

2023 PINE CASTLE CHILI COOK-OFF

OFFICIAL CONTESTANT RULES

The following rules must be adhered to by *all* cook-off entrants, assistants and helpers:

1. Chili is defined as any kind of meat or combination of meats cooked with chili peppers, spices and other ingredients. Vegetarian chili is also permitted in this cook-off.
2. There will be three categories, traditional, non-traditional and corporate. The non-traditional chili would be anything that is not the traditional meat, spices, etc. ie vegetarian chili or chili with wild game meat. There is also a corporate category for any restaurants that wish to participate.
3. We request a \$35 nonrefundable donation from each contestant. Contestants may enter more than one batch of chili by making multiple donations. *Corporate participants are requested to make a \$50 donation.*
4. There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes awarded as well as a People's Choice Award.
5. All ingredients must be pre-cooked and treated prior to the event. Chili must be brought ready to eat.
6. Contestants are responsible for supplying their own serving utensils and other items relating to their chili submission. This includes any devices needed to maintain chili at the proper temperature for serving, such as crockpots or other warming devices. Contestants will have access to power, if required. Spoons and cups for use in serving chili to the general public will be provided.
7. Each contestant must cook and bring a **minimum of six (6) quarts of competition chili**. Contestants are permitted to bring only one pot of chili to be submitted for judging, unless the contestant has paid additional entry fees as described above.
8. Each contestant will be assigned a contestant number by the Chief Scorekeeper and will be provided with a container in which to submit chili at the time of the official judging. Each contestant shall verify that the number on the bottom of their container is the same as the contestant number assigned to them by the Chief Scorekeeper.
9. Judging of each entry will be based on score cards which are numbered. 100% of the final tally will be based on these score cards. The decision of the Judges is final.
10. Each contestant is responsible for policing and cleaning up their area at the end of the day and removing all items. No items shall be allowed to remain after the close of the cook-off event.
11. All chili will be judged blindly, meaning that the Judges will not know the identities of the cooks at the time of judging. The Judges' scoring will be based on the following characteristics:

Flavor: Chili should utilize spices for good flavoring and chili pepper taste, not too hot or too mild. Spice flavors should permeate the meat.

Consistency: Chili should be a smooth combination of meat and gravy, not too thin or too thick. The texture of the meat should not be tough or mushy.

Aroma: Chili should have an appetizing aroma.

Visual Appeal: The submitted chili should look appetizing and have an appealing color.

People's Choice Award:

Each Contestant will be issued a People's Choice container into which attendees may deposit tickets for their favorite chili or favorite contestant. The People's Choice Award is based solely on the largest number of People's Choice tickets – the entry with the most tickets at the close of the event wins. People's Choice tickets will be

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counted in front of each chili cook for a definitive count.

Invite your friends, family and co-workers to buy tickets for your container. Tell your friends on Facebook to come out on Saturday, January 21, 2023 and support you. Remember, it's all for a good cause!

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