



Rio Grande Classic 2022

Event Details

May 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th



Dear Pilots:

Welcome to Rio Grande Classic 2022! On behalf of the entire RGC Committee, we are looking forward to an amazing event!

This year, pilots will be competing for RGC Champion, SW Regional Champion, and NM State Champion.

A special thank you to all our sponsors: Our Event Sponsor is AERCO-Balloon Port!

Premier Sponsors: Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta & Highland Balloon Repair

Top Gun Sponsors: Heavy Hitters Automotive, Rio Grande Automotive, K & V Accounting, Tramway Plaza-Event Center

Pilot Sponsor: New Mexico Stem Cell

In-Kind Sponsors: Coldwell Banker Legacy, Dutch Brothers, Local Brew House, and Marble Brewery

Remind System: We will be using the Remind System for Pilots and Crew Chiefs. You will receive several test communications prior to RGC to confirm that you are in the system.

Schedule of Events:

Friday, May 27th

- **Registration Party:** Friday, May 27 from 4 pm to 7 pm at the Local Brewhouse
- 300 Unser Blvd SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124
- Register and pick up your pilot bags
- Pilots and crew welcome
- Appetizers will be served. Start a tab for your crew at the bar.
- **Master Briefing will be at 6 PM – ALL PILOTS MUST BE THERE**
- Stay for Karaoke after! But not too late 😊

Saturday, May 28th

- Live Briefings this year – **THANK YOU SPONSOR COLDWELL BANKER LEGACY!**
 - 500 Unser Blvd SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124
 - 5:25 am Live Briefing
 - Continental Breakfast & coffee provided by Dutch Brother's Coffee
 - Pilot plus Navigator/Crew Chief only
 - Do NOT park in the street. Alley to the East with easy pull through access.
- Post Flight (BEFORE FUELING) Drop off Loggers
- Fuel at Pinnacle – 9 am to Noon 6400 Edith Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87107
- Tailgate and socialize at Coldwell Banker Building!
 - Please keep the place clean.
 - Also, enjoy our sponsors Local Brew House and Marble Brewery!

Official hashtag for social media: #RGC2022



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Sunday, May 29th

- Live Briefing
 - 500 Unser Blvd SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124
 - 5:25 am Live Briefing
 - Continental Breakfast & coffee provided by Dutch Brother's Coffee
 - Pilot plus Navigator/Crew Chief only
 - Do NOT park in the street. Alley to the East with easy pull through access.
- Post Flight (BEFORE FUELING) Drop off Loggers
- Fuel at Pinnacle – 9 am to Noon 6400 Edith Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87107
- Tailgate and socialize at Coldwell Banker Legacy Building!
 - Please keep the place clean.
 - Also, enjoy our sponsors Local Brew House and Marble Brewery!

Monday, May 30th – Memorial Day

- Live Briefing
 - 500 Unser Blvd SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124
 - 5:25 am Live Briefing
 - Continental Breakfast & coffee provided by Dutch Brother's Coffee
 - Pilot plus Navigator/Crew Chief only
 - Do NOT park in the street. Alley to the East with easy pull through access.
- Post Flight Drop off Loggers **THERE IS NO FUELING MONDAY.**
- Tailgate and enjoy at Coldwell Banker Legacy Building!
- 11:30 am – 1:30 pm Awards Ceremony at Coldwell Banker Legacy

FUELING: Pinnacle Propane | 6400 Edith Blvd NE | Albuquerque, NM 87107

Fuel is provided for Saturday and Sunday ONLY – No Monday fuel is provided

There are THREE bays at Fueling. Please be patient with your fellow pilots and Pinnacle staff (they are coming in on their Memorial Day weekend for us).

HOTELS: www.booking.com is a great place to secure hotels. Nice Rio Rancho Hotels are: Extended Stay America | Hilton Garden Inn | Quality Inn. There are also a number of hotels on Alameda in Albuquerque near AIBF. Holiday Inn Express | Comfort Inn & Suites.

Important Phone Numbers:

Elisa Talbert | Event Director | (505) 269-2503
Jessica Price | RGC Co-Chair | (505) 850-0173
Safety Officer | Patrick Chando | (505) 228-4638
Dave Bagley | Measuring Team | (505) 226-3266
Andi Babcock | Scoring Team | (505) 620-2190

Ray Bair | Asst. Event Director | (505) 934-1223
Steve Williams | Co-Chair/Secretary | (505) 977-8390
Weather Official | Grant Tosterud | (701) 412-7975
Weather Asst. | Chris Kenworthy | (505) 417-2595
David Eichhorn | President | (505) 659-9496

FLY SAFE & HAVE FUN! LET'S MAKE RIO GRANDE CLASSIC 2022 SPECTACULAR!



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Your Event Director is Elisa Talbert



Besides being co-chair for this event (with the help of Jessica Price), Elisa has agreed to be our Event Director and Ray Bair has agreed to be assistant ED. Elisa has been involved in ballooning since 1999. She worked as pilot coordinator for Balloon Fiesta 2012-2015; was President of AAAA 2010-2012 & 2016-2018. Elisa received her pilot's certificate in 2014 and began competing in 2015 at Top Gun events, NM State Championships, SW Regional Championships, US Nationals in Longview TX, US Women's Nationals in Albuquerque, Women's Worlds in Lithuania and other events around the US and World. She was named

the BFA's highest ranked female pilot in 2016. She also was an observer for Pre-Worlds in Saga Japan, participated as crew in the World Championship held in Brazil & the World AirGames in Dubai. Elisa has called many tasks for Top Gun over the years.

Cash Prizes:

RGC Cash Prizes: (Open to all RGC Pilots)

1st Place – \$800.00

2nd Place – \$400.00

3rd Place – \$200.00

SouthWest Championship: (Open to all NM, TX, OK RGC Pilots)

1st Place – \$500.00

2nd Place – \$300.00

3rd Place – \$100.00

NM Championship: (Open to all NM only RGC Pilots)

1st Place – \$500.00

2nd Place – \$300.00

3rd Place – \$100.00

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