

Cook-Off Rules

General Rules and Information

1. Any resident of the State of Illinois age 18 or over as of July 26, 2009 is eligible for this contest.
2. There will be two divisions, a celebrity division and an open division.
3. Premiums for the open division will be 1st = \$100, 2nd = \$75, 3rd = \$25.
4. \$100 dollars will be given to the Eastern Illini Food Bank in honor of the top celebrity for each the beef and pork division.
5. A \$25 entry/exhibitor fee must accompany each entry. Entry for this competition will close at 5 p.m. on July 17th. Entries may be made by contacting Traci Knight at the Champaign County Farm Bureau at 217-352-5235.
 - a. Late registration will be allowed until 5 p.m. on July 24. Late registration fee will be \$35.
 - b. The registration fee may be waived in the celebrity division with five in-kind mentions in their particular medium to let their audience members know about the grill-off.
6. Each contestant must state which categories they would like to compete in (i.e. pork or beef).
7. Each contestant must submit a recipe for the preparation of the food for the contest by 5 p.m. on July 17th.
 - a. The recipe must be turned into the Champaign County Farm Bureau office by mail:

Champaign County Farm Bureau
801 N. Country Fair Dr.
Champaign, IL 61821
8. For beef and pork competition, the sole source of meat in the recipe must be pork for the pork competition, with the sole source of beef for the beef competition. The respective meat dish must be cooked entirely on the grill (gas or charcoal only).
9. Contestant is asked to have a minimum of 3 copies of their recipe on 3 x 5 cards available for hand-out during the contest.
10. Each team may only contain two team members. Team members must do all of the preparation and cooking during the contest, with the exception of preliminary preparation such as marinating.
11. The only decorative props allowed are those that will fit on a card table which the contestant will provide. Space provided each contestant will measure a maximum of 8' x 10'.
12. Each contestant is responsible for furnishing the meat, recipe ingredients, utensils, grill, table with 3 chairs for judging and a work table for preparation of the entry. The contestant will furnish, as desired, other appropriate items (table cloth, serving dishes, and (4) place settings for display of entry. **REMEMBER THIS IS A COOK OUT SETTING, NOT A FORMAL DINNER.**

13. Side dishes are only considered part of the presentation. Side dishes can be store bought or homemade and are not judged on taste, simply as a portion of the overall presentation.
14. All ingredients used in the recipe should be readily available in most retail stores.
15. Setup will be allowed to begin at noon on Sunday July 26th.
16. Judging time will be assigned when the contestant calls to register.
17. Selection of the Pork Cook-off winner will be made considering the following factors: Taste 40%, Preparation 30%, Originality 20%, and Appearance/Presentation 10%.
18. Selection of the Beef Cook-off winner will be made considering the following factors: Taste 40%, Preparation 30%, Originality 20%, and Appearance/Presentation 10%.
19. Tie scores will be decided by using the highest criteria area (i.e. taste, preparation, originality, and then appearance/presentation).
20. An overall Celebrity Grand Champion will be chosen by the highest score overall in both beef and pork celebrity divisions.
21. A traveling trophy will be awarded to the overall Grand Champion Celebrity.
22. Competition will be held rain or shine.