



# Kids Cook-Off Rules

## Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### Sponsored by:

1. The entry fee is \$25 per cooker.
2. A kid cooker is NOT required to be associated with an adult team participating in the BCFA Barbecue Cook-Off nor be a Brazoria County Resident.
3. Cookers will be separated by age into two divisions.
  - Junior: 6 to 11 years old
  - Senior: 12 to 17 years old
4. Each division is open to a maximum of twenty (20) cookers. A cooker is not considered registered until both registration is completed fully, and entry is paid.
5. Registration for the BCFA Kids Cook-Off opens on Monday, July 28, 2025, and closes when full or at 12 noon on Friday, September 19, 2025.
6. The Kids Cook-Off is defined as a Fresh Meat prepared on a charcoal fire, basted or not, stuffed or not, as the cook sees fit, with any substances and sauces as the cook believes necessary.
7. For the 2025 competition, the Fresh Meat will consist of (2) two meat categories.
8. Meat for the contest entry will be provided by the BCFA Barbecue Cook-Off. Meat selection will be done immediately following the Cooks' Meeting. Each cooker will be able to choose one (1) package, containing two (2) pieces of meat, to cook, for each food category.
9. Each kid cooker shall supply all seasonings, cooking utensils, gloves, and other equipment necessary to prepare the meat. Small Old Smokey grills and charcoal will be provided for the competition.
10. The BCFA Barbecue Cook-Off will provide a cooking area for each cooker. You may bring a tent/canopy to cover your area, there are no trees for shade. You will also need to bring a folding table and other items, such as cutting board, ice chests, etc. so that you have a preparation area.
11. Each cooker will be required to have on-site at each pit, for inspection at any time during the contest, a fire extinguisher for types A, B & C fires, minimum five (5) pounds that is in the current date. One large fire extinguisher will not suffice for multiple pits.
12. Junior division Saturday timeline:
  - 8:30 AM – Contestants can deliver their equipment and set up their cooking area
  - 9:00 AM – Cooks' meeting, with meat selection, immediately following
  - 11:00 AM – Entry turn-in
  - 5:00 PM – Award

13. Senior division Saturday timeline:

- 11:30 AM – Contestants can deliver their equipment and set up their cooking area
- 12:00 PM – Cooks’ meeting, with meat selection immediately following
- 2:00 PM – Entry turn-in
- 5:00 PM – Awards

14. Each contestant must provide (1) one of each of the (2) two meat categories for the judges.

15. For safety, a supervisor must be in the cooking area at all times as well as start and maintain the fire. The cooks may obtain guidance from their supervisor, but the cooks must do all preparations AND cooking for the entry.

16. The supervisor must be in the cooking area until the fire and coals are completely extinguished, and the area is cleaned. An ash dump will be available.

17. Each contestant must comply with all applicable rules and regulations including, but not limited to the following:

- All entries must be turned in using the containers provided by the BCFA Barbecue Cook-Off.
  - No tobacco products in the cooking area.
  - Dug pits are not permitted.
  - No live animals in the cooking area.
  - No Alcoholic Beverages will be allowed in the Kids Cook area.

18. Meat categories will be judged on four (4) categories:

- Appearance
- Texture
- Taste
- Overall Impression.

19. A contestant will be disqualified if they turn in an entry that the judge(s) deem raw and not edible. According to the USDA *Safe Minimum Internal Temperature Chart*.

<b>Beef, Pork, Veal &amp; Lamb</b> (Steaks, chops, roasts)	145 °F (62.8 °C) and allow to rest for at least 3 minutes
<b>Ground Meats</b>	160 °F (71.1 °C)
<b>All Poultry</b> (breasts, whole bird, legs, thighs, wings, ground poultry, giblets, and stuffing)	165 °F (73.9 °C)

20. The top ten (10) overall winners from each division will receive awards.

22. BCFA Barbecue Cook-Off reserves the right to make additional rules as the situation warrants. All decisions are final. Violations of rules and regulations may result in disqualification and expulsion from the grounds and/or disqualification from participating in future contests.