



LEADER LETTER: August 27, 2026

Dear Company Leader,

Please find updates and reminders about IFDA's National Championship below.

BRINGING THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TO YOU LIVE!

This year, we're bringing the excitement of the IFDA National Championship to even more people with a live stream of the warehouse competition. The livestream is an opportunity to showcase the incredible skill, precision and professionalism of foodservice distribution's best while giving colleagues, friends and family who can't be there in person a front-row seat to the action. More details on how to watch and share the livestream are coming soon.

TRAVELING TO ORLANDO

While not at the National Championship, fill your itinerary with all the unforgettable experiences Orlando has to offer, including legendary attractions, award-winning dining and world-class accommodations.

View the Visit Orlando website for information on things to do and discounts around the destination by showing your National Championship badge! Learn more [here](#).

REGISTRATION AND HOUSING

Registration and housing are now open!

After completing registration and payment, a link to book your hotel accommodations will be available on the confirmation page and included in your registration confirmation email.

For more information about registration and housing arrangements, please [click here](#).

Housing Sub-Block Request - Group Housing Sub-Block Rooming Lists Due September 3!

If you are a company leader coordinating a group of 10 or more hotel rooms, please contact us at events@ifdaonline.org to establish a guest room block reservation for your group.

JUDGE AND VOLUNTEERS

Those interested in serving as a Judge or Volunteer during the National Championship may sign up [here](#). Judges will receive a confirmation email from IFDA, allowing them to register at a preferred rate. Please reach out with any questions to jlohr@ifdaonline.org.

FAST FACTS

Championship Dates: October 22-24, 2026

Location: Osceola Heritage Park, Kissimmee, FL

Hotel: Disney's Coronado Springs Resort

Contact Us: events@ifdaonline.org

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

To help maintain a fair and secure competition, electronic devices will be restricted during specific parts of The National Championship.

Prohibited devices include, but are not limited to:

- Cell phones (e.g., iPhone, Android, etc.)
- Tablets (e.g., iPad, Amazon Fire, Surface, reMarkable, etc.)
- Smart watches (e.g., Apple Watch, Garmin, Samsung, etc.)
- Smart rings (e.g., Oura, Ultrahuman, etc.)
- Computers
- Headphones or earbuds (e.g., AirPods, Beats, etc.)
- Smart glasses (e.g., Ray-Ban Meta, VITURE Beast, Oakley Meta, etc.)
- Any device with a screen
- Any device with WiFi, Bluetooth, cellular, or other wireless capabilities
- Any device capable of recording and/or transmitting audio and/or video
- Any device capable of connecting to the internet

If in doubt about whether a device is prohibited, err on the side of caution and leave it behind!

When device access will be restricted:

- Orientation Day: From the start of orientation until competitors have completed the written test
- Competition Day: When competitors arrive in their respective waiting area until they have finished competing for the day

We encourage competitors to leave prohibited devices in their hotel room or with a family member during these windows. For those who need another option, a tech drop zone will be available on-site.

Please share this policy with your competitors ahead of the event so they know what to expect. If you believe a competitor has a medically necessary device that would otherwise be prohibited, please contact IFDA.

DISNEY EVENTS

If your company is interested in hosting an event at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort at one of the theme parks, please contact:

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

Email: michele.caroli@disney.com

Phone: (321) 388-8490

CONTACT US

Please reach out to us at events@ifdaonline.org with any questions or concerns that you may have. We are here to help!

You are receiving this newsletter because you will be serving as Company Leader for this year's IFDA National Championship. Please share this information with your company's participants. The Company Leader is an important role in ensuring a successful event and great experience for all participants. Those serving in this capacity are encouraged to attend the event in person. If your Company Leader has changed, please email us at events@ifdaonline.org and we will update our records. For more information about the company leader role or to see previous newsletters, [click here](#).

Questions?

Please contact Jill Lohr at jlohr@ifdaonline.org.



1660 International Drive
Suite 550
McLean, VA 22102



International Foodservice Distributors Association | 1660 International Drive Suite 550 | McLean, VA 22102
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