



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Coborn's, Inc.'s "Best Bagger" winner preparing for return visit to the state bagging tournament

ST. CLOUD, Minn. — Coborn's, Inc.'s "Best Bagger" is preparing for another run at the state title when the Minnesota Grocers Association holds its annual bagging competition at the Mall of America on Saturday, August 19.

Tyler Haselkamp, an employee at Coborn's in Clearwater, MN, won the 28th annual Coborn's, Inc. Best Bagger competition held in June. He competed against 35 employees from other Coborn's, Inc. grocery stores where contestants were judged on their bag packing speed, weight distribution, building technique and style/appearance.

Haselkamp is no stranger to the state stage. He also won the company competition in 2016 and competed at the Mall of America last year.

"It was really nerve-wracking at first; you sit there for a while and get used to it," Haselkamp said. "It was a lot of fun though with all the noise and people watching from above."

Haselkamp has been with Coborn's, Inc. for about 1.5 years and came to the company with no prior grocery experience. In fact, Coborn's was his first job.

"Since the day we've hired him he's stood out and is motivated to do well," said Jason Zilka, Store Director at Coborn's in Clearwater. "We brought him on as a cashier and bagger and he moved up from there; he showed a lot of initiative and tried to learn as many things as he could."

Haselkamp has a busy week ahead of him; he'll be practicing alongside co-worker Mason MaKarrall who took 2nd place in the company's Best Bagger competition. At the same time, the St. Cloud Tech High School graduate is also preparing to move to North Dakota where he'll attend NDSU this fall.

"Move in weekend is actually the same weekend as the competition, so right after it's done, we'll be going up to North Dakota," he said. "It's very exciting to be going to the competition though, I plan on getting first place and representing Coborn's name."

A crew from Coborn's in Clearwater will be attending the competition to cheer on Haselkamp. The winner of the state competition will take home a \$500 prize and a trip to the National Best Bagger competition in Las Vegas, NV.



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About Coborn's, Inc.

St. Cloud, Minn.-based [Coborn's, Inc.](#) is an employee-owned grocery retailer with more than 7,500 employees and 53 stores across Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Illinois and Wisconsin under the [Coborn's](#), [Cash Wise Foods](#), [Marketplace Foods](#) and [Save-A-Lot](#) banners. Coborn's, Inc. also owns [CobornsDelivers](#), an online grocery ordering and home delivery service; and stand-alone convenience, liquor, video and pharmacy locations. To support its 120 retail locations, Coborn's, Inc. operates its own central bakery, dry cleaning facility and grocery distribution center. In 2010, Coborn's, Inc. was recognized as 'Family Business of the Year for Community Service and Philanthropy' by *Minnesota Business* magazine. In 2011, Coborn's, Inc. was recognized as 'Independent Retailer of the Year' by *Grocery Headquarters* magazine. In 2014, the company's president and CEO, Chris Coborn, was named the Grocer of the Year by the N.D. Grocers Association. In 2017, Coborn's was named to Achievers' "50 Most Engaged Workplaces" and was named a Top Workplace in Minnesota by the Star Tribune in 2016 and 2017.