



## **2020 Texas ProStart Invitational®**

### **Procedures and Rules for the Culinary Competition**



Participating teams are responsible for understanding and following all the procedures and rules contained in this document; they will not be reviewed at the National ProStart Invitational. Please read this document carefully to maximize your opportunity for success and to avoid receiving penalties during the competition. Refer all questions to Thomas Boyle or Yvonne Loya-Saenz ([tboyle@tramail.org](mailto:tboyle@tramail.org) [yloya@tramail.org](mailto:yloya@tramail.org)) prior to arrival at the Texas ProStart Invitational.

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## **Purpose**

Students participating at the Texas ProStart Invitational (TXPI) will demonstrate their knowledge of, passion for, and creativity in the restaurant industry through the Culinary and Management competitions. Participation reinforces the skills and knowledge learned from the ProStart program and the “Foundations of Restaurant Management and Culinary Arts” curriculum.

## **Eligibility**

### *Students*

1. All high school students, currently enrolled in a confirmed Texas ProStart program recognized by the Texas Restaurant Association Educational Foundation, who have been certified to represent their school are eligible to compete.
2. Students may participate at TXPI as a competitor for only two years, which may be non-consecutive. For the purposes of TXPI, competitors are defined as active team members (i.e. cooking or presenting) and/or team managers.
3. Students may compete on one or both of the Culinary and Management teams in any year. Competing on two teams at any one TRAEF counts as one year of competition.
4. Texas state eligibility requirements are designed to align with national eligibility requirements to ensure their competing teams meet national eligibility requirements prior to the start of TPSI. States/teams that fail to certify they meet the national eligibility requirements are subject to disqualification, regardless of state requirements.

### *Teams*

1. The designated Texas ProStart Educator may certify up to two Culinary teams and two Management teams to represent their school at TXPI. The same team may compete in both competitions (Culinary and Management) provided the Educator certifies the team for both competitions.
  - a. Participating teams consist of two (2) to four (4) student team members and one (1) optional team manager, for a maximum total of five (5) students. Additionally, each team is permitted to bring one to two educators and one optional restaurant/foodservice industry mentor. Educators and mentors are not considered members of the team, and as such may not communicate with team members from report time through dismissal.
  - b. Second teams are subject to available space and must be additionally certified by the Event Organizers.
2. The team manager may only step into an active role (i.e. cooking or presenting) if an original team member is injured, sick or otherwise unable to participate. In such cases, the team manager, with Lead Competition Judge and Event Organizer Staff approval, may replace the affected student. Additional team members may not be substituted in the team manager’s place or in any other active team role.
3. The team manager may also participate in certain defined roles in the competitions. See the rules for details.

## **General Disqualifications**

1. Teams and all associated competitors must be eligible to compete, as defined by the eligibility terms above. Teams found to be ineligible will be disqualified. Additionally, any individual students found to be ineligible will result in complete team disqualification.
2. Teams must attend a required Opening Ceremony at a time and place designated by the TRAEF Event Organizers. Teams must check in by the required time on date of arrival or they will be disqualified. The only exception made will be for travel delays beyond the control of the team with appropriate notice to Event Staff.
3. Competing students must arrive at the appointed time to compete or they will be disqualified. The only exception made will be for travel delays beyond the control of the team with appropriate notice to Event Staff.
4. No team member can receive coaching or any form of communication from anyone, including spectators, educators, mentors, or coaches during the competition from the team's report time until after the competing team receives feedback from the judges (Management) and/or completes dishwashing (Culinary). The determination of what constitutes coaching or communication is solely at the discretion of the TRAEF and the judges. No warnings will be provided; violations will result in immediate team disqualification.
5. Misconduct including, but not limited to, any nonprescription drug use, alcohol use, unsportsmanlike conduct, or any activity that is illegal under federal, state or local laws at the event, during competition, during unsupervised free time, during supervised competition social activities or in activities or locations related to the event. Should such alleged misconduct come to the TRAEF's attention, the matter will be investigated as the TRAEF deems appropriate. Any decision as to appropriate action due to misconduct, up to and including team disqualification, is at the sole discretion of the TRAEF and is final.
6. Teams must participate in each event segment in the competition or they will be disqualified. For details on competition segments see Culinary and Management rules. Failure to compete in any segment will result in team disqualification.
7. By entering into the contest, the student and the team he/she represents accepts all conditions and requirements of the Texas ProStart Invitational.

## **Final Scoring**

All judges have been carefully selected by the Event Organizers for their related skills, experience, and expertise. Judges have reviewed the rules in advance of the competition and participated in an orientation and in-person training. By participating in the competitions, each team and its participants acknowledge that while every effort will be made to provide fair and impartial judging, some discretion and subjectivity is present in any judged competition. All decisions and scoring by judges are final. Any questions about scoring should be submitted to the Texas ProStart Team at [tboyle@tramail.org](mailto:tboyle@tramail.org).

## **Schedules**

Competition schedules will be distributed in advance of the event, once all teams have been identified. The schedule will include assigned start and finish times for all competition segments. All schedules are subject to change without notice, but will be communicated out with as much advance notice as possible.

## **General Provisions**

Teams will be using tools that may cause cuts, burns or injury if not used appropriately. Proper safety techniques must be followed by all team members. No horseplay or unduly hazardous behavior will be allowed or tolerated. The mentors, teachers, chaperones, and families are expected to ensure that the team members comply with all applicable laws, rules and regulations. Team members shall comply with all other written as well as verbal instructions or warnings provided by the Event Organizers.

## What's New for 2020

The following provides a review of information added to the 2020 TPSI rules. Please see below.

### *Non-Competition Specific*

- Eligibility
  - Eligibility for students and teams has been updated to clarify the definition of competitor, definitions of team roles, and participation (pg. 3)
- General Disqualifications
  - Definition of misconduct has been expanded to include unsportsmanlike conduct (pg. 4)
- Final Scoring
  - Scoring questions must be submitted to [tboyle@tramail.org](mailto:tboyle@tramail.org) (pg. 4)

### *Culinary*

- Menu Planning and Preparation for Culinary Competition
  - A standard for change to ensure menus are distinct and not significantly repetitive of previously submitted work has been added (pg. 7)
  - Teams are required to submit an electronic draft of their menu to [tboyle@tramail.org](mailto:tboyle@tramail.org) by Friday, January 23rd (Frisco) and February 21st (Austin), 2020 (pg. 7)
- Menu and Recipe Presentation
  - The number of softbound folders/binders requested has been increased from five (5) to eight (8) (pg. 8)
  - Examples of the softbound folder/binder have been included (pg. 8)
  - Size of color plate photographs have been clarified (pg. 9)
  - Order of materials contained in softbound folder has been specified (pg. 9)
- Uniform
  - Provision of hats, aprons, and arm bands at Product Check-In have been clarified (pg. 10)
- Competition Flow
  - Dishwashing has been clarified as an active part of the competition (pg. 10)
  - A maximum of four (4) people are allowed to accompany teams into the Tasting Room during Tasting & Menu critique (pg. 11)
- Product Check-In
  - Teams are required to use the Product Check-In Inventory List template to label their coolers or other containers (pg. 11)
- Report to Product Check-In
  - At report time, teams will be allowed to place equipment on and/or otherwise organize their speed rack prior to entering the competition floor (pg. 12)
- Station Clean-Up
  - The order of clean-up has been altered to clarify where dishwashing falls in the process (pg. 14)

## 2020 Culinary Competition

### Description

Teams demonstrate their culinary knowledge, skills, and creative abilities during the competition through demonstration of skills and the preparation of a unique three-course meal consisting of (i) a starter; (ii) an entrée; and (iii) a dessert. Performance during the Culinary event is observed and rated by judges from the foodservice industry and post-secondary schools. Teams demonstrate their ability to work together while creating and presenting their meal.

### Scoring

1. A maximum of 100 points can be earned by a team during the Culinary competition. Product Check-In is worth five (5) points, Team Presentation/Work Skills/Organization is worth twenty-five (25), Safety and Sanitation is worth fifteen (15), the Starter is worth fifteen (15), the Entrée is twenty (20), the Dessert is fifteen (15), and Menu and Recipe Presentation is worth five (5).
2. In case of a tie: the tying teams will each be interviewed by a panel of judges for further insights into their performance. Teams will be asked questions to be answered verbally with regard to the methods, preparation and presentation of their meal. Judges will discuss and make a group determination as to the ranking of final winner(s).

### Menu Planning and Preparation for Culinary Competition

1. Each team develops a unique three-course menu. Menus must be distinct and not significantly repetitive of previously submitted work. TRAEF will review all submitted menus, recipes, and photographs to determine if they are significantly repetitive of work previously submitted at TXPI, and will provide feedback to teams with a minimum of four (4) weeks prior to competition so as to permit each team time to revise. Ignoring TRAEF guidance and submitting for review or bringing work, or parts of work, previously submitted at TXPI, will result in immediate team disqualification via email or onsite. To ensure compliance, the standard for change is included below:
  - a. Standard for Change
    - i. *Entrée and Starter:*
      - Protein: The protein or cooking method must change.
      - Vegetable: The vegetable or cooking method must change.
      - Starch: The starch or cooking method must change.
      - Presentation: The presentation must be visibly different from the previous years.
    - ii. *Dessert:*
      - Base (e.g. mousse/Bavarian/tart/cake, etc.): The base must change.
      - Garnish: The garnish components or processing must change (e.g. raspberry whole v. coulis).
      - Presentation: The presentation must be visibly different from the previous years.
2. Each team prepares two (2) identical three-course meals, garnished and served appropriately. One meal is evaluated by the judges for both taste and presentation, and one meal will be used for display. The meal consists of:
  - a. A starter consisting of:
    - i. A first course: soup, salad, appetizer
    - ii. Size appropriate: 4-6 ounces total edible weight
  - b. An entrée consisting of:
    - i. Center of the plate item: 4-6 ounces suggested
    - ii. Accompaniments such as vegetable or starch: 2-3 ounces each suggested

- iii. Sauce
- c. A dessert consisting of:
  - i. A little something sweet served at the end of the meal
  - ii. Size appropriate: 3+ ounces total edible weight  
Each meal component should be appropriate to the complete menu. Flavors across the menu should have harmony for the palate. The five characteristics considered for a plated meal will be:
    - a. **Oral:** Flavor, Texture, Temperature
    - b. **Visual:** Color, Shape
- 3. Teams must employ a minimum of two cooking methods from the following list: Poach, Shallow Poach, Braise, Pan Fry, Steam, and Sauté.
  - a. Additional techniques are also permitted.
  - b. Molecular gastronomy in the competition:
    - i. Use of liquid nitrogen is not allowed.
    - ii. Spherification, foams, and meat glue (transglutaminase) are allowed.
- 4. Teams must bring all ingredients necessary to prepare the menu they have developed. *See Product Check-In for information on permitted vs. prohibited ingredients.*
- 5. Educator(s) and Mentor participation:
  - a. May assist teams in preparing for the competition.
  - b. May not develop the menu.
  - c. Expertise is limited to menu suggestions and technique advice.
- 6. To allow officials and judges adequate time to review your menu, an electronic copy of the menu, recipes, and photographs of the dishes must be submitted to [tboyle@tramail.org](mailto:tboyle@tramail.org) **no later than Friday, January 23 (Frisco) and February 21 (Austin), 2020**. Minor adjustments and corrections to the recipes are allowed, but changes to the menu are not allowed after submission. If there is a question about what constitutes a minor adjustment, please contact [tboyle@tramail.org](mailto:tboyle@tramail.org). A penalty will be issued if the team does not submit as stated above. *See Culinary Competition Penalties.*

### **Workspace and Equipment**

- 1. The workspace consists of:
  - a. Two (2) eight-foot tables set up in an “L” formation within a 10’ x 10’ space.
    - i. The station tables can be covered with a variety of materials to keep the table surface consistent across stations (e.g. fire-retardant plastic, food-safe elastic covering, tablecloth, etc.), which must remain in use during competition.
    - ii. Tables may not be moved prior to or during competition.
    - iii. Teams may not move the doorway of the workspace prior to or during competition.
    - iv. *See Exhibit A for Culinary Station Blueprint.*
  - b. Food preparation must be done within the workspace on the tables provided.
  - c. Equipment and supplies must be contained within the allotted 10’ x 10’ space unless otherwise directed by event staff.
  - d. Team members may only work on the tables from the interior of the space.
- 2. Event Organizers provide:
  - a. Two (2) eight-foot tables, at approximately 36 inches in height

- b. One speed rack and four (4) full size sheet pans
  - c. Sanitation buckets
  - d. Access to ice
  - e. Access to running water (available prior to and after the competition only)
  - f. Fuel for butane burners. Butane burners are to be provided by teams or rented from TRAEF.
  - g. Optional table risers that will raise the tables to a working height of approximately 36 inches (must be requested during registration).
3. Team must provide:
- a. All necessary supplies to prepare the food they have selected, such as small utensils, cutting boards, small hand tools, cookware, gloves, and enough cloths for competition and clean-up
  - b. All presentation dishes. Teams may only use dishes and glassware that conform to the approved list from Event Organizers, no exceptions. Teams must submit their dishes during the check-in process.

<i>Permitted Equipment</i>	<i>Prohibited Equipment</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handheld whipped cream chargers</li> <li>• Digital scales and thermometers</li> <li>• Handheld butane/propane torch for finishing any item, sweet or savory</li> <li>• Metal, stone or other types of plates or apparatus to extend the cooking surface of the burners</li> <li>• Dry ice</li> <li>• Audio recording device to record the critique and feedback sessions</li> <li>• Electronic devices which contain no communication abilities (e.g. basic calculator or timer)</li> <li>• Additional sheet pans</li> <li>• Camping oven and/or smoker attachments for provided burner</li> </ul> <p><b><i>All equipment must be used in a safe manner and not obstruct proper butane function.</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fueled or mechanical heat sources other than provided event burners or handheld torch for finishing</li> <li>• MRE heater packs</li> <li>• Electric, battery-operated or compressed air/gas devices (exceptions: handheld whipped cream chargers, digital scales, digital thermometers)</li> <li>• Plastic or Plexiglas for the purpose of covering tables</li> <li>• Cell phones, tablets, smart watches, or other communication devices</li> <li>• Additional speed racks or equipment exceeding the external dimensions of 2 ft x 4 ft x 3 ft</li> <li>• Cutting guides i.e. cutting boards with rulers or other aids</li> </ul>

### **Menu and Recipe Presentation**

1. Each team prepares eight (8) softbound folders/binders with the team's state or region name and year clearly shown on each cover.
  - a. Do not use plastic pockets to hold pages, as this impedes judges' ability to provide feedback.
  - b. Examples of folder:
    - i. [https://www.staples.com/Avery-Flexible-5-Inch-Round-3-Ring-View-Binder-Blue-7670/product\\_614315](https://www.staples.com/Avery-Flexible-5-Inch-Round-3-Ring-View-Binder-Blue-7670/product_614315)
    - ii. [http://www.staples.com/JAM-Paper-Plastic-2-Pocket-Eco-School-Folders- with-Metal-Tang-Fastener-Clasps-Clear-6-Pack-382ECCLDD-/product\\_2329283](http://www.staples.com/JAM-Paper-Plastic-2-Pocket-Eco-School-Folders- with-Metal-Tang-Fastener-Clasps-Clear-6-Pack-382ECCLDD-/product_2329283)
  - c. See *Exhibit B for Deliverables Checklist*.



2. Each binder/folder must contain a copy of:
  - a. Recipes: all recipes for the meal presentation, typed and submitted on the official recipe template. Acknowledgements and sources must be listed on each recipe in MLA formatting. Must be written in a logical sequence. See *Exhibit C for Recipe example*.
  - b. Recipe Costing: all recipe costing sheets for the meal presentation. Recipe cost must be calculated for each individual recipe, typed and submitted on the official costing template. See *Exhibit D for Recipe Cost example*.
    - i. Small amounts of common dry spices and herbs may be priced at 1% of the total recipe cost.
    - ii. Oil for frying may be priced at 2% of the total recipe cost.
  - c. Menu Pricing: one menu price worksheet for each of the three courses, based on the recipe costs and calculated at a 33% food cost percentage. See *Exhibit E for Menu Price example*.
    - i. Each course on the presentation menu is priced separately.
    - ii. Menu price on the presentation menu may be rounded up after applying the 33% food cost percentage for a more realistic menu price.
    - iii. Final calculation before rounding must be indicated on costing template.
    - iv. Total menu price for the three-course meal may not exceed \$75.00 after applying the 33% food cost percentage.
  - d. Color Plate Photographs: an 8½" x 11" color photo of each plate. Final plates presented to the judges are compared to the photos provided.
  - e. Menu with prices: a simple, typed menu with menu prices printed on an 8½" x 11" sheet of paper.
  - f. Please place all materials together by course. E.g. recipe, recipe costing, menu pricing, and color photograph of the starter would be placed together, followed by all materials for the entrée, etc.
3. Binders/Folders are submitted to the judges at Product Check-In. Failure to submit the folders at Product Check-In will result in a penalty. See *Culinary Competition Penalties*.
4. Each participating team also provides one (1) copy of a framed presentation menu:
  - a. Presentation menu is kept with team equipment and not turned in with folders.
  - b. Must include descriptions and final menu prices for each course.
  - c. State or region name must be clearly identified on presentation menu.
  - d. Must be displayed on the team's table during competition and then moved to the display area with the team's display plates.
  - e. No other additions to the display are allowed.

### **Role of the Optional Team Manager**

1. In the Culinary competition, the one optional team manager may serve as an expeditor. The team manager may replace a team member in the workspace if a member is injured or unable to participate or continue.
  - a. If a team member cannot participate or continue, the team manager, with Lead Judge and Event Staff's approval, may replace that team member.
  - b. The replaced team member, or any other competitor, may not return, step in for or replace the team manager. If the team manager replaces a team member, s/he must stay in the role for the remainder of the competition.
  - c. The replaced team member should leave the Culinary station and, at the discretion of the team's educator, may leave the event or may stay and watch as an observer.

The replaced member is not permitted to communicate with their team from the moment they are replaced until after dishwashing.

2. Take note of rules specific to the team manager in each competition category.
3. The team manager may talk to the team at any time and have printed materials such as timelines, recipes or notes to assist in keeping the team on track.
4. The team manager is considered a part of the team and may not have any verbal or non- verbal communication with anyone outside the competition area.
5. The team manager is an optional position; there are no additional provisions for teams without a team manager.

### **Uniform**

1. Teams must present a uniform appearance from Product Check-In through dismissal to dishwashing.
2. Appropriate required apparel consists of:
  - a. Long sleeve, white chef coats
    - i. Logos and sponsor names are permitted on chef coats
    - ii. Accent colors are permitted, provided the chef coat remains white
  - b. Checkered or black pants
  - c. Nonporous, closed toe, non-slip, hard sole black shoes
  - d. Aprons and hats
  - e. Team manager will wear a colored arm band indicating his/her role
3. Aprons, hats, and team manager's colored arm band will be provided by Event Organizers at Product Check-In. These items are not required to be worn before or during Product Check-In, as teams will not have access to them prior to presenting at Product Check-In. Teams should add these uniform items from competition report time through dishwashing.
4. Failure to be fully uniformed or in appropriate uniform components from Product Check-In through dismissal to dishwashing will result in a penalty. *See Culinary Competition Penalties.*
5. Competition issued chef coats are not required for check-in, but a personal chef coat must be worn.

### **Competition Flow**

#### ***Day Prior to Competition:***

Product Check-In (Open check-in during allocated time)

#### ***Day of Competition:***

Report to Product Check-In (15

Minutes) Team & Menu Introduction (5

Minutes) Production Mise En Place (20  
Minutes)

Cook (60 Minutes – may present up to 3 minutes  
early) Skills & Organization Critique (10 minutes)

Judges' Tasting Critique (10 Minutes)

Recipe & Menu Critique (5 minutes)

Station Clean-Up (20 Minutes)

Sanitation Critique & Dismissal (5 Minutes)

Dishwashing (Untimed)

1. *See Exhibit G for Sample Culinary Competition Timeline.*
2. Feedback occurs:
  - a. On the competition floor for the Product Check-In, Work Skills/Organization, and Sanitation segments.
  - b. In the reserved judging area for Tasting and Menu & Recipe segments.
3. Team members are encouraged to ask questions during Feedback to learn from the experience.

4. A maximum of four (4) people comprised of designated teacher(s), mentor(s), and state coordinator(s) are allowed to be present to observe only during the Tasting & Menu critique sessions.

- a. *Communication with the team is still prohibited.*

### **Product Check-In**

1. It is the responsibility of each team to store all product prior to Product Check-In.
2. Product Check-In is the first segment of the evaluation process. The team manager is allowed to fully participate in the Product Check-In segment. Teams' teacher(s), mentor(s), and state coordinator(s) are allowed to be present in a designated space adjacent to the check-in tables to observe only during the Product Check-In process, including feedback. Team is judged according to:
  - a. Proper shipping and receiving procedures.
    - i. Complete printed product inventory list of every item contained in each cooler or other container holding food items must be attached to the inside and outside of the cooler and/or container. The list must be attached in a plastic sleeve. Inventory list must be submitted on the official Inventory template. See Exhibit F for Inventory List example.
    - ii. All ingredients must be turned in at Product Check-In.
    - iii. Proper temperature of ingredients must be maintained.
    - iv. If an item has been found to be in the temperature danger zone, the item will not be available for use in the competition. See #3 below.
  - b. Proper packaging.
    - i. Items should either be in their original packaging, or wrapped and packaged properly (i.e. no liquid pooling from meats, poultry or fish, no seeping liquid, vegetables and fruits in proper containers and/or bags), or they will be discarded.
  - c. Uniform and personal hygiene, including proper hand washing.
    - i. Hand washing stations are available in the Product Check-In area.
3. Any team that has a product disallowed during Product Check-In has until their assigned competition report time to present to the judges a replacement product for approval.
  - a. Judging and scoring is based on the initial check-in by the team.
  - b. Teams will lose points if their entire product list does not meet the established criteria at the original check-in.
  - c. Replacement product that does not meet requirements at competition report time will also be discarded. The team will be assessed an additional penalty for each failed submission.
4. All refrigerated product is placed on a provided speed rack during check-in. Teams are limited to the product that can fit on the speed rack due to limited walk-in cooler space. Freezer storage is not provided at any point.
5. Team should have all dry storage product collected in a single container ready to be checked in. Event site will provide secure dry storage space for teams.
6. Each team's food is placed in an appropriate and secure location at the competition site until the team's designated report time.
7. (TEXAS SPECIFIC) During Product Check-In, teams, will present their dishes to product check-in judges to be checked for exact specifications as requested by Event Organizers.

8. The previously prepared softbound folders are given to the judges at Product Check-In. Equipment and presentation menu are not turned in at this time.
9. Ingredients:

Permitted Ingredients	Prohibited Ingredients
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Team-prepared stocks</li> <li>• Team-prepared clarified butter</li> <li>• Pre-measured staple dry goods: flour, sugar, salt, pepper, baking powder, baking soda, cream of tartar</li> <li>• Pre-measured butter and oil</li> <li>• Pre-washed produce*</li> <li>• Dry ice</li> <li>• Commercially manufactured food items such as jams, bread crumbs, bases and mayonnaise in the original, sealed container or packaging. Must be used as an ingredient, not as a finished product.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-chopped, pre-sliced, or pre-prepared food not commercially manufactured</li> <li>• Reductions, finished sauces, and clarified broths</li> <li>• Items that risk food illness</li> </ul>
<p><i>*Team may also wash produce during Production Mise en Place.</i></p> <p><i>Note: Follow your state or school guidelines concerning alcohol in your recipes. NPSI permits the use of alcohol in Culinary competition recipes.</i></p>	

10. No equipment will be checked-in during this period. Teams are to bring all of their equipment to the competition area at their assigned Report time. TRAEF may have a designated room on location to store equipment after product check-in on day 1. TRAEF is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
11. Should travel delays arise, and as a result a team is unable to check-in their ingredients during the times allotted, the team will be allowed to store those items in the TXPI refrigerated storage area. The team must contact the Event Organizers to make arrangements to access the storage area.
12. Product Check-In Feedback will occur immediately following each team's check-in.

**Day of Competition - Report to Product Check-In**

1. Team should arrive promptly to the Product Check-In area at their assigned report time to retrieve their cold and dry products.
2. Team will be introduced to their TRAEF-assigned timer who will announce the start and end of each competition segment.
3. Teams will be allowed to place equipment on and/or otherwise organize their speed rack during their report time prior to entering the competition floor.
4. Team members should be prepared to carry and/or roll all their equipment and products onto the competition floor.
5. The team manager may assist in transporting the equipment and food products to the team's station, but may not assist in any organizing, unpacking, or set-up.

### Team & Menu Introduction

Each participating team has five (5) minutes to verbally present its menu to judges. The team manager may fully participate in this section. During this time, students can anticipate:

- a. Telling what each team member is charged with executing.
- b. Describing their three course meal.
- c. Explaining how they designed their unique menu.

### Production Mise en Place

1. The team has twenty (20) minutes to pre-set their station for the meal production segment. All of the team's equipment must be contained within the 10' x 10' workspace.
2. Team manager must stay on the outside of the "L" of the tables in the designated team manager work space, and may not touch any equipment, products, or any other item on the table or production area.
3. During Production Mise en Place:

Teams are allowed to:	Teams are not allowed to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Set their station</li><li>• Obtain water and ice from designated areas on the competition floor</li><li>• Obtain sanitizing solution from designated areas on the competition floor (provided by Event Organizers)</li><li>• Measure dry and liquid ingredients</li><li>• Wash produce at the vegetable washing station</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Talk to any spectators, coaches, educators, or mentors</li><li>• Heat water or any liquid</li><li>• Marinate any food (all marinating must be done during the 60-minute meal preparation period)</li><li>• Perform any knife work</li><li>• Begin cooking any items</li><li>• Mix any ingredients</li></ul>

4. The TRAEF-assigned timer will notify the team when the Production Mise en Place segment time ends and the Meal Production segment time begins.

### Meal Production

1. Final meal production and all plating must be completed in the sixty (60) minute time period provided. TRAEF-assigned timer will announce the time at regular intervals, becoming more frequent towards the end of meal production time. It is the responsibility of each team to know their start time and be ready to begin when their assigned time is announced.
  - a. Teams may bring a manual or battery-operated timer; however, Event Organizers will keep and display the official time.
2. The team manager must stay on the outside of the "L" of the tables, and may not touch any equipment, products, or any other item on the table or production area. *See Exhibit A.*
  - a. The team manager may taste food throughout the competition. To do so, the team manager must carry his/her own supply of tasting spoons. Used, disposable tasting spoons may be discarded in the trashcans located on the shared space of the competition floor to avoid interfering with team station.
3. A team is considered done cooking when each requirement is met:
  - a. The food is plated.
  - b. The dishes are on the service trays.

- c. All team members have stepped away from the trays and raised their hands to signal they are finished.
  - i. Teams may present plates to judges up to three minutes before the 60-minute cooking time has completed. *See Culinary Competition Penalties.*
- 4. After a team completes their two (2) identical meals, the team will determine which meal will be evaluated by tasting judges and which will be for display.
  - a. Team members transport both service trays and their presentation menu to the judges' table and leave immediately. The team manager may accompany the team to the tasting area, but may not carry plates or the menu.
  - b. The evaluation plates receive the most critical judging.
  - c. There should not be a major variance in composition of the finished plates. If there is a great variance, then the team will be assessed a penalty. If the second meal is not presented, the team will be disqualified. *See Culinary Competition Penalties and Disqualifications.*
- 5. Team returns to their station for the Work Skills/Organization and Proper Knife Usage feedback.
- 6. Judges have ten (10) minutes to evaluate the plates. At that time the entire team (including the team manager) returns to the tasting area for a ten (10) minute feedback session. Only the designated teacher(s), mentor, and state coordinator for a total of four (4) people may accompany the team and listen to feedback.
- 7. The team will proceed next to the menu and recipe judges for a five (5) minute feedback session. Only the designated teacher, mentor, and state coordinator may accompany and listen to feedback.
- 8. Team then takes display plates and presentation menu to the display area. *Reminder: the team is still competing and students may only converse with their teammates.*
- 9. Team returns to their station to begin Station Clean-up.

### **Station Clean-Up**

- 1. Team has twenty (20) minutes to clean and vacate their station.
  - a. **The team must return station to the condition it was in when they arrived.**
  - b. The team manager is allowed to assist during Station Clean-Up.
  - c. Team or team member cannot leave the floor unless released by Sanitation judge and accompanied by their assigned timer.
- 2. Team receives the Sanitation feedback and is released for dishwashing.

### **Dishwashing**

- 1. After teams receive Sanitation feedback, they may then collect supplies to be washed and bring all their equipment off the competition floor. Team members will be escorted by timekeepers to the appropriate area of the competition venue for dishwashing. *Reminder: the team is still competing and may only converse with their teammates.*
  - a. Teams should clean items so that food is clear from the equipment; however, teams do not need to sanitize, etc. A surface clean of all items is sufficient and will ensure that teams may move more quickly through the dishwashing process.
- 2. Once complete with dishwashing and released by their assigned timer, the team has officially completed the competition and may communicate freely.

## Culinary Competition Penalties

The following are fixed deductions.

1. Menu does not meet specifications, or was not submitted on time i.e. by January 23 (Frisco) and February 21 (Austin), 2020 to [tboyle@tramail.org](mailto:tboyle@tramail.org) – 5 pts
2. The team is not dressed in uniform – 5 pts
3. Team did not submit folders with menu, plate photographs, recipe and recipe costing Product Check-In – 2 pts
4. Replacement product did not meet requirements and was discarded – 2 pts
5. Team manager touches or handles any equipment or food when not allowed – 5 pts
6. Team uses dishes/glassware other than those provided by Event Organizers – 5 pts
7. Team begins any competition segment before their assigned start time – ¼ pt to 10 pts
  - a. ¼ point is deducted per 15 seconds
  - b. 10 or more minutes early, team is disqualified
8. Team does not complete any competition segment within their allotted time – ¼ pt to 10 pts
  - c. ¼ point is deducted per 15 seconds
  - d. After 10 minutes, team is disqualified
9. Use of prohibited equipment or pre-prepared ingredients – 5 pts
10. Team produces two meals, which are not identical – 2 pts
11. Station left in unsanitary manner – 3 pts

## Culinary Specific Disqualifications

1. Team submitted work, or parts of work, that was previously submitted.
2. Team started any competition segment more than 10 minutes early, or finished more than 10 minutes late.
3. Team used an electric/battery operated device or additional butane burner.
4. Team did not produce two (2) complete meals.
5. Violation of the General Disqualifications on page 5.

## Event Personnel

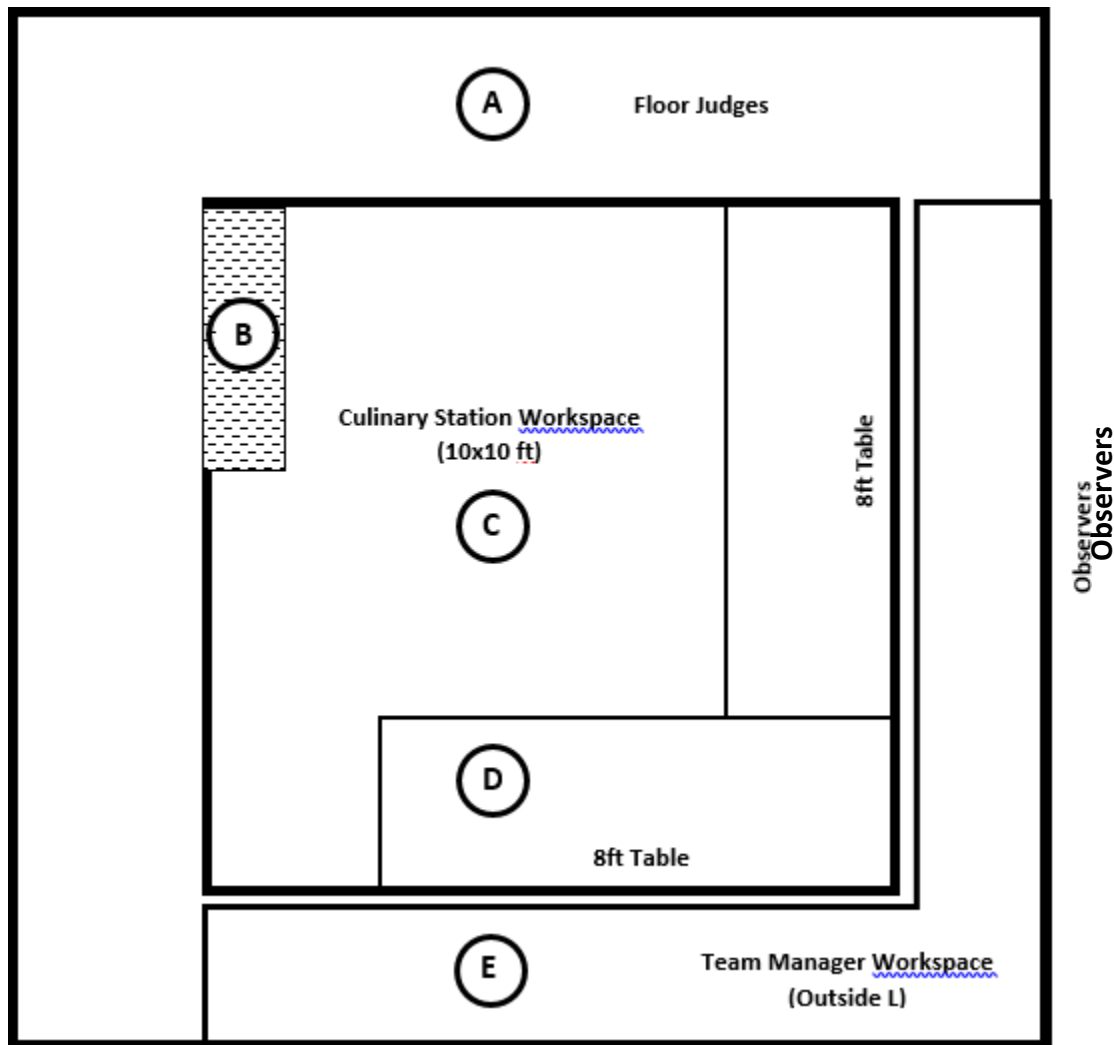
1. Event Organizers: TRAEF staff members
2. Volunteers: Assigned and trained by TRAEF to assist with the event
3. Timekeepers: Personnel designated and trained by the TRAEF, who are charged with keeping the official time for assigned teams during all segments of the competition.
4. Judges: Sourced from post-secondary education and the restaurant and foodservice industry, including two Co-Lead Judges. Lead Judges do not score teams.
  - a. All judges will be consistent from team to team (i.e. judges scoring team presentation/work skills will be responsible for that category across all competitors). See *Exhibit H for sample Culinary Competition Score Sheet*.

## Post Competition

The softbound folders and framed presentation menu must be picked up by 6pm the day the team competes or the Event Organizers will dispose of unclaimed materials. Report to the registration desk with a team member's badge to claim the team folders. TRAEF will retain one copy of the folder from each team.

## Exhibit A – Culinary

### Culinary Station Blueprint



- A. Competition floor outside of Culinary station.
  - a. No team equipment should be in this area. Teams may access this area to use handwashing station. Floor judges have access to this space.
- B. Culinary station doorway
  - a. No team equipment should be in this area to leave a safe space to enter and exit the station. Approximately 2 ½ ft wide.
- C. Culinary station workspace (10ft x 10ft)
  - a. Teams must keep all materials inside designated area. Teams may store equipment under and around the tables.
- D. Two 8ft tables set up in “L” formation
  - a. Teams may not move or otherwise rearrange or readjust tables.
- E. Team Manager must stay in his/her designated space. Floor judges and the team’s timer will also have access to this space.

*Note: This is a sample layout. The locations of tables, doorways, observer spaces, etc. are subject to change; however, general configuration will remain consistent. Image not to scale.*



## Exhibit B – Culinary

### Deliverables Checklist Present at Product Check-In

#### Eight binders/folders, each containing

Example 1: [https://www.staples.com/Avery-Flexible-5-Inch-Round-3-Ring-View-Binder-Blue-17670/product\\_614315](https://www.staples.com/Avery-Flexible-5-Inch-Round-3-Ring-View-Binder-Blue-17670/product_614315)

Example 2: [http://www.staples.com/JAM-Paper-Plastic-2-Pocket-Eco-School-Folders-with-Metal-Tang-Fastener-Clasps-Clear-6-Pack-382ECCLDD-/product\\_2329283](http://www.staples.com/JAM-Paper-Plastic-2-Pocket-Eco-School-Folders-with-Metal-Tang-Fastener-Clasps-Clear-6-Pack-382ECCLDD-/product_2329283)

- State, Territory, or Region Name, and Year on cover
- Recipes typed on official template
- Recipe Costing Sheets typed on official template
- Menu Price Sheets typed on official templates
- Plate Photographs – A separate, 8½” x 11” color photograph of each plate
- Menu with Prices - Simple typed menu 8½” x 11”

#### Checklist of other items required

- Complete printed list of the contents of each cooler or dry storage container on the inside and outside of each cooler or container in a plastic sleeve
- One copy of framed Presentation Menu

## Exhibit C – Culinary

### Recipe Example

*Culinary teams must complete this form prior to the competition. Make eight (8) copies to include in the folders turned in at Product Check-In.*

<b>State Name</b>	Awesome State
<b>Educator Name</b>	Chef Jane Doe

<b>Menu Item</b>	Ratatouille		
<b>Number of Portions</b>	6	<b>Portion Size</b>	5 ounces
<b>Cooking Method(s)</b>	Sauté		
<b>Recipe Source (MLA)</b>	Lagasse, Emeril. "Ratatouille." <i>Food Network</i> , <a href="http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/emeric-lagasse/ratatouille-recipe0.html">http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/emeric-lagasse/ratatouille-recipe0.html</a> . Accessed 30 September 2016.		

Ingredients	
Item	Amount
Olive oil	¼ c
Yellow onion, small dice	1 ½ c
Garlic, minced	1 tsp
Eggplant, medium dice	2 c
Thyme	½ tsp
Green bell pepper, diced	1 c
Red bell pepper, diced	1 c
Zucchini squash, diced	1 c
Yellow squash, diced	1 c
Tomatoes, peeled, seeded, and chopped	1 ½ c
Basil, chiffonade	1 tbsp
Parsley, chopped	1 tbsp
Salt and black pepper	TT

Procedure
<p>Set a large 12-inch sauté pan over medium heat and add the olive oil. Once hot, add the yellow onions and garlic to the pan. Cook the onions, stirring occasionally, until they are wilted and lightly caramelized, about 5 to 7 minutes.</p> <p>Remainder of procedures...</p>

## Exhibit D – Culinary

### Recipe Cost Example

*Culinary teams must complete this form prior to the competition. Make eight (8) copies to include in the folders turned in at Product Check-In.*

<b>State Name</b>	Awesome State		
<b>Educator Name</b>	Chef Jane Doe		
<b>Menu Item</b>	Ratatouille		
<b>Number of Portions</b>	6	<b>Portion Size</b>	5 ounces

Ingredient	Purchase Unit	Purchase cost	Unit cost	Amount Needed	Ingredient Cost
Olive oil	51 oz / 6.375 c	\$16.79	\$2.634 / cup	¼ cup	\$0.658
Yellow onion, small dice	1 lb / 4 cup	\$1.40	\$0.35 / cup	1 ½ cup	\$0.525
Garlic, minced	1 head	\$0.50	\$0.10 / tsp	1 tsp	\$0.100
Eggplant, medium dice	1 lb / 3 cup	\$2.05	\$0.683 / cup	2 cup	\$1.367
Thyme	1 bunch / 18 tsp	\$2.09	\$0.116 / tsp	½ tsp	\$0.058
Green bell pepper, diced	1 lb / 4 cup	\$2.30	\$0.575 / cup	1 cup	\$0.575
Red bell pepper, diced	1 lb / 4 cup	\$1.07	\$0.268 / cup	1 cup	\$0.268
Zucchini squash, diced	1 lb / 2.5 cup	\$1.93	\$0.772 / cup	1 cup	\$0.772
Yellow squash, diced	1 lb / 2.5 cup	\$1.93	\$0.772 / cup	1 cup	\$0.772
Tomatoes, peeled, seeded, and chopped	1 lb / 2 cup	\$2.40	\$1.20 / cup	1 ½ cup	\$1.80
Basil, chiffonade	1 bunch / 1 cup	\$1.54	\$0.096 / tbsp	1 tbsp	\$0.096
Parsley, chopped	1 bunch / ½ cup	\$0.53	\$0.066 / tbsp	1 tbsp	\$0.066

<b>Subtotal</b>	\$7.057
<b>1 % for small amounts of spices (Q Factor)</b>	\$0.071
<b>Total Recipe Cost</b>	\$7.128
<b>Portion Cost</b>	\$1.188



**Exhibit F – Culinary**

**Product Check-In Inventory List**

*Product Check-In Inventory Lists must be completed and contain the inventory list of every item, IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER contained in each cooler or other container holding food items. Inventory forms must be attached to the inside and outside of the cooler and/or container. The list must be attached in a plastic sleeve.*

<b>State Name</b>	Awesome State
<b>Educator Name</b>	Chef Jane Doe

<b>Container Purpose</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refrigerator	<input type="checkbox"/> Dry Storage
<b>Number of Items in Container/Cooler</b>	11	

Inventory List	
Item	Confirmed <i>(This column for judge use only)</i>
Basil	
Eggplant	
Garlic	
Green Bell Pepper	
Parsley	
Red Bell Pepper	
Thyme	
Tomatoes	
Yellow Onion	
Yellow Squash	
Zucchini	

## Exhibit G – Culinary

### Sample Culinary Competition Timeline

Team	Report	Team & Menu Introduction	Production Mise en Place	Start Cooking	Present Plates/ Skills Critique	Tasting Critique	Menu Critique	Clean Up	Sanitation Critique/ Dismissal	Out
1	7:45 AM	8:00 AM	8:05 AM	8:25 AM	9:25 AM	9:35 AM	9:45 AM	9:50 AM	10:10 AM	10:15 AM
2	7:45 AM	8:00 AM	8:05 AM	8:25 AM	9:25 AM	9:35 AM	9:45 AM	9:50 AM	10:10 AM	10:15 AM
3	8:05 AM	8:20 AM	8:25 AM	8:45 AM	9:45 AM	9:55 AM	10:05 AM	10:10 AM	10:30 AM	10:35 AM
4	8:05 AM	8:20 AM	8:25 AM	8:45 AM	9:45 AM	9:55 AM	10:05 AM	10:10 AM	10:30 AM	10:35 AM
5	8:25 AM	8:40 AM	8:45 AM	9:05 AM	10:05 AM	10:15 AM	10:25 AM	10:30 AM	10:50 AM	10:55 AM
6	8:25 AM	8:40 AM	8:45 AM	9:05 AM	10:05 AM	10:15 AM	10:25 AM	10:30 AM	10:50 AM	10:55 AM
7	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	9:05 AM	9:25 AM	10:25 AM	10:35 AM	10:45 AM	10:50 AM	11:10 AM	11:15 AM
8	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	9:05 AM	9:25 AM	10:25 AM	10:35 AM	10:45 AM	10:50 AM	11:10 AM	11:15 AM
9	9:05 AM	9:20 AM	9:25 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM	10:55 AM	11:05 AM	11:10 AM	11:30 AM	11:35 AM
10	9:05 AM	9:20 AM	9:25 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM	10:55 AM	11:05 AM	11:10 AM	11:30 AM	11:35 AM

## Exhibit H – Culinary

### Sample Culinary Competition Score Sheet

EVALUATION CRITERIA	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	VERY GOOD	EXCELLENT	SCORE
<b>Product Check-In</b>						
Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proper temperature</li> <li>• Proper packaging</li> <li>• Complete product inventory list(s)</li> <li>• Uniform and hygiene</li> </ul>	1	2	3	4	5	
<b>Team Presentation/Work Skills/Organization</b>						
<b>Team Appearance</b> Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White chef coats, long sleeve</li> <li>• Black or checkered pants</li> <li>• Uniform clean &amp; presentable</li> <li>• Hard sole shoes</li> <li>• Hats, aprons, and arm band (provided)</li> <li>• Team uniformity</li> </ul>	1	2	3	4	5	
<b>Work Organization/ Teamwork</b> Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilization of a team plan</li> <li>• Mastery of skills required for individual tasks</li> <li>• Workload evenly distributed</li> <li>• Team cohesiveness</li> <li>• Communication</li> <li>• Professionalism</li> <li>• Proper Production Mise en Place</li> <li>• Proper time management</li> </ul>	1	2	3	4	5	
<b>Proper Cooking Procedures</b> Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate cooking method for product used</li> <li>• Required cooking techniques used minimum of two cooking methods from provided list</li> <li>• Cooking procedures done in a time efficient manner</li> <li>• Proper amount of product for recipe requirements</li> <li>• Effective use of remaining product</li> <li>• Proper pans and tools for intended use</li> </ul>	1	2	3	4	5	
<b>Proper Knife Usage</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistency</li> <li>• Accuracy</li> <li>• Safety</li> <li>• Waste</li> </ul>	1	2	3	4	5	
<b>Degree of Difficulty</b> Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creativity</li> <li>• Complicated techniques</li> <li>• Preparation of item during competition rather than using commercial product</li> </ul>	1	2	3	4	5	

EVALUATION CRITERIA	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	VERY GOOD	EXCELLENT	SCORE
<b>Safety and Sanitation</b>						
<b>Follows Safety and Sanitation Procedures</b> Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal hygiene</li> <li>• Proper knife safety</li> <li>• Proper use and handling of food contact surfaces</li> </ul>	1	2	3	4	5	
<b>Proper Food Handling</b> Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proper use of gloves</li> <li>• Appropriate temperature control of ingredients</li> <li>• Proper sanitation practices regarding food contact surfaces</li> <li>• Proper storage of food</li> <li>• Avoidance of cross contamination</li> </ul>	1	2	3	4	5	
<b>Work Area Cleaned</b> Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work area cleaned in appropriate time frame</li> <li>• Return of station to original condition</li> </ul>	1	2	3	4	5	
<b>Product Taste</b>						
<b>Product Taste – Starter</b> A subjective category based on tasting judges' expertise	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10	
<b>Finished Product</b>						
<b>Appearance – Starter</b> Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balance of color</li> <li>• Shape</li> <li>• Texture</li> <li>• Portion size</li> </ul>	1	2	3	4	5	
<b>Product Taste</b>						
<b>Product Taste – Entrée</b> A subjective category based on tasting judge's expertise	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12	13-15	
<b>Finished Product</b>						
<b>Appearance – Entrée</b> Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balance of color</li> <li>• Shape</li> <li>• Texture</li> <li>• Portion size</li> </ul>	1	2	3	4	5	
<b>Product Taste</b>						
<b>Product Taste – Dessert</b> A subjective category based on judge's expertise	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10	



EVALUATION CRITERIA	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	VERY GOOD	EXCELLENT	SCORE
<b>Finished Product</b>						
<b>Appearance – Dessert</b> Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balance of color</li> <li>• Shape</li> <li>• Texture</li> <li>• Portion size</li> </ul>	1	2	3	4	5	
<b>Menu and Recipe Presentation</b>						
<b>Presentation</b> Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Typewritten</li> <li>• Recipe structure</li> <li>• Menu presentation</li> <li>• Recipe costing</li> <li>• Menu pricing</li> <li>• Within food cost guidelines</li> <li>• Sources and acknowledgements listed</li> </ul>	1	2	3	4	5	

<b>DISQUALIFICATION</b>
<b>Reason for Disqualification:</b>
_____ Team submitted work, or parts of work, that was previously submitted.
_____ Team started any competition segment more than 10 minutes early, or finished more than 10 minutes late. Disqualifying Segment _____
_____ Team used an electric/battery operated device or additional butane burner.
_____ Team did not produce two (2) complete meals.
_____ Violation of the General Disqualifications on page 5.
<b>PENALTY</b>
<b>Reason for Penalty:</b>
_____ Menu does not meet specifications, or was not submitted by 1/23 (Frisco) and 2/21 (Austin), 2020 to <a href="mailto:tboyle@tramail.org">tboyle@tramail.org</a> – 5 pts
_____ Team not dressed in uniform. 5 pts
_____ Team did not submit folders with menu, plate photographs, recipe and recipe costing Product Check-In – 2 pts
_____ Replacement product did not meet requirements and was discarded – 2 pts.
_____ Team manager touches or handles any equipment or food when not allowed – 5 pts
_____ Team uses dishes/glassware other than those provided by Event Organizers – 5 pts
_____ Team begins any competition segment before their assigned start time – ¼ pt to 10 pts ¼ point is deducted per 15 seconds 10 or more minutes early, team is disqualified
_____ Team does not complete any competition segment within their allotted time – ¼ pt to 10 pts ¼ point is deducted per 15 seconds After 10 minutes, team is disqualified
_____ Use of prohibited equipment or pre-prepared ingredients – 5 pts <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-prepared ingredients
_____ Team produces two meals, which are not identical – 2 pts
_____ Station left in unsanitary manner – 3 pts