

Event Code of Conduct

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Welcome to the Longhorn Institute of Food Technologists (LIFT) website (Site). This website is provided as a service of the Longhorn Institute of Food Technologists.

LIFT strives to ensure that all participants feel welcome and safe at our events, whether live or through our virtual platforms (collectively, “LIFT Events”). LIFT is committed to honoring the diversity in our community and providing equal opportunity to all LIFT Members and.

This event code of conduct (“Code of Conduct”) outlines our expectations for behavior at LIFT Events, social events, and virtual platforms, as well as the consequences for unacceptable behavior. By participating in LIFT Events, all sponsors, speakers, participants, media, exhibitors, sponsors, media representatives, service providers, and others (collectively “participants”, “you”, or “your”) agree to abide by this Code of Conduct.

We invite all participants to help us realize a safe and positive conference experience for everyone.

All determinations of appropriate or inappropriate behavior are in LIFT’s sole discretion and the decision(s) of LIFT will be final.

Expected Behavior

Be considerate, respectful, and kind to others. Refrain from demeaning, discriminatory or harassing behavior and speech. Spam, or repeated contact of participants that have requested no contact from another participant is strictly prohibited. Plagiarism, uploading of inappropriate, pornographic, or offensive material is also strictly prohibited. You should be mindful of any copyright laws, music licensing, and other requirements, be sure to obtain all legally required permissions or licenses and not violate any terms or conditions related thereto.

Thank you for helping to make this a welcoming event for all.

Unacceptable Behavior

Harassment and discrimination include any verbal, physical, or visual conduct based on sex, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, race, age, national origin, or disability. Inappropriate display, sharing or use of nudity and/or sexual images in public spaces (including presentation slides); any physical or verbal intimidation, stalking, doxing, gaslighting, or following of participant(s); harassing, photographing or recording of participant(s); sustained disruption of sessions, talks or other events; inappropriate physical contact, and any unwelcome sexual attention (physical or verbal) will not be tolerated. Violators may be removed from the meeting if found to be in violation and their ability to attend future LIFT Events may also be restricted or prohibited.

Any boisterous, lewd, or offensive behavior or language, threatening, intimidation, coercion, use of sexually explicit or offensive language or conduct, profanity, obscene gestures, or racial, religious, or ethnic slurs will not be tolerated. Participants violating this Code of Conduct will be asked to leave the site at the sole discretion of LIFT staff. LIFT retains the right to take any actions to ensure the event is a welcoming environment for all. This includes expulsion from the annual meeting with no refund.

By registering, attending and/or participating in LIFT Events, Participants consent to and grant to LIFT, the unrestricted, perpetual, worldwide, royalty-free, and transferable right and license to use and to distribute (both now and in the future) Participants’ image and/or voice in photographs, videotapes, electronic reproductions, and audiotapes (both live and on demand).

Participants shall not photograph, audio, or video record any portions of LIFT meetings or events without the prior written consent of LIFT.

Technology Use

Participants acknowledge that their use of technology during LIFT Events is not guaranteed. LIFT and its vendors will use commercially reasonable efforts to communicate with Participants regarding camera use in devices and computers, mobile app capabilities in iOS and Android, audio settings and headset use, and stylus use in the virtual event platform.

In no event shall LIFT be liable for interruptions to Internet access, power access, video camera access, or audio capabilities, nor of any similar interruptions to LIFT Events for the duration of the LIFT Event.

Participants may not utilize our Website(s) or LIFT Events to (i) upload or otherwise provide infringing, defamatory, obscene, pornographic, threatening, abusive, illegal or otherwise improper content; (ii) upload viruses or harmful components to an LIFT Event; (iii) engage in communications leading or related to an agreement in restraint of trade, to (iv) exchange specific information relating to your prices, profits, or costs; (v) in any other manner to limit competition or restrain trade in violation of state and federal antitrust laws; or, (vi) to further any unlawful purpose or to violate the rights of any person or entity. Participants may not upload or otherwise provide content with a commercial purpose or attempt to solicit funds or advertise goods and services.

Dress Code

The dress code at LIFT Events is business casual. Participants are required to adhere to this dress code during LIFT Events including, but not limited to, live video chat.

Reporting Violations of the Code

If you have a complaint or concern about harassment, discrimination, bullying or any other conduct which may violate this Code of Conduct, we encourage you to notify us via email. You may request that your report remain confidential and only be shared with those on a “need to know” basis.

Please remember that notifying LIFT staff does not constitute or replace notification to local law enforcement. This Code of Conduct does not replace any rules that are part of LIFT’s contracts with its vendors, exhibitors and/or sponsors.

Compliance and Enforcement

LIFT reserves the right to take any action that is reasonably necessary, in the sole judgment of LIFT, for the protection of LIFT, its participants, and personnel LIFT will maintain full discretion in the interpretation and enforcement of this Code of Conduct.

Participants will be asked to stop any behavior in violation of this Code of Conduct and are expected to comply immediately. This Code of Conduct provides general guidelines and cannot cover every possible type of unacceptable behavior. LIFT reserves the right to apply corrective action to instances other than the specific examples noted. LIFT participants violating this Code of Conduct may be suspended, sanctioned, or expelled from the LIFT Event (without refund) and all future LIFT Events without a refund at the discretion of LIFT.

We expect all conference Participants to abide by this Code of Conduct at all LIFT Events regardless of whether LIFT is a sponsor of such meeting or event.

LIFT (or its representatives) may take photo stills and audio/video of LIFT Events for various uses, including, but not limited to, in LIFT news and promotional material, in print, electronic and other media, including the LIFT website. By participating in a LIFT Event, you grant LIFT and its contractors, vendors, sponsors, and exhibitors, a perpetual, irrevocable right and license to use, reproduce, publish, distribute, edit, make derivative works, perform publicly, disclose, assign, and transfer all images, photographs, videos, voice, name, and likeness, without limitation, without compensation. All media become the property of LIFT. Media may be displayed, distributed, or used by LIFT for any purpose. I hereby release you and your employees, licensees, contractors, successors, and assigns from any and all claims, demands, and causes of action that I may now or hereafter have against you arising out of or in connection with the use of my Likeness.