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## The Leader Letter

June 06, 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. This year we have created a **dedicated email address** for Team Leaders and team members so that related event communications and questions are easily identified and responded to in a timely manner: [TNC@ifdaonline.org](mailto:TNC@ifdaonline.org).

**IF your communication is specifically regarding Housing information, please use:** [Housing@ifdaonline.org](mailto:Housing@ifdaonline.org). Please consider sharing this newsletter internally to help keep YOUR team members informed and on track.

#### Registration is NOW Open!

All registrations are made online via IFDA's registration portal for The National Championship, including online payment at the time of registration. However, companies sending a large group of attendees (competitors/company staff/children/spouses/guests) can register their people several ways: 1) By Division: register attendees by location/division with each registration paid by that location/division; 2) Centralized: register all attendees and paid by company HQ.

#### Hotel & Destination

A discounted block of guestrooms has been established for attendees and participants at **Disney's Coronado Springs Resort**, located at **1000 West Buena Vista Drive, Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830**. The resort has two room types:

- Tower Rooms \$309/night, plus tax
- Campus Rooms \$239/night, plus tax

#### IMPORTANT NOTE:

**Hotel rooms are available ONLY to registered attendees and accessed via IFDA room block link. Access to the link can be found in Registration Confirmation Letters. If you are a Company Leader coordinating a housing sub-block on behalf of your company, please be sure to let your participants know, so that they do not attempt to reserve a room resulting in a "double-booking."** If you would like to establish a group sub-block of rooms or have housing questions, please contact us at [housing@ifdaonline.org](mailto:housing@ifdaonline.org)

#### ALERT: UPDATED Warehouse Competition Safety Footwear Policy

**(for warehouse PIT competitors only). Please see updated language below:**

*OSHA regulations state "the employer shall ensure that each affected employee uses protective footwear when working in areas where there is a danger of foot injuries due to falling or rolling objects". (OSHA 1910.136)*

The IFDA National Championship is the premier industry event for the very best powered industrial truck operators in the food distribution industry. As such, we require all competitors to comply with the following:

- All competitors and judges are required to wear safety-toe footwear (**composite/alloy toe, steel toe**) during the skills competition portion of the event.
- All shoes worn during the competition must have a non-slip sole and must be closed-toe.
- If your company does not require safety shoes and you do not own a pair, IFDA will provide toe caps for use during the competition. An example of the toe cap that IFDA will provide can be found here: <https://www.uline.com/Product/Detail/S-22258-L/Foot-Protection/Quick-Fit-Toe-Cap-Large>.

#### NEW! Competitor Code of Conduct

In order to ensure a fair, equitable and safe competition, the International Foodservice Distributors Association has adopted a Competitor Code of Conduct. **New this year, each competitor will need to accept the Code of Conduct as part of their registration.** Click [here](#) to view the IFDA

National Championship Competitor Code of Conduct.

Transportation Learning Exchange

Participation is open ONLY to Distributor member companies registered for The National Championship. The **Learning Exchange** registration is free for Transportation Managers and similar positions. The Learning Exchange meeting is a peer-driven discussion forum. For more information on the meeting format [see our website](#).

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 Competitor and Attendee 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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