

**From:** [Heidi Weiss](#)  
**To:** [The National Championship](#)  
**Subject:** The IFDA National Championship 2024: The Leader Letter 05/09/24  
**Date:** Thursday, May 9, 2024 10:02:58 AM  
**Attachments:** [2024 Kids Contest Guidelines.pdf](#)  
[2024 Kids Drawing Contest Form.pdf](#)  
[2024 Kids Writing Contest Form.pdf](#)



## The Leader Letter

May 9, 2024

Keeping Team Leaders Informed  
October 24 – 26, 2024  
Orlando, Florida

### Welcome to The IFDA National Championship Competition!

This bi-weekly newsletter is designed to keep company Team Leaders well informed as we prepare for what we anticipate will be the largest championship event yet, with over 900 attendees. **Please consider sharing this newsletter internally to help keep YOUR team members informed, on track and excited, including:**

- General Managers
- Transportation Managers
- Senior Operations
- Competitors
- Any team members planning to attend

This year we have created a **dedicated email address** so that all related event communications and questions are easily identified and responded to in a timely manner: [TNC@ifdaonline.org](mailto:TNC@ifdaonline.org).

### Calling All Judges!

Due to an increase in the scope of the competition with more competitors this year, the competition will require more Judges as well. We anticipate needing approximately 80 Judges, and we are providing a larger discount for their registration. If you plan to provide Judges for this year's competition, please contact us at [TNC@ifdaonline.org](mailto:TNC@ifdaonline.org) and let us know approximately how many.

### Children's Contest, What to Know!

Thanks once again to our generous sponsor **FLEET** Advantage, the **Children's Contest** will be bigger and better than ever! The Children's Contest has two parts depending on grade level: the Writing Contest is open to children in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade or above, and the Drawing Contest is open to children in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade or below. All contestants **MUST HAVE** a parent or relative participating as a **competitor** in The IFDA National Championship.

**New:** Contestants now have the option to complete their entry in advance of The IFDA National Championship, however all entries must be submitted on-site. Attached you will find PDF copies of the **2024 Contest Guidelines**, **Drawing Contest Entry Form** and the **Writing Contest Entry Form**. Please feel free to share these with your competitors and their families.

### Disney Fun & Event Info

This year our event HQ hotel will be the fabulous **Disney Coronado Springs Resort & Spa** in Orlando, Florida! In order to assist our participating companies, their competitors and families, Disney is providing a "micro-site" website specifically for The IFDA National Championship:

<https://www.mydisneygroup.com/ifdanc24/>. Through the micro-site you and your event attendees have access to:

- Special evening theme park tickets not available at the gate,
- Advance Purchase Savings on multi-day tickets when purchased prior to the start date of your event,
- Multi-day tickets with an added BONUS!

If your Company is interested in organizing an offsite group event for your Team at either the Disney Coronado Springs Resort or Disney World, please contact the following:

**Coronado Springs Resort Events** - to secure space and discuss details for special events hosted at the resort

**Michele A Caroli, CMP**, Senior Event Services Manager, Disney Meetings & Events

Email: [michele.caroli@disney.com](mailto:michele.caroli@disney.com) Cell: (321) 388-8490

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**Disney Events** - for hosting an offsite Disney experience

**Drew Triola**, Event Consultant, Disney Event Group

Email: [Drew.Triola@disney.com](mailto:Drew.Triola@disney.com) Cell: 407-399-2852

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** *there is up to a 6 week confirmation process for offsite events. Plan ahead!*

### Group Housing Sub-Blocks

Company Leaders will be responsible for coordinating their group's housing reservations at Disney Coronado Springs Resort & Spa. Sub-blocks will

be assigned to participating companies in need of **10 or more guest rooms** for the event.

**Reminder:** If your company will be coordinating **a group of 10 or more** and has not yet notified IFDA, please send a message to: [Housing@ifdaonline.org](mailto:Housing@ifdaonline.org) as soon as possible. It is important for us to know how many rooms you think you will need so they may be set aside in IFDA's inventory.

#### Key Dates

- Due Housing Sub-Block Requests **(for 10+)**
- May 31 Registration & Housing Launch
- Aug 30 Recommended Company Rodeo Deadline
- Aug 30 Group Affiliate Details Finalized with Hotel & Disney
- Aug 30 Housing Sub-Block Rooming Lists and Guarantees Due
- Sep 16 Housing Cut-Off
- Sep 16 Registration Deadline
- Sep 16 Judge & Volunteer Registration Deadline
- **Oct 24-26 The IFDA National Championship**

To learn more about the industry's premier championship event, visit: [The IFDA National Championship - About - IFDA \(ifdaonline.org\)](#).

#### IFDA Team Member Contacts

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