



Fall Festival Chili Cook-Off

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Hosted by the Winchester Downtown Program Corporation (WDPC)

"An annual event held in historical Downtown Winchester Tennessee to celebrate the season of harvest through food, entertainment and community in an effort to support a sustainable and vibrant downtown that will be a highly desirable destination point."

Location: Downtown Winchester, TN Square (1 South Jefferson St.)
Square will be closed to traffic!

Date: Saturday October 27, 2018

Time: 11:00 AM-2:00 PM

I. CHILI COOKING RULES

CONTESTANTS/COOKS: 20 total

REGISTRATION FEE: \$25.00

A. **CHILI COOKING-Off Site** – All chili must be cooked from scratch off site and then brought to the judging site the day of the event. The location will be on South Jefferson St between 1st Ave. NW and 1st Ave. SW, starting at 11:00 am.

1. **CHILI COOKED FROM SCRATCH** – "Scratch" is defined as starting with raw meat.
2. **FILLERS IN CHILI** - Beans, macaroni, rice, hominy, or other similar ingredients are permitted.
3. **SANITATION** – Cooks are to prepare and cook chili in as sanitary manner as possible. Cooks may be asked to taste their own chili prior to submitting a sample for judging. Refusing to taste your own chili will be immediate disqualification.

4. **QUANTITY** – Each Cook will make 3 gallons of chili, from one recipe only. No multiple entries from a single cook.
- B. **ONE CHILI PER COOK** – Each head cook is responsible for preparing one pot of chili that he or she intends to be judged and turning in one judging cup from that pot. No more than one judging sample can be taken from any one pot.
- C. **COOKS MUST SIGN NUMBER SLIPS** – Chili cooks must sign their secret number slips in ink with their first and last names at the time cups are issued (secret numbers issued on the day of the event upon check in). Winners will not be eligible if their secret numbers are unsigned when presented. NOTE: Cooks must present their assigned secret numbers to win.
- D. **PROTECT THE JUDGING CUP** - Once judging cups have been issued, each head cook is responsible for his or her judging cup. Cooks must not remove or tamper with the numbers on the outside of the cups. Any marked or altered cup must be replaced prior to turn-in or it will be disqualified.
- E. **FILLING CUPS** – Cups will be filled 1/2 full or to the level designated when cups are distributed.
- F. **CHILI TURN-IN** – Chili will be turned in at the place and time (designated time and place will be when the cups are distributed to each cook).
- G. **PENALTIES** – Failure to comply with rules will result in disqualification of an individual cook for the cook-off. Decisions of the officials(s) are final. In case of disqualification, the Judges monitoring the cook-off immediately will notify the head cook and give a reason for disqualification. In the event disqualification of a cup of chili occurs after judging has started, it is not necessary that the cook be located or given an explanation for the disqualification.

II. CHILI JUDGING RULES

- A. **JUDGING CUPS** – All cups must be identical in color, size, and shape. These cups will be given to you. You will also draw a number.
 1. **PREPARATION** –All cups must be marked with permanent marker on the bottom of the judging cups with the number contestant draws.
- B. **PROTECTION** – Care will be taken by all cup handlers and cooks to avoid damaging cups and/or numbers.
 1. **TAMPERING** – Any cup that appears to have been marked or altered will be referred to the head judge for a ruling concerning disqualification.
 2. **DAMAGED CUP** – If a cup is damaged, a replacement cup can be obtained from the head judge only after the head cook turns in the damaged cup and both number.
 3. **LOST CUP** – If a contestant loses a cup or number, a new cup and number can be issued.
 4. **CHILI JUDGES** - There will be five judges. Judges must be adults (18 years or older).
- C. **TIES** – Ties are to be passed on for further judging.
- D. **JUDGING CRITERIA AND SCORING** – A single score takes into consideration the five criteria for scoring chili:
Aroma, Consistency, Color, Taste, and Aftertaste

- E. **SCORING** – Each cup of chili will be scored on its own merits with a whole number from 0 to 10, 10 being the highest. No pluses (+), minuses (-), fractions or decimals (.5) will be taken into consideration.
- F. **EACH CHILI MUST BE SCORED** – If a judge determines (by aroma, consistency, and/or color) that he/she does not want to taste a chili, that chili still must be given a score.

G. JUDGING THE CHILI

- 1. **JUDGING SHEETS** – The official Judging Sheet must be used for judging. (Ample copies of Judging Sheets will be available.)
- 2. **TURN-IN TIME** – All judging begins at the same time. No chili will be accepted after judging commences. **Turn in time is 11:00 am on October 27, 2018.**
- 3. **CHECKING IN JUDGING CUPS** – As cups are turned in, cups will be placed in boxes for insulated containers, by Runners, large enough to hold at least twelve (5) chili’s per container. These boxes or insulated containers must have sufficient height to be above the tops of the chili cups or be covered at all times while in use, except when chilis are being taken in or out.
- 4. **CUPS FOR JUDGING** – The Runner will remove and randomly mix the cups of chili and then take them to the tables for judging.
- 5. **TASTING CHILI** – Beverages and bite-sized snacks (e.g., crackers, cheese, celery, grapes, etc.) must be supplied to judges to allow them to cleanse their palates between tastes of chili.

III. BOOTH RULES

- A. **SUPPLIES PROVIDED-** Contestants are encouraged to supply their own tent and table however, a tent and one table can be provided if requested on entry form on a first come first serve basis. If you not need a tent or table or will be bringing your own please make note of that on the entry form. If you need power please make note of that on entry form. Spoons, 4-ounce cups, and napkins will be provided for tasting.
- B. **SUPPLIES CONTESTANTS MUST SUPPLY-** Contestants must supply extension cords, chairs for themselves, and supplies to decorate their area.
- C. **DECORATING-** Participants are encouraged to decorate their tent and tables with a theme of their choice. Participants sampling the chili will have a tickets to vote for their favorite chili and their favorite booth. People’s Choice Booth award is \$100.00.
- D. **OTHER-** You may not sell other items. You are welcome to display items and hand out promotional information.

IV. PRIZES

A. JUDGED CHILI		B. PEOPLE’S CHOICE	
1 st Place	\$500	Booth	\$100
2 nd Place	\$250	Chili	\$100
3 rd Place	\$150		