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Business!



RULES, REGS AND STUFF

November 11, 2017

Alameda Park by the Gazebo

Type of chili: NO HOLDS BARRED RED OR GREEN CHILI!

1. What does "NO HOLDS BARRED RED OR GREEN CHILI!" mean? It means FREEDOM for chili cooks of all types! FREEDOM to create the chili your mother warned you about! FREEDOM to make it red or green, add beans, throw in chopped onions and chilies....FREEDOM to make any kind of chili you darned well please, as long as you are willing to taste it first!
2. All preparation, cutting, slicing, chopping, cooking, holding, serving, etc. **MUST be done on site**. No homemade foods or foods from unapproved sources are allowed (all meats, salsas, sauces, etc. must be from inspected, approved facilities...like a grocery store.) No ingredient may be pre-cooked in any way prior to the commencement of the official cook-off. **MEAT MAY NOT BE PRE-COOKED.**
 - CHILI COOKED FROM SCRATCH - "Scratch" is defined as starting with raw meat. No marinating is allowed. Commercial chili powder is permissible, but complete commercial chili mixes ("just add meat" mixes that contain premeasured spices) are NOT permitted.
3. Your team **MUST** prepare enough chili to turn in to the judges and to fill at least **600 tasting cups**. (Tasting cups are 4oz. with approximately 1.5 ounces of chili per taste. It is recommended that you **prepare roughly 7- 8 gallons of chili**, or more. Remember, the more chili you make the more tasting cups you can fill and the more votes you can get for People's Choice winner!)
4. Your team must be registered to participate and follow the registration guidelines.
 - A. Booth set-up time is from 6:30 am to 9:00am on Saturday, November 11, in Alameda Park by the Gazebo. You will have a designated space for your cooking booth & an additional space if requested.
 - B. There will be a cooks meeting at approximately 8:00 am, your head cook **MUST** attend.
 - C. Cooking begins at 8:15 am and continues until 11:45am.
 - D. At 11:45am, your judging cup **MUST** be turned in. After your judging cup is turned in, you can begin to give samples to the public. (Do not give samples out **BEFORE** your judging cup is turned in.)



5. Contestants are responsible for supplying all of their own booths, cooking utensils, etc. Here's a general list of what you'll need and some rules (items marked with an asterisk are required by the Environment Department):
 - Each team must have its own pop up awning or other approved shade for both booths. The cooking booth must have its own shade.
 - If you need electricity, you must request it in advance, and there is an additional \$19 charge, you can also provide your own portable generator or battery pack.
 - Propane cooking stove.
 - Tables and chairs.
 - Pots, pans, cooking utensils, etc. ***You will need a bucket with bleach in it for sanitizing purposes.** (2 tsp bleach to half gallon of water, do not add soap)
 - One large trash can and trash bags. (Trash may be deposited in the dumpsters located along Alameda Park.)
 - *Running water hand wash: 1 five-gallon jug with a "constant on" spigot (bring **soap** and paper towels), a bucket to collect the runoff water. You can get these at Wal-Mart, K-Mart and Big 5.
 - *Gloves for food handling (Don't forget hair restraints for those with long hair. **Even if you have short hair, please wear a hat or hair net.**)
 - *Strict holding temperature control, 41° F or less for cold food in coolers, 140° or more for cooked food, so bring a thermometer please. (Meat should be cooked to 165° minimum before holding.)
 - 3 larger containers for cleaning & sanitizing cooking utensils/pots & pans/cutting boards, etc. (Each will have water, 1 with dish soap, 1 with bleach and 1 with plain water) **The order is: dish soap, water, bleach.**
 - **Food safety is our top priority.** Please refer to the food safety guidelines supplied in your registration packet if you have questions, or call Michelle Brideaux. Each booth will be inspected prior to the beginning of the cook off to make sure they are in compliance with the safety regulations. A member of the chili cook off staff and possibly an environmental officer will conduct the inspection. Booths that are deemed unsafe will be disqualified. Entry fees will not be returned.
6. Each contestant will be assigned a contestant's number by the Chief Scorekeeper and be given an official judging cup. Each contestant should verify that the number on the bottom of their cup is the same as their assigned contestant number. Each contestant is responsible for delivering their cup to the judging area at the official time for judging (11:45am). The cup must be filled to the bottom of its rim.
7. Judges will be told they should vote for the chili they like best based on the following major considerations: good flavor, texture of the meat, over all consistency, blend of spices, aroma, and color.
8. The decision of the Chief Judge shall be final.



Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. If I am not a member of a non-profit organization, can I still enter the cook-off?

A. Yes! But you have to designate a non-profit organization or charity for the BIG WINNINGS to be donated to.

Q. What is the registration deadline?

A. The registration deadline is Friday, November 4th, at 5:00 pm. You can download a registration form at www.letsthrevenm.org You can also pick up a hard copy at the Thrive office at 1601 10th St. Suite A.

Q. I'm not from Alamogordo, or even Otero County, can I still cook?

A. Yes, you can! Just remember, you have to have a designated non-profit or charity.

Q. Can I sell stuff at my second booth?

A. Sort of. For instance, you could sell tickets to a raffle (drawing to be held later). You could have a game at your booth and sell tickets to play.

- The rule is whatever you sell, all the profit has to go to benefit your non-profit or charity. Not a percentage of profits. All profits.
- NO. You cannot sell water or sodas or chips. Those booths are taken. We're trying to make sure that nobody is competing with anyone else, that way we all make more! So before you go out and buy a whole truckload of something to sell, give us a call. See contact info below.
- NO. You cannot sell other food stuff (like bake sale items or other home cooked foods) UNLESS you are licensed through the Environment Dept. If you still have questions, want to make sure you're not competing with anyone else or just like to talk, call Michelle Brideaux 575-437-8400.

Q. I'm a politician. Can I cook chili too?

A. We won't hold that against you. You can cook chili too! All you have to do is register, just like us voters. You will get a second booth, which must represent your designated charity, not your political campaign. You can hand out political fliers and such; just remember this is a family event.

Q. How much chili goes in the **Tasting Cup**?

A. The tasting cups are small, 4oz., so the chili will go farther. Fill the cup about half way full, give or take. Our best guess is about two tablespoons (1oz. – 1 1/2oz.)

Q. How does my non-profit or charity make money out of this deal?

A. Through cash prizes. Each chili cup that is sold receives a ticket to vote for their favorite chili.

- The Red Team or Green Team with the most tickets at the end of the event will win the coveted "People's Choice" Traveling Trophy.
- The Judges Panel will determine the Winners in the Red and in the Green categories and the Winners will receive:

- 1) 1st place: \$700
- 2) 2nd place: \$350
- 3) 3rd place: \$200
- 4) Yes, Virginia, there will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd place cash prizes in both the red chili category AND the green chili category!

Q. How much is the CASH PRIZE for the best decorated booth?

A. \$100!

Q. What's up with this best decorated booth thing?

A. Because we want everybody, especially the public, to have as much fun as possible, we are encouraging all registered teams to go completely crazy decorating their booths and to engage in some sort of crowd participation activity or game.

THE RULES:

Stay within your designated booth area (unless prior arrangements are made)

Be safe. Have fun. Keep it clean.

Q. Who do I call if I have a question that isn't answered here?

A. Michelle Brideaux at 575-437-8400 or pr@letsthrevenm.org