



## Official Chili Cook-off Rules

Set-up Time 8:00am- 10:30am  
Begin feeding the homeless at 11:00am  
Open to the public for tasting at Noon  
Turn-in for judging at 2:45 pm  
Winners announced at 3:00 pm



### General Rules and Regulations

- Contestants must pre-register in order to enter the contest. **Registration the day of the contest is not permitted.**
- **A \$25.00 ENTRY FEE IS REQUIRED FOR EACH CHILI ENTERED. Entry fee is due by September 17th. Entry fee payable by CASH, CARD, VENMO or CASHAPP.**
- Chili must be cooked from scratch on site the day of the cook-off. All ingredients must be prepped beforehand. Only restaurant teams MAY HAVE pre cooked chili.
- Teams are responsible for supplying all cooking utensils and supplies needed for the chili. **Cooking supplies (burners, stoves, grills, etc.) NOT will be provided. Bowls and spoons for tasting will be provided. Any team needing a cooking burner will have to pay a extra \$30 rental fee at the time of registration payment.**
- **No wood or coal burning allowed!!**
- Fire extinguisher will be on-hand for safety.
- **There will be electrical hook-ups. Please bring your own extension cords and surge protectors. All coolers and pots will be inspected upon arrival at the event and before you are escorted to your table.** This is to ensure no pre-cooked food comes into the event.
- SANITATION: In accordance with Health Department regulations, teams will be provided with the following at their tables for use while preparing, cooking and serving:

◇ Hand sanitizer

*\*\*M.O.M reserves the right to expel any team who refuses to comply with these rules and regulations. Such teams will forfeit all fees.*



◇ Disinfectant spray for preparation surfaces (e.g., Lysol, bleach and water, etc.)

◇ Plastic gloves (for serving)

- A panel of judges will determine the top 3 winners: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The decision of the judges will be final.
- All judging in “blind” i.e. the judges do not know which team turned in the chili they are tasting.
- People’s Choice will be determined by the number of tokens given to each team by the public. Tokens will be provided to the public for People’s Choice judging.
- Teams are encouraged, not required, to name their chili and decorate their cooking area to reflect that name.
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- This cook-off is for cooks who just want to have fun and be recognized for their superb culinary skills. Dress up, wear a costume, and just have fun!



### **Serving/Cooking Station Rules**

- You must be respectful to others & no offensive displays.
- Lewdness, nudity is prohibited.
- The use of firearms, explosives, or pyrotechnics is prohibited.
- Interfering with other cooking teams is prohibited and will result in disqualification.
- No extra tents or canopies are allowed unless approved by the event committee.



### **Chili Cooking Rules**

- **Quantities required for distribution** to the public:
  1. Red, Green/White and Freestyle Chili: A minimum of 10 pounds of meat.
  2. Vegan/ Vegetarian: Minimum of 10 quarts (2.5 gals).
  3. Quantity for **judging**: One pint (16 oz.) is required to submit for judging.
  4. Chili must be cooked from scratch on site the day of the cook-off.

- COOKED FROM SCRATCH - "Scratch" is defined as starting with raw meat. No marinating is allowed. Complete commercial chili mixes ("just add meat" mixes that contain pre measured spices) are not permitted.

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**· No ingredient may be pre-cooked in any way prior to the beginning of the official cook-off. · All chili must be prepared onsite.**

- Cooks **ARE** allowed pre-chopping and pre measuring all ingredients.

- CATEGORIES – definitions:

All teams are to label their chili with THE CATEGORIES, AND ALLERGENS.

1. **RED** chili is defined as any type of red meat or combination of red meats, e.g. beef, venison, duck, etc., cooked with red chili peppers and other spices and ingredients. BEANS ARE NOT PERMITTED.
2. **GREEN/WHITE** chili is defined as any type of white meat or combination of white meats, e.g. pork, chicken, turkey, etc., cooked with green chili peppers and other spices and ingredients. Beans ARE permitted, including canned beans.
3. **FREESTYLE** chili is defined as any type of meat or combination of meats, cooked with any combination of chili peppers and other spices and ingredients. Beans ARE permitted, including canned bean
4. **VEGAN/ VEGETARIAN** chili is defined as any combination of chili peppers, vegetables, beans, etc., and other spices and ingredients to create a chili-like dish that does not include any meat. Beans are permitted, including canned beans.

#### **ALLERGENS LIST**

1. Milk
2. Eggs
3. Fish (e.g., bass, flounder, cod)
4. Crustacean shellfish (e.g., crab, lobster, shrimp)
5. Tree nuts (e.g., almonds, walnuts, pecans)
6. Peanuts
7. Wheat
8. Soybeans
9. Gluten

- SANITATION - Everything must be prepared in a sanitary manner.
  1. Head coverings (hat, scarfs, hair net etc.) and gloves must be worn when handling, 3

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- cooking and serving.
- 2. Cooking conditions will be subject to inspection by the Health Department. (Failure to comply is subject to disqualification.)
- 3. You must be willing to taste your own chili.
- 4. Chili must be covered with a lid when not serving.
- 5. Teams are **allowed** to give samples of their chili **to other teams**. Teams are **NOT allowed** to give samples to the **public prior to noon**. Teams are **NOT allowed** to give samples **to judges** prior to turn in. Any deviation from this rule will result in disqualification.
- 6. Trophies will be awarded by judges' results and People's Choice.



### Cooks Judging Cups

- A **COOKS MEETING** will be held at 10:30 am on the day of the cook-off. One member of each team **MUST** attend. At this meeting, each Team will be given 1 official judging cup for each entry. Each Team is responsible for delivering their cups with the chili sample to the judging area at the official turn in time for judging – 2:45 am.
- **PROTECT THE JUDGING CUP** – Walk for Women will issue the judging cups at the cooks meeting. You will pick up one judging cup for each entry. Once judging cups have been issued, each head cook is responsible for his or her judging cup. Cooks must not remove or tamper with the tickets on the bottom of the cups. The cooks' duplicate ticket will be inside the cup – **REMOVE** it before filling the cup with chili. Any **marked or altered** cup must be replaced prior to turn-in or it will be disqualified. If your cup is damaged or otherwise marked before turn in you can obtain another cup in the judge's room.
- **FILLING CUPS** - Cups should be filled  $\frac{3}{4}$  full.
- **CHILI TURN-IN** - Chili will be turned in at the place and time designated at the cooks' meeting.
- **PENALTIES** - Failure to comply with the rules set forth herein may result in disqualification of an individual cook or team for the cook-off. Decisions of the official(s) are

final.



## Judging

- Chili judging will be done using preliminary and final judges. All judging in “blind” i.e. the judges do not know which team turned in the chili they taste.
- Judges must abstain from inspecting or tasting chili prior to judging. Judges must not be associated with any cook at the cook-off (e.g., one spouse cooking and the other spouse

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- judging).
- Judging criteria and scoring - A single score takes into consideration the five criteria for scoring chili:
    - o Aroma
    - o Consistency
    - o Color
    - o Taste
    - o Aftertaste
  - Scoring - Each cup of chili will be scored on its own merits with a whole number from 0 to 5, 5 being the highest.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Who do I contact for information about the cook-off or to enter a team?**

Registration forms, rules and Health Department permits can be found on the W4W web site at [www.spiwalkforwomen.org](http://www.spiwalkforwomen.org). You can also contact Rees at 956-495-9884 or [reeslangspi@gmail.com](mailto:reeslangspi@gmail.com)

### **What is the cost and what do we need to bring?**

**Entry fee is \$25.00 per chili entry**, i.e. per chili turned in for judging. Example, if you are cooking in two categories, your entry fee will be \$50. Each team cooking 1-2 entries will be

provided one 5' x 3' (approximate size) table space. Each team cooking 3 or more entries will be assigned two 5' x 3' (approximate size) tables. The rest is up to you. Teams are responsible for their own cooking supplies and utensils & decorations. **Remember** – There is no electricity and no wood or charcoal fires, and **everything must be cooked on site**. You are also not allowed to put up a tent or canopy of any kind unless previously approved by the event committee.

### **What is the set up time, cooking time, when is the judging?**

- You may begin setting up and cooking at 8 am. There will be a team on-site to assist you in moving your gear to your assigned space.

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- All coolers and pots will be inspected upon arrival at the event and before you are escorted to your table. This is to ensure no pre-cooked food comes into the event.
- **Chili will be turned in for judging at 2:30 pm.**
- **Winners will be announced at approximately 3:00 pm.**

### **What is the People's Choice Chili Award?**

People's Choice Chili is judged only by the people. There are no other judges. The chili with the most votes becomes the winner. Each chili team is encouraged to decorate their booth to reflect their team's name in their booth decor.

Attendees will cast their votes for People's Choice Chili by depositing one or more tokens (provided at time of admission) into a "Voting Container" that will be supplied to you the morning of the cook-off.

### **How much chili is required?**

- Red, Green/White and Freestyle Chili: We require a minimum of 10 pounds of meat.
- Vegetarian: We require a minimum of 10 quarts (2.5 gals).

1ST  
ANNUAL  
M.O.M



# PARTICIPANT FORM

Complete the form below.

## Business To Be Represented

First and Last Name :

Full Address :

Business Name (If applicable) :  Postcode :

City / Country :

E-Mail :

Shirt Size :      Phone :

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## \$25 Contest Fee

Cash  CashApp  Venmo  Money Order

-Please specify below if you have any special request or needs. Any team needing a cooking burner will have to pay a extra \$30 rental fee.

*If you have any questions, please contact Singia Jones at 901-262-8307 or [singiajones8@gmail.com](mailto:singiajones8@gmail.com)*

**Thank you for your support!**

Date

Vendor Signature