

Walker County Fair Association

Barbecue Cook-off

April 5 & 6, 2024

Huntsville, Texas

Rules and Regulations

- On receipt of your payment, space will be provided as available. Entry forms must be accompanied by minimum \$150 entry fee per team. The \$150 fee entitles the team to the following:
One standard size approximately (40' X 40') team space and entry in the brisket category.
- Entry in each additional meat categories; Ribs, chicken, or Pulled Pork, is \$20 per entry.
- Entry in the Chili, Beans, Dessert and Margarita competition is an additional \$20 per entry.
- Entry in the Kid's Category ages 2 yrs to 17 yrs will be an additional \$10. Age categories will be 2 – 12-year-olds and then 13–17-year-olds.
- Barbecue teams may check in and set up at the Walker County Fairgrounds from 8:00a.m. thru 4:00p.m. Friday of the cook-off weekend. If you are not checked in by 4:00p.m. and have not received your wristband, you will have to pay general admission to enter. Teams may move in Thursday, prior to the cook-off, upon approval by the BBQ Chairman.
- Each BBQ team may consist of a Chief Cook and 4 Assistants no set number of cooks required.
- Each registered team will receive up to five (5) team member non-removable/non-transferable admission wristbands to the fairgrounds and three (3) vehicle passes to the cook-off parking area. All others must pay general admission fee. If team requires the *adjacent space, one additional wristbands* will be provided. No vehicles will be permitted to enter the cooking area after 5:00 p.m. on Friday night. Parking is limited. Please advise all visitors and guest in your cooking area to park in the front of the fairgrounds and come through the front gates.
- Electricity and water hook-ups are available to each space. If additional spots are needed Committee Chair can have overflow spots with no water or electric at same price but will make sure Chief Cook is aware of this prior to entering.

- Adjoining standardized spaces will be granted where available for an additional \$150. Any such additional fees will be due by end of January with deposit.
- All props, tents, coverings and equipment must be confined to the assigned space(s) and it will be strictly enforced by BBQ Committee for teams to stay within boundaries. Teams should be prepared for inclement weather.
- Notices, schedules, entry turn-in times and any other changes will be posted on the Bulletin Board at the Committee Area (BBQ Stage).
- The Overall winner will receive \$10 from each brisket entry and paid brisket entry only to next year's WCFA BBQ Cook-off.
- 1st place Brisket & Reserve Grand Champion winner will receive \$5 from each brisket entry.
- Awards for 1st, 2nd & 3rd will be given in all categories. The winner of the Bean Category will be a jackpot split with the Fair Association (50/50).
- Chief Cooks' meeting: 6:00 p.m. Friday of the cook-off weekend. Meeting will NOT start until all vehicles are removed from the cook-off area. Containers for all entries will be passed out to cooks at check in. It is the responsibility of teams to verify they have received the appropriate containers at check in. **NO EXTRA CONTAINERS WILL BE HANDED OUT WITHOUT EXCHANGE FOR ANY REASON.**
- Live Auction (Calcutta) will be held Friday night at 8 pm. Must pay by cash or check immediately following calcutta. No credit cards excepted.
- No garnish, sauce, or foil will be permitted in container when turned in for judging. If found in container, entry will be disqualified without notification.
- Chili must be cooked on site from "scratch" utilizing raw meat (beef, poultry, seafood, pork, etc.). Chili must be prepared outdoors. Team members are to prepare and cook their chili in a sanitary manner as possible. These conditions will be subject to periodic inspection by the members of the cook-off committee. Unsanitary conditions by any team will be considered cause for disqualification.
- Fire must be wood only. No electric or gas cooking will be allowed. No assisted cooking devices such as control fans, Guru temperature controller, pellet cookers, etc.
Exception: Dessert, beans & Chili may be cooked over gas.
- Digging of cooking holes or pits will not be permitted.

- Each Chief Cook will be responsible for the conduct of his team members and their guests. Each team will be responsible for keeping its area clean, including final departure clean-up.
- No motorized vehicles (advertising, sleeping, etc.) will be in the cooking area at any time, except for those used by the officials of the Walker County Fair Association. All motorized vehicles utilized for setting up must be removed from the cook-off area by 5:00p.m. Friday of the cook-off weekend. If driving a motorhome, can have it remain in cookoff area only if prior approval of the Committee Chair and keys will be taken at Chief cooks meeting on Friday until after awards on Saturday. The Walker County Fair Association will not be responsible for losses resulting from theft or damage.
- NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WILL BE ALLOWED INSIDE THE FENCED AREA AROUND THE CARNIVAL AND LIVESTOCK EXHIBITION.
- Cash Pot Tickets will be sold. You must be present to win.
- Quiet time will be from 2a.m. – 7a.m. and will be strictly enforced. First time told will have warning & second visit by Committee Chair/Co-Chair will be disqualified. Team will be able to stay in place, but entries will not be judged.
- This is NOT a SANCTIONED Cook-off.
- No portable toilets will be allowed by individual BBQ teams. Should teams need a portable toilet, you are required to rent through the WCFA BBQ Cook-off.

Have fun and please be responsible!