

Matagorda County Fair & Livestock Association

P.O. Box 1803
Bay City, Texas 77404-1803

2023 Barbecue Cook-off Entry Form

Space # _____
Paid: _____
Ck#: _____/Cash
Date: _____

Friday – February 17 & Saturday, February 18, 2023
Entry Deadline is Friday – February 17, 2023, at 12:00 noon.
Entry Fee: \$150 entry fee per spot
Brisket Pay Out Based on Sliding Scale per each 10 Entries
Jack Pot is \$25.00 per entry for Fajita, Beans, Ribs, Dutch Oven Dessert

Check-in Location: Check in in front of the Multi-Purpose Building

Check-in Times: Thursday, February 16, 2023, from 3:00 pm – 6:00pm
Friday, February 17, 2023, from 9:00 am – Noon

Categories: ▪ *Beef Brisket* ▪ *Fajita* ▪ *Ribs* ▪ *Beans* ▪ *Dutch oven Dessert*

Team: _____

Chief Cook: _____ Phone _____

Address: _____

City, Zip: _____

I would like to be notified of future cook-offs: _____yes _____no

Assistant Cooks:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Jack Pot Entries: Please indicate how many entries in each category. EVER entry is \$25.00 per

_____ Fajita _____ Ribs _____ Beans _____ Dutch Oven Dessert

MANDATORY meetings will be held both Friday and Saturday for all cookers. Every team must be represented at these meeting. The release form on the reverse side of the entry form must be signed by all members of your cooking team to participate.

Meat Inspection will be Friday, February 17, 2023, Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Judging Times:

Dutch oven Dessert	Friday, February 17	6:00pm
Fajita	Friday, February 17	7:00pm
Beans	Saturday, February 18	1:00pm
Ribs	Saturday, February 18	2:00pm
Beef Brisket	Saturday, February 18	4:00pm

Matagorda County Fair & Livestock Association 2023 Barbecue Cook-off

RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____, participants in the Barbecue Cook-off Event of the

Matagorda County Fair, Livestock Show & Rodeo, do hereby knowingly and voluntarily release the above referenced event, the Matagorda County Fair & Livestock Exposition Association (Matagorda County Fair & Livestock Association), Board of Directors, members, judges, volunteers, and employees of the Matagorda County Fair & Livestock Association, and Matagorda County, and any other person, firm, or individuals charged and chargeable with responsibility or liability, their heirs, administrators, executors, successors, and assigns from and against any and all claims, lawsuits, demands, damages, loss of services, actions, and causes of action based upon, arising out of, or in any way related to any honors, awards, or rights sought by me as a participant in the Matagorda County Fair, Livestock Show & Rodeo, the conduct of business thereat, the ownership and possession of any honors, awards, or rights, thereby, any negligent act, act of misfeasance or nonfeasance by the Matagorda County Fair & Livestock Association with any honors, awards, and rights, bestowed at said events. Further, I do hereby agree to exonerate, hold harmless, and indemnify such event listed above from all claims that I or my representatives may have against such events(s) past, present or future in connection with such honors, awards and rights. Such indemnification to include all fees (including reasonable attorney fees), costs, and other expenses reasonable incurred by or on behalf of the above referenced event and investigation of or defense against any such claims, lawsuits, demands, actions, or causes or actions. I have read and understand the terms and conditions of this release and indemnity agreement by counsel of my own choosing. I do fully understand the terms of this agreement and do intentionally and voluntarily agree to the same.

_____ Participant Signature	_____ Witness	_____ Date
_____ Participant Signature	_____ Witness	_____ Date
_____ Participant Signature	_____ Witness	_____ Date
_____ Participant Signature	_____ Witness	_____ Date
_____ Participant Signature	_____ Witness	_____ Date

Please note: Participants can witness each other's signatures.

Matagorda County Fair & Livestock Association
2023 Barbecue Cook-off
Rules & Guidelines
Friday February 17 & Saturday February 18

Prizes awarded as follows:

1 st Place Brisket	\$500.00 Cash per 10 entries and Trophy
2 nd Place Brisket	\$250.00 Cash per 10 entries

Showmanship**Good Time Charlie Award****Trophy**

The Good Time Charlie Award is given to encourage a fun, friendly, and overall welcoming experience. Teams will be given a bucket to set out in their area to collect "tips". The monies will be collected at Midnight, Friday February 17 and at Noon on Saturday February 18. The team with the most "tips" collected will win so encourage you tent guests to "tip up". All money collected will benefit the MCFLA Livestock Show and Scholarship Fund.

Events -Jack Pot for Dutch oven Dessert, Fajita, Ribs, Beans-\$25.00 per entry (can enter multiple times)

1 st Place	55% Cash (of total entries per division) and Trophy
2 nd Place	35% Cash (of total entries per division)

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1. Entry deadline is Friday, February 17, at 12:00 noon.
 2. **For reservation of contest space, contact the Fair Office at (979) 245-2454 no later than Thursday, February 2, 2023. All entry forms and fees for reserved spaces MUST be paid for by Thursday, February 9, 2023. After that date, spaces will be released and sold on a first come first serve basis.**
 3. Contestants must be 21 years of age or older. A team consists of one chief cook and no more than four assistants.
 4. Wristbands will be issued to each team member listed on your entry form. Limit of five wristbands per team. If you lose a wristband none will be replaced. Your wristband must be on your wrist. These wristbands are for gate entry for the cook-off only. Admittance into the Fairgrounds will be limited to walk-in gates or paid Fair Membership parking after 9:30 am Saturday, February 18, 2023.
 5. All teams must have a representative present at the mandatory cooks meeting at 5:00pm on Friday evening, and 9:00am Saturday morning in the cook-off area.
 6. **Each team is responsible for their own trash. Boxes, foil pans, etc. shall be taken to the dumpster by the team provided by MCFLA.**
 7. Each team will receive foam trays and containers with lids for food entries. Each of these trays/containers will have double matched theatre ticket, which has been affixed to the tray with tape. The chief cook is responsible for removing it and keeping it in a safe place with all the other ticket entries. The other ticket-half in the sealed envelope will remain with the food entry. You must present this ticket to claim any prize when the winning tickets are announced at the award ceremony.
 8. Cooks are to prepare and cook in as sanitary manner as possible. Cooking conditions are subject to inspection by the MCFLA. Conditions found to be unsanitary will be grounds for disqualification from this cook-off. Fire must be wood or wood substance. NO gas or electric fires are allowed for BBQ meat entries. Beans are exempt. No holes, open fires, or dug pits will be allowed. A fire box will be allowed and must have a safety barrier placed across the top and around the sides of the box. Precautions must be made to prevent fires and accidents.

9. Music bands, and/or sound equipment within your team area is allowed. Sound amplification must be of limited volume so as not to interfere with other cookers. Excessive loud music and/or sounds which interfere with announcements, scheduled live bands and entertainment on stage, or which intrude upon or interfere with the comfort of fellow contestants will **NOT BE ALLOWED NOR TOLERATED**
10. No pyrotechnics or explosives are allowed.
11. The Chief Cook for each team will be responsible for the conduct of this team, guests, or invitees. As well, the Chief Cook will be responsible for his team's compliance with the rules and regulations herein set forth. Any offensive conduct, nudity, lewdness, or any form of vulgarity will **NOT** be allowed, and will be grounds for disqualification from the cook-off. This is a family event. Texas Alcohol Laws will be enforced after hours. **Glass bottles are prohibited on Fairgrounds. Everyone must be 21 to consume alcohol.**
12. Contestants may not sell any food or alcoholic beverages to the public.
13. The Matagorda County Fair & Livestock Association will not be responsible for theft, damage, or injury sustained during the cook-off.
14. **The Committee Chairman reserves the right to make additional rules and regulations as the situations warrant. Decisions of the Barbecue Cook-off Chairman are final.**
15. The release form must be signed by all members of your cooking team to participate.
16. **There will be limited drive thru traffic after 4:00 p.m. Friday, February 17 and Saturday, February 18, 2023.** Vehicle parking in barbecue cook-off area is prohibited. Once you have set up camp, you must move your vehicle to designated areas. Any vehicle left inside the barbecue area will be cause for team disqualification. This includes golf carts, motor vehicles, motorcycles, 3 or 4-wheelers, bicycles, or any type of transportation into the cook-off area, except wheelchairs or apparatus for the handicapped. Please notify in advance if you plan to use a handicap apparatus.
17. **THERE WILL BE NO VEHICLES ALLOWED IN THE COOKOFF AREA! ALL VEHICLES WILL BE MOVED OUTSIDE THE GATE BY 4:00 pm on Friday!**
18. **Animals of any kind are not permitted in any contestant's contest space, nor will any animal be permitted on the Barbecue Cook-off Grounds, except for service animals with proper paperwork. The team will be disqualified if an animal is on the Matagorda County Fairgrounds Barbecue Cook-off premises.**
19. Ice will be made available for sale to the cook-off teams at \$4.00 per bag.
20. Music Bands, and / or sound equipment within your team area is allowed. **HOWEVER**, excessive loud music and / or sounds which interfere with announcements, scheduled live bands and entertainment on stage, or which intrudes upon or interferes with the comfort of fellow contestants will **NOT BE ALLOWED NOR TOLERATED**. Offenders will receive **ONLY ONE (1) warning** from either the Barbecue Chairman, Director, Vice-Chairman or Security Officer and non-compliance will be grounds for disqualification from the Cook-off and immediate removal from the Barbecue Cook-off Grounds.
21. **QUIET TIME is 12:00 A.M. and will be strictly enforced.** All bands, DJ's, etc. must be out of the gate by **11:45pm** or will be locked inside until 6:00a.m. Saturday morning, no exceptions. Gate opens at 6:00 a.m. till 8:00 a.m. to bring in supplies.

22. All protests concerning Matagorda County Fair Entries must be submitted prior to judging, or at the time the offense is noticed and be accompanied by a \$150.00 cash deposit. The deposit will be returned ONLY if the protest is upheld. Once judging has commenced, NO protests will be accepted. The judge's decision is final and not subject for protest. Judging procedures will not be interrupted for protest investigation. The protest will be reviewed by at least five members of the Fair Board. The ruling of the Fair Board Directors will be final. Both sides of the protest must be present at the time of the protest. There will be no anonymous protests accepted. Every contestant, in consideration of his/her entry being accepted by the Matagorda County Fair and Livestock Association, agrees that the conclusion reached by the Fair Board Directors shall be final, without any recourse against the Matagorda County Fair and Livestock Association, Board of Directors, Division Chairman, Superintendent, or Committeeman.
23. Cook-off camps may tear-down and exit the premises following the awards presentation Saturday afternoon. No vehicles will be allowed in till then. **All sites MUST be torn down by NOON on Sunday, February 19, 2023, including rented tents. If not, you will be subject to towing fees/tear down fees.**
24. **NO GAMBLING of any kind will be permitted on the Fairgrounds. This includes cards and dice! Violators will be asked to leave their camp area immediately and will not be permitted back on the grounds until 9:00 am on Sunday, February 19, 2023.**
25. There will be sheriff deputies on duty for the duration of the cook-off to ensure the safety of all participants and visitors to the event. Any violators of the rules set forth by the MATAGORDA COUNTY FAIR AND LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION COOK- OFF COMMITTEE will be given one fair warning to abide by the rules. If this behavior continues you will be asked to leave or if necessary, escorted off the grounds by our officers! If you are asked to leave the grounds or are escorted off the grounds, you will be issued a Criminal Trespassing Warning. Please remember, chief cooks and team members are responsible for the behavior of your team and visitors to your team area! **Misbehavior by members of your team or any visitors to your team area could result in disqualification from the cook-off for your team!** This event is to raise money for the youth of Matagorda County and we as a committee want everyone to have a safe and fun time here at the cook-off!
26. No refunds.

Meat Inspection will be Friday, February 17, 2023, Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Judging Times:

Dutch oven Dessert	Friday, February 17	6:00pm
Fajita	Friday, February 17	7:00pm
Beans	Saturday, February 18	1:00pm
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Awards

GOOD TIME CHARLIE AWARD

The Good Time Charlie Award is given to encourage a fun, friendly, and overall welcoming experience. Teams will be given a bucket to set out in their area to collect “tips”. The monies will be collected at Midnight, Friday February 25 and at Noon on Saturday February 26. The team with the most “tips” collected will win so encourage you tent guests to “tip up”. All money collected will benefit the MCFLA Livestock Show and Scholarship Fund.

BRISKET

Only one cut of meat to be judged per contestant, team, or piece of cooking equipment. Contestants are not allowed to share cooking equipment. No pre-marinated, pre-spiced, or pre-soaked meats are allowed.

Meat inspection will be Friday, February 17 from noon to 4:00 pm. No electric or gas fires allowed. Fires must be wood or wood substance. You may cook with sauce, but do not add sauce, marinade, sop, or juice to meat or container once the meat is prepared for turn-in. No aluminum foil allowed. No garnishing, sauce or other markers allowed. For judging purposes, send ten slices of brisket.

BEANS

Beans must be cooked in a large pot over an LPG, controlled fire. Any kind and only dry beans may be used, no pre-cooked or canned beans. No pressure cookers or other automatic cooking devices may be used. Ingredients must be cooked from scratch on-site. No meat may be used as a major ingredient. Salt pork or bacon may be used for flavoring. When dishing up your beans for the judges, please be sure no meat is in the cup, or it be Disqualified. For judging purposes, send full container.

DUTCH OVEN DESSERTS

All food must be prepared on-site and cooked over a wood fire. Dutch oven fires will have a heat barrier between fire and ground. A firebox surrounding the fire must guard the fire. Dessert-bread, dessert-biscuits, cakes, or pastry can be sourdough or baking powder. All entries must be made from scratch, no prepared mixes. Any fruit ingredient must be dried or fresh; no canned. For judging purposes, send eight servings.

FAJITAS

Contestants must cook a minimum of two slabs of beef fajitas. Fajita skirt cut only may be cooked; “beef for fajitas” is NOT allowed. For judging purposes, send (12) twelve ¼” - ½” strips. No pre-marinated, pre-soaked, or pre-spiced fajita skirt is allowed.

RIBS

Slab pork spareribs only. NO country-style, baby-back, or loin back is allowed. St. Louis style Ribs are acceptable. Turn in ten full ribs cut apart. No pre-marinated, pre-soaked, or pre-spiced ribs are allowed.