

Erath Fourth of July Barbeque Cookoff

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rules are designed to be fair and equal to all cookers. Integrity of the Chief cook, assistants, Erath Fourth of July BBQ Cookoff (EBBQ) contest representatives, all participants and organizers are essential.

Entry fee is \$40.00 per team and allows you to cook in one category. You may cook in more than one category. Each additional category will be a \$10.00 fee.

1. ALL CONTESTANTS ARE EQUAL! A contestant is one who is engaged in the cooking of meat in a Sanctioned Contest. There will be no professional/amateur classifications.
2. Each team will consist of a chief cook and as many assistants as the chief cook deems necessary. Each team will provide pit/pits to be used within its contest space. All preparation and cooking products shall be done within the confines of the assigned contestant's space.
3. Barbecue is defined by the EBBQ as uncured meat/fowl (or other as allowed), prepared on wood or charcoal fire, basted or not as the cook sees fit. All meat must start out raw. No pre-seasoned meats will be allowed. No cooking of any kind may begin until the Official Meat Inspector has inspected your meat entry. You may light your pits at any time Saturday morning once meat is inspected. Meat inspectors will be available all day beginning at 8:00 a.m. If you wish not to begin cooking till 12:00 or 1:00 p.m. etc. the meat inspectors will be available to inspect your meat entry at a time of your convenience.
4. Once meat has been inspected, it must not leave the contest site.
5. The following meat holding conditions must be met.
 - a) All meats must be on ice or refrigeration before being cooked. Holding temperature must be 40 degrees or less.
 - b) After cooking, meat must be maintained at 140 degrees or above in a covered container.
6. Contestants must provide all needed equipment. Contestants must adhere to all electrical, fire and other codes whether city, parish, state or federal.
7. Pits, cookers, props, trailers, or any other equipment, may not exceed the boundaries of the contestant's assigned space.
8. Fires must be of Wood, Wood Pellets, or Charcoal. Electric Grills, Gas Grills, Cajun Microwaves, etc. will not be permitted. Propane is permitted as a fire starter only. Electric accessories, such as spits or forced drafts are permitted.
9. No open pits or holes in the ground are permitted. Fires may not be built on the ground. It is the responsibility of the contestant to see that the contest area is kept clean and policed during and following the contest.

10. CAUSES FOR DISQUALIFICATION:

- a) Distribution of any alcoholic beverage to the general public for sale, tips or gratuities on the contest site is not allowed.
- b) Use of controlled substances.
- c) Foul, abusive, or unacceptable language.
- d) Excessive noise generated from speakers or public address systems. Please keep it to a tolerable level for your neighbors.
- e) See rule 17. Marking or identifying of an entry.

11. Excessive or continued complaints from teams about any of the above rule infractions shall be considered grounds for immediate disqualification from the contest by the EBBQ Representatives.

12. To insure the safety and well-being of all participants and spectators, uniformed security/police will remain onsite throughout the duration of the contest. The security/police are to be instructed on EBBQ Rules and Regulations, excluding cooking and judging, and will enforce these rules as EBBQ deems necessary.

14. All Judging will begin at 5:00 PM. Please begin turning in your entries at this time. As a convenience to the contestant you may turn in any entry and/or category at any time between 5:00 and 5:30 PM.

15. Each contestant will submit at least six to eight (6-8) separated and identifiable portions of meat in a container (supplied by the EBBQ), or enough for 6-8 judges to sample.

****Beef, Chicken and Pork are NOT to be stuffed or wrapped****

Beef brisket = 6-8 slices of brisket

Chicken halve = 1 **uncut** portion of meat but must be prepared, cooked and presented on the bone.

Pork ribs = 6-8 portions of ribs

Open = 6-8 portions of entry. Wild game, Seafood or anything stuffed, wrapped or prepared in any way other than listed above will be put into this category.

16. Each entry will be submitted in a separate container provided by the contest organizer and numbered by judging officials when entry is turned in.

DO NOT WRITE OR MARK ON THE CONTAINER.

A judging team will judge entries. Entries will be scored in areas of APPEARANCE, TENDERNESS/TEXTURE and TASTE.

17. Marking of any kind on the meat or container will not be tolerated. This will include but is not limited to painting, sculpting, garnishing or decorating. No aluminum foil is allowed in the container. No toothpicks, skewers, foreign material etc. will be permitted. Any entry not complying with this rule will be disqualified.

18. No side sauce containers will be permitted in the meat judging containers. Meats may be presented with or without sauce on it as the contestant wishes. Sauce may not be pooled or placed in a puddle in the container.

19. Pits trailers and tents, etc. may be set up the day before. The EBBQ, Erath Fourth of July Association, Town of Erath and or QSA Parks Board will not be responsible for anything left in QSA RV Park overnight.

NOTICE: These are the EBBQ Rules and Regulations. The Rules Committee and Contest Committee have reviewed these rules and procedures and have considered the suggestions of cooks.

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