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**Hammock Dunes Club**, a private oceanfront member-owned, member-operated club along the Central Atlantic Coast of Florida, announced today that Executive Chef Lance S. Cook, CEC, CCA, WCEC, CFBE, FSM, was awarded two Gold Medals by the American Culinary Federation (ACF) in the National Chef of the Year Competition Semifinals and Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Supply Show. The National Semifinals competition took place on Jan. 12 at the Culinary Institute at Virginia Western in Roanoke, Virginia, and was streamed globally. On Jan. 30 the Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Supply Show took place in Myrtle Beach, SC where Chef Lance Cook received a Gold Medal and second place overall out of 35 contestants. The ACF is the largest professional chefs' organization in North America, with more than 15,000 members nationwide.

The Chef of the Year process starts with a submission by the contestant. After a rigorous review process by the ACF Headquarters, only four chefs are selected to represent each one of the four quadrants of the nation (Southeast, Northeast, Southwest and Northwest) for a total of 16 national candidates. Each region holds its own regional competition with the top scoring contestant advancing to the national competition to be held in Orlando, Florida, from Aug. 4-8.

"It was an honor to be awarded a gold medal by one of the top organizations in the culinary field, in a competition with some of the most prominent chefs in the southeastern region," said Lance Cook. "Events like these improve culinary skills tenfold, increases efficiency in a culinarian and adds finesse to plating techniques. Most importantly, competitions push us to be better than the day before."

A graduate from The Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New

## Hammock Dunes Club Executive Chef Lance S. Cook Awarded Two Gold Medals by the American Culinary Federation



York, Executive Chef Lance Cook joined Hammock Dunes Club in 2017 from Eau Gallie Yacht Club. Since earning his degree, Chef Cook has been awarded honors/certifications through the American Culinary Federation (ACF), American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute (AHLEI), World Association of Chefs Societies (WACS) and Chaine des Rotisseurs; among others.

Hammock Dunes Club is known for its unmatched oceanfront lifestyle along the coast of Florida. In addition to decadent cuisine and oceanfront dining by Chef Cook, the golf experience at Hammock Dunes Club consistently ranks among the top residential courses in the U.S.

by Golfweek. The golf experience at Hammock Dunes includes two 18-hole layouts, the Links Course, designed by Tom Fazio, and the Creek Course, designed by Rees Jones, which will play host to the 2019 Florida Open in July.

The club is also set to unveil a \$7.2 million expansion project later this year to showcase a newly remodeled 40,000 square-foot oceanfront Links Clubhouse that includes a new fitness center, expanded 19th Hole Bar with outdoor dining and open concept kitchen.

To learn more about membership opportunities, please call 386-445-0747, email [information@hammockdunesclub.com](mailto:information@hammockdunesclub.com) or visit <https://www.hammockdunesclub.com/>.