John Ruzich (Past President SKAL NYC) to thank for initiating the concept!

Q: Are there additional 'Regional' events being planned?

A: The SKÅL Northeast USA Regional Committee will be working with SKÅL NYC to secure the package details for a Spring 2025 Regional Event. As soon as dates have been secured, a 'Save the Date' flyer will be distributed. The first three chapters to host regional events are SKÅL Philadelphia (Spring 2024), SKÅL NJ (January 2025) and SKÅL NYC (Spring 2025). Currently, the 'Regional' event planning committee is made up of members of SKÅL NYC, SKÅL New Jersey, and SKÅL Philadelphia.

Q: What is the dress code for the SKÅL regional event?

A: Business casual attire is suggested and appropriate for all events and meetings. While certainly not mandatory, business attire is suggested for our welcome toast and dinner on January 23rd.

Q: If I still have questions, who should I contact?

A: As SKÅL NJ is serving as the host club for our regional event, please send an email to immediate past president, Kendall Blythe - kendall@blithetravel.com regarding event registration.

Hotel bookings are handled directly with Hilton Meadowlands. Use our group name 'SKÅL' to get your discounted rates.

For questions about the business meeting agenda, meals, and logistics, Christopher Guidone of SKÅL Philadelphia can be reached at

bigpicturetourism@gmail.com.