

## Contest

### Rules

1. Contestants for the Bar-B-Que Cook-Off will be those persons who have submitted the entry form and been approved as having satisfactorily met the rules and regulations governing the contest.
2. Contestants must be 18 years of age or older and be employed by EMS, Fire (volunteer or paid), Police or Sheriff Department.
3. Each contestant will be assigned a specific area.
4. Contestants must supply ALL needed equipment and supplies. MCEMS furnishes the cooking site only. If you require electricity, you must provide your own generator.
5. All contestants must check in and set up between 3:00 PM on Thursday May 19<sup>th</sup> and 7:30 AM on Friday May 20<sup>th</sup>. No contestants will be allowed to enter the contest area before 3:00 PM. Spaces will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis.
6. **All meat must be raw and uncooked when approved. Prior preparation, such as marinating and seasoning is NOT permitted. Uncooked meat must be kept at a safe temperature**
7. **No condiment, red sauce, foil or garnishment permitted on or in judging container.**
8. All food items will be judged on the 10 point grading system which will be explained during the contest meeting.
9. **Boston Butt or Pork Shoulder:** At 5:00 Pm Thursday May 19<sup>th</sup>, two contest Boston Butts or Pork Shoulders will be approved by the chief cook in the presence of the assigned committee person. Contestants may start cooking after the meats are approved.
10. **Contestants will be responsible for appointing a person to deliver entries to the designated area for judging.** Items required for judging: Pork Ribs- 1 slab cut up, Chicken- ½ chicken, Pork BBQ- Approximately 1 pound.
11. Only judging meat is to be placed in the judging container and must be at the judges table by 3:00 Pm Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. **Late submissions will be disqualified.** The container will be marked with the team's assigned number **only**. Any attempt to mark the container with anything other than the team's assigned number will result in disqualification.
12. Teams cannot sell any Bar-B-Que.
13. Fires must be charcoal, wood or wood substance. Electric or gas fires will be allowed for optional categories in which foods need to be cooked in this manner. Contestants must take all precautions necessary to prevent fire hazards. All fires must be contained in a suitable manner. Contestants may be disqualified if precautionary measures are not followed or unsafe conditions exist. **Teams must carry a working fire extinguisher.**
14. Holes or dug pits are not permitted. Any equipment or devices that may damage the surface area on the contest site in any way are prohibited.

15. The chief cook will be held responsible for the conduct of his team and guests. **Any consumption of alcoholic beverages and/ or unacceptable conduct will be grounds for disqualification. Remember, this is a public event!**
16. MCEMS **will not** be responsible for any theft or damage.
17. Tent coverings or any other part of the contestant's equipment **must not exceed** the boundaries of the assigned cooking space unless approved by the Bar-B-Que committee.
18. Contestants may drive two vehicles into the contest area for set up purposes only. After set up, all vehicles must be moved to the contestants parking area. The use of tents is permitted as long as they are contained within the team's cook-off site. Teams are not allowed to have any ATV's (3-Wheelers, 4-Wheelers, Gators, etc.) in the area at any time.
19. It is the responsibility of the contestant to see that their respective areas are kept clean at all times, and that the cooking sites are cleaned and policed following the Bar-B-Que Cook-Off contest. Any space left in disarray or with loose or unbound trash will disqualify the contestant from further participation. The area should look the same or better when you leave as when you arrived.
20. Trash receptacles will be placed throughout the contest area for each contestant to use. Under no circumstances would the contestant have a receptacle within their assigned area or for private use.
21. Judges will be chosen by the MCEMS Cook-Off committee. Decisions of the MCEMS Cook-Off Committee and the judges will be final. Interpretation of these rules will be at the sole discretion of the MCEMS Cook-Off Committee.
22. **All cook-off areas must be cleaned and vacated by afternoon on Friday May 20<sup>th</sup>.** As a courtesy to other teams, please don't disassemble and leave before all entries have been judged and the awards have been presented.
23. **Contestants are asked to remember that this event is being held on private property. At no time will contestants block or hinder in any way, the ability to enter or exit the property for safety concerns.**

Contestants are asked to have fun and enjoy competing with each other!!! We ask that you keep the competition friendly and maintain a family friendly environment at all times.

**Decisions of the Committee Chairman and judges are final. MCEMS and Montgomery County will not be responsible for loss, damage or injury that might occur pertaining to this contest.**