



Official Chili Cook-off Rules

Saturday October 9, 2021

Team setup begins at 9:00 am

Open to the public at 11:00 am

Turn-in for judging at 12:00 pm

Open to the public for tasting at 12:15

Winners announced at 2:00 pm

General Rules and Regulations

- Contestants must pre-register in order to enter the contest. **Registration the day of the contest is not permitted.**
- **A \$100.00 ENTRY FEE IS REQUIRED PER TEAM. ONE CHILI RECIPE PER TEAM MAY BE ENTERED FOR JUDGING.** Registration can be completed here at PEASTEREF.ORG
- All teams will be given a 10x20 space for cooking.
- **Competition chili must be cooked from scratch on site the day of the cook-off.**
- Teams are responsible for supplying all cooking utensils and supplies needed, as well as furnishing their own propane cooker. **No wood or coal burning allowed.** We encourage you to have your own fire extinguisher for safety reasons. **There will be no electrical hook-ups.**
- **All coolers and pots will be inspected upon arrival at the event and before cooking begins.** This is to ensure no pre-cooked food comes into the event.
- **SANITATION:** Teams must have the following at their tables for use while preparing, cooking and serving:
 - Hand sanitizer
 - Disinfectant spray for preparation surfaces (e.g., Lysol, bleach and water, etc.)
 - Plastic gloves (for serving)
- A panel of judges will determine the top 3 entries for chili. The decision of the judges will be final. People's Choice will be determined by the total amount of votes cast by the public, by way of ticket.
- 2 ounce sample cups will be provided for public tastings. The public may vote for the People's Choice winner by depositing a ticket into that team's donation jar.
- Teams are encouraged, not required, to name their chili and decorate their cooking area to reflect that name, or their team name.
- This chili cook-off is for cooks who just want to have fun and be recognized for their superb culinary skills. Let your hair down (but wear a hat!!!) Dress up, wear a costume, just have fun! An award will be given to the team with the most creativity for their team/booth.

Serving/Cooking Station Rules

- You must be respectful to others, no offensive displays.
- The use of firearms, explosives, or pyrotechnics is prohibited.
- Interfering with other cooking teams is prohibited.

Chili Cooking Rules

- Quantity required for **distribution** to the public and for judging:
 - Total of 4 gallons is requested for each team.

- Competition Chili must be cooked from scratch **on site** the day of the cook-off.
 - COOKED FROM SCRATCH - "Scratch" is defined as starting with raw meat. No marinating is allowed. Commercial chili powder is permissible, but complete commercial chili mixes ("just add meat" mixes that contain pre-measured spices) are not permitted.
 - Use your own favorite recipe, with or without meat, with or without beans. Meat may be beef, pork, lamb, bison, chicken, venison or turkey. Veggie (meatless) chili is okay. Beans are encouraged, but not mandatory. Ingredients may be cut, shredded or ground to any size. No rice or macaroni. No MSG. **If peanuts or peanut oil is used, a warning sign must be displayed.**
 - **No ingredient may be pre-cooked in any way prior to the beginning of the official cook-off.**
 - **All competition chili must be prepared onsite.**
 - Cooks ARE allowed to pre-chop and pre-measure all ingredients.
- SANITATION - Everything must be prepared in a sanitary manner.
 - Gloves must be worn when handling, cooking and serving.
- You must be willing to taste your own chili.
- Chili must be covered with a lid when not serving.
- Teams are **allowed** to give samples of their chili **to other teams**. Teams are **NOT allowed** to give samples to the **public prior to noon**. Teams are **NOT allowed** to give samples **to judges** prior to official turn in time. Any deviation from this rule will result in disqualification.

Cooks Judging Cups

- A **COOKS MEETING** will be held at 9:30 am on the day of the cook-off. The captain of each team MUST attend. At this meeting, each Team will be given 1 official judging cup. Each Team is responsible for delivering their cups with the chili/bean sample to the judging area at the official turn in time for judging – **12:00 pm**.
- **FILLING CUPS** - Representatives from the Education Foundation will distribute official judging sample Cups, which should be filled $\frac{3}{4}$ full with chili.
- **CHILI TURN-IN** - Chili will be turned in at the place and time designated at the cooks' meeting.
- **PENALTIES** - Failure to comply with the rules set forth herein may result in disqualification of an individual cook or team for the cook-off. Decisions of the official(s) are final.

Judging

- Judges must abstain from inspecting or tasting chili prior to judging. Judges must not be associated with any cook at the cook-off (e.g., one spouse cooking and the other spouse judging).
- Judging criteria and scoring - A single score takes into consideration the four criteria for scoring chili/beans:
 - Aroma
 - Consistency
 - Taste
 - Aftertaste
- Scoring - Each cup of chili will be scored on its own merits with a whole number from 0 to 5, 5 being the highest.

Winnings and Prizes

- Trophies will be awarded by judges' results and People's Choice.
- First place will receive a cash prize, equal to the sum of 25% of all team entry fees, and a custom smoker, built by PEASTER FFA.
- Second and third place winners will receive trophies.
- The team with the most creative theme and booth decorations will receive a prize.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who do I contact for information about the cook-off or to enter a team?

Registration forms and rules can be found at PEASTEREF.ORG You can also contact the PEF committee by email at INFO@PEASTEREF.ORG

What is the cost and what do we need to bring?

Entry fee is \$100.00 per team entry. Teams are responsible for their own tables, chairs, tents, cooking and serving utensils, decorations, covering, cook stove/propane cooker and propane. Remember – There is no electricity and no wood or charcoal fires, and competition chili must be cooked on site.

What is the set up time, cooking time, when is the judging?

- You may begin setting up and cooking 9 am. There will be a team on-site to assist you in moving your gear to your assigned space.
- All coolers and pots will be inspected upon arrival at the event. This is to ensure no pre-cooked food comes into the event.
- Chili will be turned in for judging at 12:00 pm.
- Winners will be announced at approximately 2:00 pm.

How much chili is required?

A minimum of 4 gallons per team.