

Dear ACF Members,

I have stated many times while campaigning for the office of ACF national president and during the five months of this administration that sometimes we need to break with tradition and go back and reorganize our thoughts and focus. During the Board of Directors meeting in Philadelphia last week, your board needed to make realistic and prudent decisions.

We are committed to strengthening our organization and have carefully reviewed ACF's existing programs and services to ensure that they are beneficial to the membership and our ACF brand, as well as being financially advantageous for the entire organization. Therefore, we had decided it was not to our benefit to proceed with ACF Culinary Team USA 2012 because of the present economy and the lack of funding available from current and potential sponsors, whose discretionary and marketing funds have been depleted or allocated to other areas. Rather, we would rebuild Team USA by carefully strategizing a new beginning and path for success in 2016.

We spent a great deal of time discussing this decision after our board meeting with ACF Culinary Team USA Team Manager Steve Jilleba, CMC, AAC. After much deliberation, we are holding on a determination at this time as to whether Team should take a hiatus for further assessment. It is imperative that we exhaust all viable avenues to see if there is a remote possibility that moving forward with Team is feasible, and we ask for your patience and understanding while we review all our options.

Please know that your Board of Directors is committed to Team, and the decision we make will be in the best interests of our organization and our future.

Sincerely,
Michael Ty, CEC, AAC
ACF National President

John Kinsella, CMC, CCE, WGMC, AAC
ACF Immediate Past President