



2021 Pasadena Strawberry Festival BBQ Cook Off Rules and Regulations

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The BBQ Contest will be held at the Pasadena Fairgrounds, located at 7603 Red Bluff, Pasadena, Texas.
2. Applications will be available in the Strawberry Festival office during regular business hours or online at www.strawberryfest.org. (An application for any year other than 2021 is invalid and unacceptable)
3. Previous year's teams will have first right of refusal for their spaces until 5:00 pm on April 2, 2021.
4. All other teams will be admitted on a first come, first serve basis beginning April 5, 2021.
5. Payment in full is due by April 27, 2021.
6. Pasadena Strawberry Festival (henceforth PSF) reserves the right, and at the discretion of the Board and BBQ Committee, to relocate any teams for the betterment of the event.
7. Teams must supply needed equipment and supplies.
8. Holes or dug pits are not permitted.
9. Metal pans must be provided by the cook teams and placed under the opening of the firebox in order to prevent damage to the blacktop or concrete surface or catching the grass on fire.
10. Tent stakes or other devices that damage the blacktop or concrete surface in any way are prohibited.
11. The PSF will not be responsible for theft or damage.
12. The PSF reserves the right to make any additional changes to the rules and regulations.
13. Decisions of the PSF Judges are FINAL.
14. Those attending or participating in the BBQ Contest are required to wear appropriate clothing at all times.
15. The PSF reserves the right to refuse to rent cook-off spaces to any team.
16. Competition spaces are not transferable without prior consent and approval from the BBQ Committee Director and/or VP.

Entry Fees

1. The entry fee is \$250.00 per space. Additional fees include: \$75.00 Electrical fee, \$100.00 Clean up Fee per team and a \$10.00 Processing Fee. Total entry fee per space is \$335.00. This entry fee includes competition entries for brisket, fajitas, chicken, ribs, and beans.
2. Entry fees are due no later than April 27, 2021. Entry fees may be remitted to the Strawberry Festival office..
3. Cook's Choice, Strawberry Dessert, and Margaritas are optional categories. Teams may participate in these categories for \$25 per entry, per team, Showmanship is FREE.
4. Each space will be given five (5) cooker wristbands and five (5) Festival admission tickets. Additional Festival admission tickets may be purchased for \$10.00 each prior to 5:00 pm on Thursday, May 13, 2021. All General Admission tickets will be \$12.00 at the gate.
5. **NO ADMISSION WILL BE CHARGED TO:**
 - Teams with cooker wristbands
 - All PSF Committeemen wearing badges
 - Children under five (5) years of age



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6. Teams may purchase up to three (3) spots.
 - 8:00 a.m. start: All equipment 26 feet and over, (cooking rigs, trailers, etc.).
 - 10:00 a.m. start: All other cooking rigs and equipment 25 feet and less.
 - **Wednesday, May 12, 2021 – Friday, May 14, 2021:** 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. - all other cooking rigs and equipment.
 - **CONTESTANTS ARE RESTRICTED TO 25 CASES OF BEER PER COOKING SPACE TO BE BROUGHT IN DURING CHECK IN.**
 - 200 POUNDS OF ICE PER COOK TEAM MAY BE BROUGHT IN DURING CHECK-IN
 - The reason for the restriction of beer and ice is that these items are a main source of income, and therefore dictates the amount of monies contributed to the scholarship fund.
 - All beer and ice must be brought in during check in between Tuesday, May 11, 2021 and Thursday, May 13, 2021 by 1:00 p.m.

Vehicles

1. Gates to ALL traffic will be locked at 1:00 p.m., Friday, May 14, 2021.
2. No vehicle will be allowed in the contest area after 1:00 p.m. on Friday, May 14, 2021 (EXCEPTIONS TO BE MADE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE BBQ COOK-OFF COMMITTEE).
3. Under no circumstances will teams block any aisle after set up period ends at 1:00 p.m. Friday, May 14, 2021.
4. Vehicles not removed by 1:00 p.m. Friday, May 14, 2021, and/or left unattended, will be subject to removal, by a wrecker, at the team expense.
5. Under no circumstances will any team, or member of the public, be allowed to bring onto the grounds: **golf carts, motor vehicles, carts, bicycles, roller skates, skate boards, scooters, motorized coolers or any type of transportation**, with the exception of wheelchairs and motorize scooters for the handicapped . Use of any of the above-mentioned items would justify cook team disqualification.

Cook-off Spaces

1. Props, trailers, motor homes, tents (including water barrels), etc. covering any other part of cook team equipment must not exceed the boundaries of the assigned space. **Easements are not to be used.** Utility access is needed during the event.
2. **Tent companies may not be scheduled to arrive for set up until Monday May 10, 2021. Tear down can begin Sunday, May 16, 2021 after 3:00 a.m.**
3. Due to unpredictable weather, it is suggested that teams bring suitable shelter for their space.
4. Damages to any city owned utilities will be the responsibility of the cook team. (To be billed by PSF)
5. **ALL TENTS MUST BE TIED DOWN AND SECURED BY WATER BARRELS ONLY. NO STAKED TENTS WILL BE ALLOWED PER THE CITY OF PASADENA ORDINANCE - NO EXCEPTIONS.**
6. Cook teams may not exceed a maximum of three cook-off spaces for competition.

Electrical and Water

1. The PSF Championship BBQ committee provides spaces with:
 - a. 1 ea. 110 volt 20-amp plug
 - b. 1 ea. 110 volt 30-amp plug
2. Water is also provided for each space. Hoses must be provided by each team.
3. Spaces 57-70 will not have electricity provided and the cook teams assigned to those spaces are responsible for providing their own power. Water will be provided for these spaces.



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4. All generators supplied by the cook teams will be diesel powered as per the fire code.

Cook Team Responsibilities

1. Each cook team with air conditioning must furnish their own drain line, and water overflow must be drained into the city-drain systems or a concealed container.
 - a. Disbursement of drain water is the team responsibility.
 - b. Under no circumstance may drain water be drained into adjoining cooking spaces or easements.
 - c. Cook teams should plan on moving in, and out, without the assistance from the PSF. In the event that heavy equipment is available, PSF may assist. It is the cook team's responsibility to coordinate all move in and move out themselves.
2. The Responsible Party / Chief Cook is responsible for the conduct of his/her team and guests.
3. Under no circumstances are alcoholic beverages to be distributed to the public by teams. **NO ONE UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE SHALL BE SERVED OR ALLOWED TO CONSUME ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ON THE GROUNDS.**
4. Liquor in bottles must be kept out of sight.
5. Each cook team must comply with all laws pertaining to the serving and consumption of alcoholic beverages.
6. Any cook team having inappropriate music, entertainment, contests, etc. may be asked to leave the contest area.
7. Teams with an enclosed area to which the public is not allowed, **SHALL** furnish their own security.
8. Each cook space is responsible for fully cleaning their entire space. Please remember that PSF is trying to keep costs down, therefore we are requesting the help of each team in this matter.
 - a. **PSF IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEAN UP OF SPACES.**
 - b. **IF A COOK TEAM SPACE IS NOT CLEAN AT THE END OF THE BBQ COOK-OFF, THE TEAM WILL BE SUBJECT TO EXCLUSION FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE 2022 BBQ COOK-OFF.**
9. Tear down may begin on Sunday, May 16, 2021 at 3:00 a.m.
10. ALL TENTS, GENERATORS AND AC UNITS ETC. MUST BE PICKED UP / REMOVED FROM GROUNDS NO LATER THAN NOON ON MONDAY MAY 17, 2021.
11. It is the responsibility of each BBQ team to see that their CONTEST AREA REMAINS CLEAN AT ALL TIMES.

Trash

1. Trash receptacles will be placed throughout the contest area for each team's use.
2. It is the team responsibility to have their trash readily available to be emptied into the garbage trailer when it arrives at the space. (Plastic trash liners will be furnished after check in.)
3. No free liquid to be put into trash bags.

Pits

1. Teams are not allowed to share cooking equipment.
2. If teams have more than one cook space, and plan to cook at each cooking space, they must have a different name, and chief cook.
3. Competition cooking pits must utilize wood or wood substances.



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Port a Cans

1. PSF requires each cook team to utilize the contracted port-a-can company, for said services.
2. It is the responsibility of the cook team to contact the port-a-can company to reserve and pay for this service, prior to the cook off.
3. For cleaning access, the port-a-can should be placed inside the team's allocated space, within 50 feet of the entry.

Safety

Portable fire extinguishers 10 lb. Type "K" or (1) 10 lb. ABC per space, should be placed in full view.

Health

1. The following guidelines are recommended by the City of Pasadena Health Department. All teams are required to follow these guidelines.
2. A cover is required over all open food preparation areas.
3. Three containers of water must be utilized at all times, one-gallon minimum each:
 - a. First Bucket – Soap and water for washing, unless sink and running water are available and useable.
 - b. Second Bucket – Clean water for rinsing, unless a sink and water are available and useable.
 - c. Third Bucket – One cap of bleach per gallon of water for sanitizing.
4. Keep all food covered.
5. Keep cold food stored on ice or refrigerated at all times. The food must be maintained at 45 degrees Fahrenheit.
6. Heated food should be maintained at 140 degrees Fahrenheit.
7. Smoking tobacco should not be permitted in food serving area.

Beer and Ice

1. The Pasadena Strawberry Festival BBQ Committee will sell beer and ice.
2. Team will not be allowed to re-stock beer or ice from outside the cook off.
No glass bottles are allowed (**THIS MEANS NO GLASS BEER BOTTLES**). (City of Pasadena Ordinance).
3. Under no circumstance will outside BEER, ICE or COLD DRINK VENDORS be allowed into the BBQ cook off area.
4. The sale of any drinks or food is strictly prohibited by cook teams.
5. Prior to 1:00 p.m. Friday, May 14th, cook teams will be allowed to bring in (only) 25 cases of beer, per space. After 1:00 p.m. May 14, 2021, cook teams must purchase beer, ice and soft drink products from the Beverage Committee.
6. Team spaces will be inspected at check in or after set up.

Bands

1. **Bands must be pre-registered.** In order to make arrangements for entry, any cooking team having a band (or musical equipment) that has to be brought in to the cook off area after 1:00 p.m. Friday, May 14th, **MUST** register their band with the Strawberry Festival office **BEFORE 5:00 p.m., May 7, 2021.**
2. Friday - all music **MUST END** at midnight; Saturday night/Sunday morning - all music **MUST end at 1:00 a.m.**
3. Loud, disruptive, and inappropriate music will not be allowed.



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General Rules

1. Each cook team will be assigned a Team Rep as a Contestant Supervisor; the assigned Team Rep person will, at all times, have free access to the team area.
2. The Team Rep Chairpersons are Kim Riess, Tara Stafford and Payton Barrett.
3. **All complaints, should be report to Cook-Off Director (John Kuhn) or the Judging & Scoring/Team Rep Director (Pam Farish)**
4. The Responsible Party/Chief Cook meeting will be held **April 27, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.** and container pick up will be **May14 at 9:30 a.m.**
5. The PSF must approve all give-a-ways to the general public.
6. Cook teams **are not permitted** to charge for entry into their assigned space(s) during the cook off.
7. Cook teams **are not permitted to sell ANY** items within the confines of their assigned areas during the cook off.
8. Excessively loud music, horns, air horns, etc. are strictly prohibited (this will be at the discretion of PSF).
9. No outside speakers are allowed. All speakers must be set to entertain guests inside the team space only.
10. Due to environmental safety, the PSF will not allow hay at any time. **(This means NO HAY)**
11. Animals of any kind will not be permitted in designated food preparation areas.
12. Animals of any kind must be contained by being crated, caged, or on a leash at all times.

Brisket Tagging:

1. Friday, May 14, 2021 between the hours of **12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.**
2. Each cook team will be allowed to tag two (2) briskets per space; only ONE (1) of which will be allowed entry into competition.
3. Only one cut of brisket will be judged per each cook team space.
4. Briskets must be raw, and in vacuum sealed packaging from place of purchase before the tagging begins.
5. Pre-cooked, salted, seasoned or marinated meat is not allowed.
6. No cook team shall start cooking before briskets are tagged.

Judging

1. Judging will be held in the Convention Center, unless otherwise noted.
2. The above entry fee entitles teams to enter the Brisket, Chicken, Beans, Pork Ribs, and Beef Fajitas contests. Turn-in time(s) will be within 15 minutes PRIOR TO judging (except for brisket). It is the team responsibility to have the entries delivered to the respective judging area in a timely manner.
3. Competition brisket(s) will be inspected by a PSF team rep prior to cutting; and will be retrieved by a PSF team rep and delivered to the judging area
4. PSF utilizes a blind judging system that is based on a duplicate numbered ticket which will be utilized in all judging categories, except Cook's Choice and Margaritas.
 - a. Blind judging consists of one-half of the double ticket being enclosed in a small envelope and being secured by duct tape to the bottom of the turn-in container.
 - b. The second half of the ticket is placed inside the judging container. **This ticket must be retained by the contestant.**
 - c. Teams with multiple spaces that turn in multiple entries, must have different pits, chief cooks, and space numbers.
5. Any container that appears to have been deliberately marked or altered will be referred to the General Chairman of the BBQ Judging and Scoring committee, who will rule on whether or not to disqualify the entry.
6. All entries will be scored on a scale of 1 to 10 in each of the judging criteria
7. In case of a tie, the computer will be used, and will break the tie.
8. Showmanship entry one per team. A trophy will be awarded to one the winner



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Categories:

Cooks Choice: One (1) entry per paid space. (Limited to 3 entries)

- a. **Judging BEGINS Friday, May 14th at 6:00 p.m.**
- b. Entry Fee is \$25 per space (Non-Refundable).
- c. Judging will be at the cook space(s).
- d. In the event of inclement weather judging will be moved to an appropriate location.
- e. Participants should prepare food for four (4) judges.
- f. Trophies will be awarded for 1st through 3rd places.
- g. 1 through 5 winners will be publicized.

Margaritas: One (1) entry per paid space. (Limited to 3 entries)

- a. **Judging BEGINS, Saturday, May 15th at 10:00 a.m.**
- b. Entry Fee is \$25 per space (Non-Refundable).
- c. Judging will be at the cook space(s)
- d. In the event of inclement weather, judging will be moved to an appropriate location.
- e. Teams should prepare margaritas for four (4) judges.
- f. Trophies will be awarded for 1st through 3rd places.
- g. 1 through 5 winners will be publicized.

All of the following items will be turned in to Judging & Scoring located in the Convention Center

b. **Fajitas: BEEF ONLY**

- a. **Judging BEGINS, Friday, May 14th - at 4:00 p.m.**
- b. Fill judging container with approximately 16 oz. of cooked meat.
- c. Sauces, garnishes or foil will not be allowed in the judging container and will be grounds for disqualification.
- d. Trophies will be awarded for 1st through 3rd places.
- e. 1 through 10 winners will be publicized.

c. **Chicken:**

- a. **Judging will BEGIN Saturday, May 15th – at 11:00 a.m.**
- b. Judging container should include: 1/2 chicken, fully jointed, domestic chicken that includes breast, wing, thigh, and drumstick.
- c. Also required: additional cut up pieces of both white & dark meats **must** be included in the hinged container.
- d. **NO CORNISH GAME HENS** will be allowed.
- e. Sauces, garnishes or foil will not be allowed in the judging container, and will be grounds for disqualification
- f. Trophies will be awarded for 1st thru 3rd places.
- g. 1 through 10 winners will be publicized.



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d. Ribs: PORK SPARE RIBS ONLY:

- a. **Judging will BEGIN Saturday, May 15th - at 1:00 p.m.**
- b. Fill judging container with ribs minimum 8 "knuckles off"
- c. Sauces, garnishes or foil will not be allowed in the judging container and will be grounds for disqualification.
- d. Trophies will be awarded for 1st through 3rd places.
- e. 1 through 10 winners will be publicized.

e. Brisket:

- a. Brisket tag verification and brisket pick-up, will **BEGIN Saturday, May 15, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.**
- b. Fill judging container with 10 slices of brisket approximately 1/4" to 3/8" thick, aligned with the hinge of the container. (1 Double elimination judging for top ten).
- c. **Judging BEGINS Saturday, May 15, 2021 as we received them.**
- d. **15 minutes per space** will be allowed for inspecting, tag verification, and brisket cutting.
- e. Teams must provide the PSF representative with their brisket entry before the 15-minute time limit expires or face possible disqualification.
- f. Sauces may be used during the cooking process but cannot be applied for entry presentation or judging.
- g. Sauces, garnishes or foil will not be allowed in the judging container and will be grounds for disqualification.
- h. Trophies will be awarded for 1st through 3rd places.
- i. 1 through 10 winners will be publicized.

f. Beans:

- a. **Judging will BEGIN, Friday, May 14th – at 5:30 p.m.**
- b. Beans **MUST** be Pinto Beans and **MUST** be cooked on site.
- c. Nothing larger than a bean is allowed in the container.
- d. A cup will be provided for entry and **MUST** be filled to the top line.
- e. Trophies will be awarded for 1st through 3rd places.

g. Strawberry Desserts: One (1) entry per paid space. (Limited to 3 entry)

- a. **Judging will BEGIN, Friday, May 14th – at 7:00 p.m.**
- b. Entry Fee is \$25 per space (Non-Refundable)
- c. Desserts should be enough for six (6) Judges
- d. Dessert entries **MUST** include strawberries.
- e. Strawberry Desserts **MUST** be prepared on site.
- f. Trophies will be awarded for 1st through 3rd places.
- g. 1 through 5 will be publicized.

Awards

Saturday May 15th, 6:00 pm (Location TBD)
1st place Brisket is awarded one free space. (Must be used the next cook-off year).



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Thank you for participating in the 2021 Pasadena Strawberry Festival Cook Off. In order to provide scholarships to local students each year, we depend on you, our wonderful contestants, for the success of this event. If we can do anything to make your participation in our cook off more pleasant, please let us know.

Sincerely,

John Kuhn
Cook-Off Director
713-550-6077

Pam Farish
Judging & Scoring/Team Reps
281-884-2340

Cutter Bishop
Cook-Off VP
832-414-3652

Pasadena Strawberry Festival
7603 Red Bluff Rd
Pasadena, TX 77507
281-991-9500
info@strawberryfest.org
www.strawberryfest.org



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PSF Cook-Off Safety Covid-19 Action Plan

The Pasadena Strawberry Festival is extremely excited to be able to host our 48th Annual Pasadena Strawberry Festival. The Board of Directors of The Pasadena Strawberry Festival take pride in making this a family fun event, but safety is our first concern.

The PSF is taking many precautionary measures to insure the quality, cleanliness and safety guidelines throughout the duration of our Festival.

Event Location : 7902 Fairmont (Complete Fairgrounds)

Event Date: May 14th, 15th, 16th, 2021

On March 2, 2021 Governor Abbott announced the signing of GA-34 "related to the opening of Texas in response to COVID-19 disaster". As a result, the City of Pasadena, will be amending protocols and procedures associated with the Governor's amended order.

AT THIS TIME any and all public guest who visit a City Building/Facility is strongly encourage to wear a facemask/face covering, Anyone affiliated with the city will be required to wear a facemask/face covering inside all city facilities during the following situations:

- When interacting with public.
- When in common areas
- Within 6 feet of another person when there is no partition.

As a reminder, to effectively mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and continue our downward trajectory of community transmission, we all should continue to follow social distancing practices as maintaining a safe distance from others and good hygiene practices such as disinfecting commonly used areas and proper handwashing.

This pandemic continues to be a challenge as guidance continues to change, the PSF will continue to work closely with our local experts on this issue and will keep you inform of any new guidelines that we will need to follow.

COOKERS & GUEST SAFETY

- Guest are required to stay with their party.
- Designated Entrance and Exit Locations
- 6 ft Social Distancing Markers will be posted.(Signage available in our office upon request)



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- All guests will be asked to follow local guidelines for face coverings.
- All guest will be asked to do their best to social distance.
- Reduce the amount of traffic inside your own area.
- Have Hand Sanitizer available
- Keep your area clean.
- Use your own common sense. Most important **Be Safe and Have Fun.**

VOLUNTEER SAFETY

- All workers will be given temperature checks before signing in to work.
- All workers are being asked not to work if feeling sick or have fever.
- All workers will be wearing masks or face coverings depending on the area they are working.
- All workers will have access to washing stations and hand sanitizer.

GROUND SAFETY

- The PSF will be sanitizing the area prior to opening.
- PSF will continuously sanitizing high traffic area.
- We will have posted signs asking guests who are sick NOT TO ATTEND
- HAND SANITIZING STATIONS will be available
- Social Distancing Signage will be posted
- Limited Masks will be available if desired
- We take pride in this experience, assuring it will be fun but SAFE.

If you have any other questions or concerns contact Murline Staley, Executive Director murline@strawberryfest.org or 281/991-9500