



International Caterers Association

International Caterers Association - 3601 East Joppa Road
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Peer to Peer Learning – ICA Roundtable

Ideas for Chef Wear in Hot Weather

Cynthia Creighton-Jones - June 14, 2015

Q: So after a very hot wedding yesterday, I need to discuss chef wear for hot days. We wore our logo'd t-shirts yesterday for the first time on a job. We usually wear chefs jackets. I was not too happy to do so, but we would have died in jackets.

What does your team wear when it is crazy hot and humid. My kitchen team flexes with temp staff, so I already have tons of jackets of various sizes, don't want to have to purchase and logo another set of tops just for the summer months (when we are not very busy, and people usually have more sense than to have something outdoors!)

A: Julia Kendrick Conway- Happy Chef makes lightweight, inexpensive coats with mesh inserts. Might be worth a small investment for key kitchen staff. Dishwasher snap shirts are also a fun option.

Danni Rae Rodriguez Becker- Chef Ware makes a short sleeve, lightweight w/ mesh jacket. Being in the Florida Keys, all of our events are outdoors and it is hot and humid all year long. Restaurant Depot carries them for under \$20 a piece. They also have utility shirts under \$10 which are all Cotton. I am investing in these (black) for next season for all back of the house staff. They look really nice once logo'ed. I used servers as BOH prior to service- so this will protect their FOH shirts and give them a dry shirt.

Dianne Evans- The black cook shirts are what I wear on every job. You only see me in a jacket if the event is in one location or I'm at a gala. They wear well are comfortable and fit everyone from xs-5x

Cynthia Creighton-Jones- Great options thanks

Brittney Melnick- At casual outdoor event we wear black polos. Regular team has logo'd ones and temps just wear plain ones. Also people with arm tattoos wear 3/4 length sleeved polos if it covers them. People with full arm tattoos have to wear the normal ware.

Carl Franklin Jones- How are the sand flies in Savannah this year?
I used to ride my bike behind the truck that sprayed DDT on Isle of Hope to kill the flies and mosquitoes.

Cynthia Creighton-Jones Not too bad this year, Carl Franklin Jones! I think they have moved to cooler climates. Not a bite last night!