

Jackson County's Best Backyard Barbecue Cookoff

Saturday, September 29, 2018

You could be the next barbecue champion at the annual Depot Days Festival! Teams will be judged in the Boston Butt category and the Ribs category. The cookoff will be held in the Merchants & Planters Bank parking lot. Please consider entering this fun competition. It could win you up to \$150 in each division and the title of Jackson County's Best Backyard Barbecue!

Official Rules & Regulations

- 1) Teams may cook with any type of wood and/or charcoal. Other flammables (propane, compressed or liquid gas, etc.) may be used within the cooker only to start the initial fire. No type of flammable may be used within the cooker once the meat has been placed there. Flammables may be used outside and away from the cooker to make additional coals. Electrical devices may be used within the cooker or as long as they do not directly generate heat. Approved devices include rotisseries and fans, however, electricity will not be provided. Electric smokers, holding ovens and any other devices with heat producing electric coals are not allowed.
- 2) The Backyard Barbecue Championship Cookoff categories are Boston Butt and Baby Back Ribs.
- 3) Each contestant competing shall supply all of his/her own cooking ingredients, individual cooking devices, utensils, preparation tables, etc. A regulation cooking area is provided. All contestants **MUST** adhere to all electrical, fire and other city, county, state and federal codes. A fire extinguisher must be in each cooking area.
- 4) Each contestant must check in at the Barbecue Headquarters. Setup begins at 7 a.m. on Saturday, September 29. All teams must be set up by 9 a.m. You may pick up your Boston Butt and Rack of Ribs on Friday, September 28 from 6 to 7 p.m. or on Saturday, September 29 from 6 to 8 a.m. in front of Merchants & Planters Bank.
- 5) Each team may have as many assistants as are necessary. Contestants and assistants must comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Arkansas State Health Department.
- 6) No live animals (dogs, pigs, etc.) are allowed in the cooking area. Violation will result in disqualification.
- 7) Each contestant must cook enough barbecue to give out samples to all judges. If you run out of barbecue before the judging is completed, you will be disqualified.
- 8) Judging of the Backyard Barbecue Championship Cookoff entries will occur on Saturday, September 29. Judging will be based on three categories: flavor, tenderness and doneness. Judging for Baby Back Rib Division will begin at 3 p.m., Boston Butt will begin at 4 p.m.
- 9) It is the responsibility of each contestant to see that the contest area is kept clean. All fires must be put out and all equipment, garbage, etc., removed from the site. Any site not properly cleaned will result in disqualification from future participation.
- 10) Cooking in pits is not allowed.
- 11) Fees are \$40 per team entry, which includes both divisions. All checks should be made payable to Depot Days. No refunds will be made once you have been accepted into the contest whether you appear or not.
- 12) Contestants are not permitted to sell barbecue.
- 13) All meat submitted for judging must be provided by Depot Days.
- 14) Vehicles must be moved out of the cooking area by 9 a.m.
- 15) *Decisions of the Barbecue Committee Chairman and judges are final.*