



# CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF THE NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION®

The National Square Dance Convention® (NSDC) will celebrate 75 years in 2026 in Waco, Texas - the “*World’s Greatest Square Dance Event*”.

The convention is a one-of-a-kind event that has been held annually since its inception in 1952. The first square dance convention was held in Riverside, California. The Convention Committee called the event the National Square Dance Convention. This event was a huge success, and plans were made to repeat the event in another part of the United States. The Convention Committee in charge of these first conventions met and agreed on plans and guidelines for hosting future annual conventions. Thus, the National Executive Committee (NEC) was formed with the responsibility of overseeing the planning and execution of the annual event. In 1962, the Convention Committee applied for and received a registered trademark for “*National Square Dance Convention*®”.



The convention features a comprehensive Education Program with sessions, demonstrations, and workshops. It covers all aspects of dancing, exhibitions, bid sessions, special events, and shopping. Attendees enjoy connecting with dancers and leaders from around the world, and many distinguished Dance Leaders participate annually.

The National Executive Committee (NEC) consists of past Convention General Chairmen; this is the sole path to membership. The NEC meets at least twice annually during Pre-Convention and Convention weeks. Members invest several days monthly and additional weeks for these events. Serving as a volunteer role, NEC members receive no compensation and are responsible for their own registration and travel expenses.

The NEC selects future convention sites from qualified bids based on broad criteria reflecting dancers' needs. Bidding cities must submit proposals to the NEC 90 days before the next NSDC. The winning city is announced at the Closing Ceremony.

The largest convention was held in Anaheim, California in 1976 with an attendance of 39,796. In 2020, the convention was cancelled due to the COVID pandemic. Approximately 938,835 dancers have participated in national conventions since 1952. If you haven’t registered for the



75<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention® to be held June 24-27, 2026 in the Waco Convention Center, sign up today. Go to: <https://75nsdctx.com/long-form-registration/> to complete the online form or download for mailing. You can scan the QR Code to complete the form on your smartphone.

# National Square Dance Convention® Registration

*Totals per year - 938,835 registrations to date!*

| YEAR | CITY               | ATTENDANCE | YEAR | CITY                   | ATTENDANCE |
|------|--------------------|------------|------|------------------------|------------|
| 1952 | Riverside, CA      | 6,500      | 1989 | Oklahoma City, OK      | 20,572     |
| 1953 | Kansas City, MO    | 5,000      | 1990 | Memphis, TN            | 23,651     |
| 1954 | Dallas, TX         | 5,354      | 1991 | Salt Lake City, UT     | 17,840     |
| 1955 | Oklahoma City, OK  | 7,644      | 1992 | Cincinnati, OH         | 20,703     |
| 1956 | San Diego, CA      | 12,253     | 1993 | St. Louis, MO          | 18,808     |
| 1957 | St. Louis, MO      | 8,454      | 1994 | Portland, OR           | 21,170     |
| 1958 | Louisville, KY     | 8,027      | 1995 | Birmingham, AL         | 12,719     |
| 1959 | Denver, CO         | 8,848      | 1996 | San Antonio, TX        | 16,638     |
| 1960 | Des Moines, IA     | 12,328     | 1997 | Orlando, FL            | 13,410     |
| 1961 | Detroit, MI        | 18,195     | 1998 | Charlotte, NC          | 13,085     |
| 1962 | Miami Beach, FL    | 10,336     | 1999 | Indianapolis, IN       | 10,011     |
| 1963 | St. Paul, MN       | 10,863     | 2000 | Baltimore, MD          | 10,059     |
| 1964 | Long Beach, CA     | 14,790     | 2001 | Anaheim, CA            | 13,011     |
| 1965 | Dallas, TX         | 11,196     | 2002 | St. Paul, MN           | 8,828      |
| 1966 | Indianapolis, IN   | 14,016     | 2003 | Oklahoma City, OK      | 7,732      |
| 1967 | Philadelphia, PA   | 9,729      | 2004 | Denver, CO             | 8,607      |
| 1968 | Omaha, NE          | 10,284     | 2005 | Portland, OR           | 8,136      |
| 1969 | Seattle, WA        | 12,673     | 2006 | San Antonio, TX        | 7,188      |
| 1970 | Louisville, KY     | 19,542     | 2007 | Charlotte, NC          | 8,021      |
| 1971 | New Orleans, LA    | 13,636     | 2008 | Wichita, KS            | 5,997      |
| 1972 | Des Moines, IA     | 15,823     | 2009 | Long Beach, CA         | 4,912      |
| 1973 | Salt Lake City, UT | 16,121     | 2010 | Louisville, KY         | 6,295      |
| 1974 | San Antonio, TX    | 18,052     | 2011 | Detroit, MI            | 3,677      |
| 1975 | Kansas City, MO    | 22,052     | 2012 | Spokane, WA            | 5,576      |
| 1976 | Anaheim, CA        | 39,796     | 2013 | Oklahoma City, OK      | 4,203      |
| 1977 | Atlantic City, NJ  | 24,568     | 2014 | Little Rock, AR        | 3,843      |
| 1978 | Oklahoma City, OK  | 23,879     | 2015 | Springfield, MA        | 4,004      |
| 1979 | Milwaukee, WI      | 22,170     | 2016 | Des Moines, IA         | 3,914      |
| 1980 | Memphis, TN        | 26,841     | 2017 | Cincinnati, OH         | 3,561      |
| 1981 | Seattle, WA        | 24,379     | 2018 | Kansas City, MO        | 3,170      |
| 1982 | Detroit, MI        | 18,050     | 2019 | Atlanta, GA            | 4,049      |
| 1983 | Louisville, KY     | 30,953     | 2020 | Spokane, WA, Cancelled | 0          |
| 1984 | Baltimore, MD      | 20,052     | 2021 | Jackson, MS            | 1,826      |
| 1985 | Birmingham, AL     | 17,783     | 2022 | Evansville, IN         | 2,032      |
| 1986 | Indianapolis, IN   | 27,192     | 2023 | Mobile, AL             | 2,312      |
| 1987 | Houston, TX        | 20,164     | 2024 | Milwaukee, WI          | 2,564      |
| 1988 | Anaheim, CA        | 26,967     | 2025 | Shreveport, LA         | 2,201      |



**Help Us Commemorate this  
Important Milestone in Waco!**