

MSCA BAR-B-QUE COOK-OFF/2017
RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. Due to current space availability, the number of teams that can be accommodated is limited. Teams will be allocated space on a first come – first serve basis.
2. Teams will supply all needed equipment and supplies. **CHEMICAL TOILETS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR A FEE OF \$85.**
3. MSCA will not be responsible for theft, personal injury or property damage. Decisions of the committee Chairs and Judges are final.
4. The Cook-Off will be held at the MSCA/American Legion Grounds on Hwy. 75 North in Madisonville, Texas.

ADMINISTRATION

1. Teams can check in and start setting up on **Thursday May 18, 2017.**
2. It is the responsibility of each team to see that their contest area is kept clean and is policed following the cook-off. Trash receptacles and trash bags will be provided.
3. Each team will be allocated spaces approximately 30' x 40'. All props, tents, coverings and equipment must be confined to the assigned space. Teams should bring such suitable shelters as the weather may require. Tents with stakes are acceptable.
4. The Chief Cook will be responsible for the conduct of his team members and guests.
NO GLASS BEVERAGE BOTTLES ARE ALLOWED AND ALL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES MUST BE CONSUMED FROM CUPS OR FROM CANS COVERED BY A KOOZIE OR NAPKIN - - NO OPEN UNCOVERED BEER CANS OR GLASS BOTTLES ARE ALLOWED ON THE GROUNDS. Please remember state law requires that you be 21 years of age to consume alcohol. **NO FIREARMS ARE ALLOWED ON THE GROUNDS.**
5. Entertainment by teams will be allowed for the purpose of awarding Showmanship trophy. Teams should check with Committee Chair, Sharon Phelps, as to content of skits, routines, etc. Remember, this is a family event. Music, bands and/or sound equipment within your area is allowed. However, excessively loud music and/or sounds which interfere with announcements or which interfere with the comfort of fellow contestants will NOT BE ALLOWED OR TOLLERATED. ADDITIONALLY, ALL LOUD MUSIC MUST STOP AT MIDNIGHT. LOUD will be determined at the discretion of the Committee Chair.
6. A minimum entry fee of **\$160** per team must be received by **May 17, 2017** (unless you have made prior arrangements with Sharon). **IF YOU ARE RESERVING A CHEMICAL TOILET, IN WHICH EVENT WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE ENTRY FEE & CHEMICAL TOILET FEE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MAY 17, 2017).**
7. For safety purposes, **NO** motorized bikes, golf carts, bicycles, etc. are allowed to be used by contestants on the grounds.
8. A Chief Cook's meeting will be held in the Judging Barn on the Grounds at 9:00 p.m. **ON FRIDAY NIGHT, MAY 19, 2017. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOUR CHIEF COOK OR A TEAM MEMBER BE PRESENT.**
9. **CALCUTTA IMMEDIATELY AFTER CHIEF COOK MEETING.**
10. **We have a Live Auction on Saturday afternoon after the judging is over, while the votes are being tallied, to raise money for scholarships and we would appreciate a Donated auction item for this event to help with the scholarship money.**

COOKING

1. Categories for cook-off are: Beef Brisket; turn in 7 slices of brisket for judging. Chicken - fully jointed split chicken (with wing ,thigh, drumstick & breast portion)and 10 pieces (dark & white meat) cut into 1 inch chunks; Pork Spare Ribs (knuckle on); **(no country style, baby back, Saint Lewis or loin back)** turn in 7 ribs for judging;
2. Only one cut of meat from each category will be judged per team. Garnish/decorations, etc. are prohibited; aluminum foil will be provided in containers
3. **WE WOULD APPRECIATE A DONATION OF ONE COOKED BRISKET TO BE USED AT THE MSCA HOSPITALITY TENT ON SATURDAY. THIS BRISKET SHOULD BE TAKEN TO THE MSCA HOSPITALITY TENT LOCATED IN THE SPACE DIRECTLY SOUTH OF THE BARN AREA BETWEEN 9:00 & 10:00 A.M. ON SATURDAY.**
4. Fires must be wood or wood substance. No electric or gas fires are allowed except for cooking chili or beans. Holes or dug pits are not permitted.
5. No contest meat will be allowed on grills before 6:00 pm on Friday **May 19, 2017.** Sample containers will be furnished at chief cooks meeting.
6. **DOUBLE BLIND JUDGING:** All entries will be submitted in identical containers which have been assembled and brought to the site by the Head Judge. The container is a 9 X 9 hinged foam tray with a matched pair of identically numbered theater tickets affixed to the tray. Each cook will be provided with a piece of foil (Reynolds 711) for each turn-in, which will be placed in the bottom of each tray. The meat is placed on the foil.

JUDGING

1. A First, Second and Third Place Trophy will be awarded in all **Categories**. A 1st place trophy only will be awarded in the contests for Chili, Beans, Open, Bloody Mary's, Margarita's and Dessert. Additionally, the David Tinder Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the overall highest scoring team in the **Categories**. A trophy for Showmanship, Most Unique Pit, Best Area, and Best Team Costume (Judged by participating teams.) Winning Showmanship, Most Unique Pit, Best Decorated Area or Best Team Costume will **NOT** Count toward the overall highest scoring team. The top three trophy winners in all **cooking categories**, as well as those placing fourth through tenth, will be announced as soon as all judging slips are totaled (approximately 6:30 p.m.). Winning ticket numbers for places 11-20 will be posted. Cash prize for First thru Fifth place in the brisket, chicken, pork ribs categories and for the overall highest scoring team will be awarded in addition to trophies.
2. Judging schedule sheet attached. The Judges for the **Categories** will be seated 5 to a table with 3 tables and a final table of 5 judges. Therefore, your sample container should have enough competition meat to accommodate at least 7 judges.
3. **MEMBERS OF THE COMPETING COOKING TEAMS WILL JUDGE BLOODY MARY'S , MARGARITA'S, CHILI, BEANS, OPEN AND DESSERT, HAVE YOUR JUDGE IN THE JUDGING AREA LOCATED IN THE BARN AT LEAST 15 MINUTES EARLY.** All sample cartons will be furnished to each participating team when your entry fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) is collected at the barn. Contests will be held beginning at 8:00am in the barn area on **Saturday May 20, 2017.**

RULES GOVERNING VEHICLES-PARKING ON MSCA GROUNDS
(CONTESTANTS/GUESTS/HELPERS/PUBLIC)

In addition to contestant and Chief Cook ribbons, you will receive 5 Red parking ribbons, which will allow team vehicles entry to the American Legion Grounds parking facilities on Friday and Saturday of the Cook-off. One vehicle may be parked in your 30 x 40 area, **PROVIDED YOU DO NOT BLOCK THE ALLEY WAYS.** All others must be parked in the area at the West End of the rodeo arena or in the public parking area at the far east end of the grounds. Vehicles bearing a Red Parking ribbon on the rear view mirror will be allowed to come and go without charge. **AFTER SET UP, NO VEHICLE WILL BE ALLOWED ENTRY INTO THE GROUNDS WITHOUT THIS RIBBON!!!!**

On Friday, May 19, 2017, between 4:00 pm and 12:00 am, only vehicles with a Red parking ribbon will be admitted into the grounds without charge. All other vehicles will have to park in the public parking facility at the rear of the grounds. All persons who cannot produce a contestant ribbon or the appropriate Red parking ribbon will be charged admission to enter the grounds beginning at 5:00 pm on Friday, May 19, 2017.

If you wish to have sponsors attend the cook-off on Friday and/or Saturday, please contact Sharon Phelps so arrangements can be made to obtain additional ribbons.

CHIEF COOKS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SEEING THAT ALL VEHICLES ARE REMOVED FROM YOUR SPACE ON FRIDAY AFTER SET UP. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU LIST ALL TEAM MEMBERS (MAXIMUM OF 5) ON YOUR ENTRY FORM SO THEY WON'T BE CHARGED ADMISSION TO THE COOK-OFF ON FRIDAY!!!!

THERE WILL BE AN ADMITTANCE CHARGE OF \$6.00 PER PERSON AND \$2.00 PARKING (EXCLUDING CONTESTANTS) BEGINNING AT 5:00 PM ON FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2017 AND 10:00 AM SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2017.

CATEGORIES TURN-IN SCHEDULE

TURN-IN TIME	JUDGING TIME	ENTRY TO BE JUDGED
11:45 PM	12:00 PM	CHICKEN
1:45 PM	2:00 PM	PORK SPARE RIBS
3:45 PM	4:00 PM	BRISKET

CONTEST TURN-IN SCHEDULE

8:00 AM Bloody Mary Contest	\$10.00
8:30 AM Margarita Contest	\$10.00
9:00 AM Chili Contest	\$10.00
9:30 AM Pinto Beans Contest	\$10.00
10:00 AM Open Contest	\$10.00
11:00 AM Dessert Contest	\$10.00