

IFDA National Championship Competitor Code of Conduct

In order to ensure a fair, equitable and safe competition, the International Foodservice Distributors Association has adopted the following rules of conduct:

1. Competitors must wear their name badges at all times.
2. Competitors must remain outside of the pre-trip inspection and field course areas until they are called to participate in these events.
3. Competitors are not to engage in unnecessary dialogue or discussion with the judges.
4. All children under the age of 17 must be accompanied by an adult guest during the competition; Competitors and judges are not permitted to serve as chaperones during the competition.
5. No alcoholic beverages or controlled substances will be permitted at the IFDA competition site.
6. For the safety of all attendees, weapons, including firearms, are strictly prohibited at any IFDA event, regardless of permit status or state/local laws.
7. No cell phones/electronic devices are permitted in the competition areas, including areas that are sequestered. Failure to comply will result in immediate disqualification.
8. Unsportsmanlike conduct of any kind will not be tolerated. This includes profanity, aggressive behavior toward another competitor or official, abuse of equipment or unsafe driving/operating maneuvers.
9. Once completed with both the pre-trip inspection and the course competition, competitors are not permitted back in their respective sequestered area unless they are turning in their participant number.
10. Competitors are not permitted to discuss the competition with others who are still waiting to compete.
11. At no time during the competition are competitors allowed to recruit other competitors to seek employment with their company.
12. Violations of the rules of conduct are to be reported to the Competition Chair or an IFDA staff member as soon as possible.
13. The Competition Chair shall have the sole authority to determine if a violation has occurred and the corrective action to follow. Depending on the severity of the infraction, the corrective action may include either deduction of points from a competitor's score or disqualification from the competition.
14. Competitors wishing to make a protest must do so no more than thirty (30) minutes after the completion of the competition. To make a protest, competitors must report to the announcer's table and fill out a Protest Form. There will be two Protest Committees: • Field Course: Competition Chair, Course Timer, IFDA staff member; • Pre-Trip Inspection: Competition Chair, member of the IFDA Planning Committee, IFDA staff member

Each competitor will have to accept the IFDA National Championship Competitor Code of Conduct while participating in the 2026 competition.