

2023 Harvest Fest Backyard BBQ Cook-Off Team Rules

THE CONTEST:

1. The 2023 Harvest Fest Backyard BBQ Cook-Off will be Saturday, October 7, 2023, in North Manchester, Indiana.
2. The competition is open to anyone. There is a limit of 4 people per team.
3. Manchester Underground will supply a designated burn barrel for proper disposal of ashes at a central location.
4. Changes to guidelines & rules may occur. Teams will be notified of any changes.

CONTESTANT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Registration/fire extinguisher inspection/set-up and fire up will be on will begin on Saturday, Oct 7, 2023 starting at 6 am. No check in after 8 am.
2. All categories must be cooked on wood, charcoal, gas grill or a smoker.
3. Captain's Meeting (required) at 7 am.
4. Booth space is on a first come first serve basis and teams should be ready to cook no later than 7:30 am.
5. Each team is required to have a fire extinguisher appropriate for your method of cooking. You will not be allowed to start without one. Those who are frying will need a K extinguisher, all others can use an ABC extinguisher.
6. A 12 x 15 space will be provided in the park. Note that ground will likely not be level. A of pop-up shelter/tent, no larger than a 12'x12' is encouraged for each team. Tent legs are required to be weighted down. The fire marshal will be checking tents the day of the event for safety.
7. No frying of foods is allowed under the pop-up tents
8. Teams must provide their own table and covering with a tablecloth.
9. Team may provide samples at no charge to guests.
10. Electrical access is limited. Please indicate if this is needed.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. Judging will be done by a six person team. To enable a blind judging, each team will be identified by a number at judging.
2. Your sample will be judged by all members of a judging team.
3. Each judge will rate the sample for APPEARANCE, TASTE, and TENDERNESS and score from 9 to 1 point each. The TASTE score will be doubled. The lowest score will be dropped but will be used to break ties. The Build-a-Burger category will be judged on APPEARANCE, TASTE, and NAME. The five highest judges' scores will be tallied for overall points. The lowest judges score (6th judge) will be dropped and not used for the totals.
4. Results will be tallied. If there is a tie it will be broken as follows: The low score that was thrown out (as mentioned above) will be added to the cumulative score to break the tie. If still tied, the judging slips will be compared for the highest cumulative scores in TASTE first, if still a tie, then TENDERNESS, if still a tie, then APPEARANCE. If still a tie, two awards will be given out. All these categories will utilize the 6th judge scores.
5. Total points per entry will determine the category winner within each classification.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING SAMPLES FOR JUDGING:

1. Judging will start at 3 pm – Saturday, October 7th – Only the designated 4 person teammates can touch or handle your entries.
2. Judging will be done on a category basis in the following order: 1. Appearance 2. Taste 3. Tenderness. Judging times are 3 pm – Build-a-Burger, 3:30 pm - Open Category, 4 pm – Beef, 4:30 pm – Pork Ribs, 5 pm – Wild Game.
3. Turn in your sample on time. You will have a 10-minute window to turn in your entry. The Build-a-Burger category turn in starts at 3 pm with a final turn in time of 3:10 pm.
4. A horn will be blown to open and close the turn in time for each category. The rule is your entry must be turned in within the ten minutes from the first to the second blow of the horn.
5. Submit enough of your entry to feed six judges and place in the official container provided by BBQ Officials. Remember, appearance is one of the judging criteria. For the Build-a-Burger category you will need to submit two entries: One for appearance and the second cut in 6 pieces for judges' samples. Contestants will be provided two containers by the BBQ officials.
6. If you cover your meat with sauce, it will be judged that way. If you submit it dry (no sauce) it will be judged that way. No pooling or cups of sauce will be allowed for the judges to dip.
7. Garnish is limited to only green leaf lettuce (no red tipped lettuce or kale), and common curly parsley. This means no aluminum foil. This applies for the Open, Ribs, Beef and Wild Game Categories. Exception to this rule is the Build-a-Burger category in which anything goes.
8. Samples for judging must completely fit in the provided container with the lid closed for judging.
9. Open category entries must be a meat, poultry, seafood, side dishes or desserts and must be prepared on a grill (wood, gas, or charcoal). Open categories will not be judged on tenderness. Open category only, contestants will be allowed to use containers inside their box to help secure the entry if needed. Example: baked beans could be placed in a separate cup within the provided container for each of the judges.

2023 Harvest Fest Backyard BBQ Cook-Off Registration

Manchester Alive: Main Street Chamber Alliance

Team Entry Fee \$40.00 due with registration

Email form to: 2ndfridaysnm@gmail.com or mail/deliver to:

Manchester Alive, 126 E Main Street, No. Manchester

Team Captain _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Electrical access will be limited. Please comment if this is needed for your team and we will contact you.

COMMENTS:

Please indicate all categories entering:

Build-A-Burger Open Beef Ribs (Pork) Wild Game

ALL MEMBERS read and signed Hold Harmless Clause:

Team Name _____

Member 2 _____

Member 3 _____

Member 4 _____

HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE:

The 2023 Harvest Fest Backyard BBQ Cook-Off, Manchester Alive: Main Street Chamber Alliance, Inc, the Town of North Manchester, the North Manchester Parks & Recreation Dept and all other sponsors shall not be responsible or liable in any way for any losses, costs, liabilities, debts, or expenses incurred by the participants of the 2023 Harvest Fest Backyard BBQ Cook-Off, subsidiaries, affiliates, successors, or assigns as a result of any acts, omissions, or negligence of any person, firm, partnership or corporation attending or participating in the 2023 Harvest Fest Backyard BBQ Cook-Off whether or not the act, omission, or negligence occurs prior to, during, or following the 2023 Harvest Fest Backyard BBQ Cook-Off

Date Rec'd: _____ Fees Paid: _____ Team #: _____