

Illiana Watermelon Association 36th Annual Convention

“The Watermelon Games”

January 14th – 17th 2027

French Lick Resort & Casino

8670 West State Road 56 French Lick, Indiana 47432

All events will take place in the Windsor Ballroom unless otherwise noted.

All times listed are EST.

Please enjoy the Exhibit Booths in the Windsor Ballroom Foyer, open Friday, open from

8:30 AM to 5:00 PM Friday, January 15th and

Saturday, January 16th from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

Exhibit Booths can be set up Thursday evening or Friday morning and must be taken down by 5:00 PM on Saturday.

REGISTER ONLINE at illianwatermelon.com

*SPECIAL SECURITY NOTICE: ADMITTANCE TO ALL IWA FUNCTIONS
BY NAME BADGE ONLY!*

Thursday, Jan 14th	Sponsored Entertainment	Ag America
6:00 PM	TBD	

We encourage you to attend the

Southern Indiana Melon and Vegetable Growers Meeting on

Friday, January 15th from 8:00 AM-3:30 PM

Illiana Watermelon Association Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, Jan 15th

4:29 PM	IWA Auction Load Committee Meeting	Windsor III
5:28 PM	Watermelon Games Opening Ceremony, aka Annual President's Welcome Reception	Renee Goodwin Windsor Ballroom
5:59 PM	2026 Convention Welcome	Renee Goodwin
6:05 PM	Queen Candidate Introductions and Promotion Wear Competition	Alexandrea Sutton
6:30 PM	Invocation; Recognition of Judges, Buffet Dinner	Windsor Ballroom
7:14 PM	National Watermelon Promotion Board Update	NWPB President, Jill Barton
7:25 PM	Memorials	Cody Smith
7:45 PM	2026 Charity Contribution, Riley Children's Hospital Visit Video	Recognizing Toth Family
8:09:32 PM	Seed Spitting Competition	Jamie Adams, Highmark Seed
8:45 PM	Speed Sitting Competition	
9:14:59	Food, Fun, Fellowship, Games- & Watermelon Games- QUEEN EVENT	Sponsored by Knox Co Farm Bureau, Seedway, Frey Farms

IWA Schedule of Events

SATURDAY, Jan 16th

7:30 AM	Queen Contestants & Judges Functions **closed meeting	Kennedy & Eisenhower
8:29 AM	IWA Registration Desk Open	Windsor Hall Entrance
8:31 AM	Breakfast & Beverages w/Bubby & Watermelon Games Event – Rubberband Challenge	Windsor Ballroom
9:00 AM	Auction Load Committee Meeting	Windsor Ballroom III
9:30 AM	IWA Annual Board of Directors Meeting	Windsor Ballroom III
10:30 AM	Nominating Committee Meeting – Past Presidents ***closed meeting	Windsor Ballroom III
11:00 AM	Queen Contestant Speeches	Queen Alexandrea Sutton
12:01 PM	Invocation – Lunch - Cheeseburger Bar	John Frenz
12:45 PM	General Assembly Annual Business Meeting	Chairman, Rob Beets
	KIDS ROOM OPEN – Kids Auction Games	
1:15 PM	Annual Fundraising Auction & Watermelon Games	Auctioneer, Rich Chattin

4:44 PM	Reception & \$100 Donation Ticket Drawing	Chelsea Cardinal
5:15 PM	Annual Welcome Banquet Reception & Drawing for Final 3 Donation Ticket Winners	Renee Goodwin
5:30 PM	Queen Contest – Evening Gown Competition	Promotion Coordinator, Lana Brothers
6:00 PM	Invocation – Dinner	Jamey Adams
6:40 PM	Vincennes University Ag Scholarship Recipient	Rick Linenburg
6:50 PM	Speaker: TBD	C.R?
7:20 PM	Award Presentations, Alex Sutton Queen Tour Presentations, and 2027 IWA QUEEN CROWNING	Chelsea Cardinal and Lana Brothers
8:30 PM	Entertainment – Alexia Caballero Group	Sponsored by Williams Produce and IWA

SATURDAY, Jan 17th

9:30 AM	Meet the Queen Board Breakfast Gathering	Kennedy
10:30 AM	President's Afterparty – Board Members Only	Pack up and load out