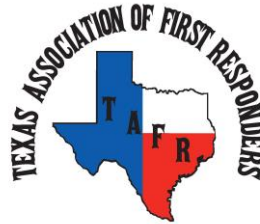


2018

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FIRST RESPONDERS CHARITY WILD GAME COOK-OFF

SANCTIONED BY THE LONE STAR BARBECUE SOCIETY



**LAW ENFORCEMENT
FIREFIGHTER*EMS**

"FIRST TO SHOW...LAST TO GO"™



LONESTAR BARBECUE SOCIETY

Cook-Off Dates and Location

Friday, April 20, 2018 and Saturday, April 21, 2018

Pasadena Municipal Fairgrounds
7902 Fairmont Parkway
Pasadena, Texas 77507

Entry Fee

Each Cook-off Team will pay a fee of \$200.00 for each 40' X 40' space. Make check or money order payable to the **Texas Association of First Responders**. You may also pay online at www.tafr.org

Important Dates

- March 30, 2018 Teams from 2017 will be given priority if entry form and fee is received on or before this date. After this date, Team entries will be assigned priority in the order they are received with fee paid.
- April 11, 2018 Cook-off Team meeting at 7:00pm, Pasadena Fairgrounds (Campbell Hall). You will receive your ID badges, wrist bands, admission tickets and parking passes. You will also be able to purchase cook-off merchandise, portable toilets and ask questions.

Submittal of Entry Forms

Please mail your entry form with payment to:

Texas Association of First Responders Charity Wild Game Cook-Off

12620 FM 1960 West

Suite A4 – Box 255

Houston, Texas 77065

Or scan Entry Form to Email (jmatthews@tafr.org) and pay online at (www.tafr.org)

Set-Up for Cook Teams

- April 18, 2018 The Fairgrounds are only available on Wednesday for set up of professionally installed tents and large pits only. **Due to underground electric and water lines, No tent stakes are allowed...water barrels only!**
- April 19, 2018 Team set-up on Thursday and overnight camping is allowed. The TAFR Fire and Safety Committee will begin Team Booth Inspections at 10:00am until 6:00pm., to assist with Pasadena Fire Marshal Office compliance.
- April 20, 2018 Team set-up must be completed by 12:00 noon and vehicles removed from the aisles and fire lanes of the fenced cook-off area by this time, no exceptions. Any vehicles not removed by this time will be towed at the owner's expense and placed in a designated area in the Cook-off parking lot. Pasadena Fire Marshal Inspections will begin at 10:00am.
- April 21, 2018 Teams must keep their Team space open and occupied until 10:00pm. The Cook-off does not end after the awards are presented.
- April 22, 2018 Team move-out is allowed beginning at 6:00am. **Due to safety concerns, no exceptions allowed before this time.**

Admission to the Cook-Off

Chief Cooks and Assistant Cooks will be given daily color coded wristbands for admittance to and from the entrance gates. There will be no charge for parking.

Friday, April 20, 2018

Private Team Sponsor and Guests

Gates open at 4:00 p.m. All guests who enter will require a pre-paid or complimentary ticket. Law Enforcement Officers, Fire Fighters and EMS will be admitted free with proper credentials. All other guest admission fees purchased at gate on Friday will be \$15.00 each. Children under 12 years old will be admitted free.

Saturday, April 21, 2018

Gates will open to the General Public at 10:00 a.m.

All guests who enter will require an admission fee of \$15.00 for adults, unless a person has a pre-paid or complimentary ticket. Children under 12 years old will be admitted free.

Clean-Up/Tear Down/Move -Out

Sunday, April 22, 2018

Sunday is move-out day beginning at 6:00am, and must be completed the same day. All Teams are responsible for tear down and clean-up of their cooking spaces and areas, and are expected free of trash and debris. Please do not use TAFR Dumpsters to dispose of old equipment, booth adornments, booth facades, or anything else that is not garbage. Tents must be removed from the cook-off area no later than 12:00 noon on Monday, April 23, 2018. All coals/embers must be extinguished before disposal! Do not leave HOT coals or ashes behind when you move out. This has caused a Dumpster fire in the past!!!

Team Rules and Regulations

- A. Team Members are to consist of one (1) Chief Cook and four (4) Assistant Cooks. Each Team will be provided ID Badges to designate the Chief Cook and Assistant Cooks. The ID Badges will **NOT** allow admittance to and from the entrance gates. Daily color coded wristbands must be worn comfortably but snug, so as not to be removed, at all times by the Chief Cook and Assistant Cooks for admittance to and from the entrance gates
- B. Teams will be provided five (5) complimentary tickets for each 40' X 40' space rented. (Note: Additional tickets may be purchased at time Entry Form is submitted and at the Cook's meeting on Wednesday April, 11, 2018 at a discounted price of ten (\$10.00) dollars each. All tickets after that date are fifteen (\$15.00) dollars each.
- C. **No cars or trucks will be allowed in the aisles and fire lanes of the fenced cook-off area after 12:00 noon on Friday, no exceptions.** All cars or trucks not secured in the Team's designated cook-off space shall be parked in the designated parking lot. After 12:00 noon, Team supplies will be moved by shuttle provided by the Texas Association of First Responders. Stickers for vehicles that will remain inside the Cook-off space will be placed in the window and must remain there until the end of the contest.
- D. Due to the amount of space available for each Team, Travel Trailers, Campers, and Motor Homes must fit neatly within the 40'x 40' space. Each Team will be allowed one travel trailer, camper, or motor home per space. Teams requiring additional space for travel trailers, campers, or motor homes, must reserve an additional cook-off space at \$200.00 per space. The living quarters must be self-contained. **Pits must be arranged or separated in the Team space in such a manner that the public cannot walk by and touch or lean on a hot pit.**
- E. **No machines that produce ice will be allowed.** Refrigerated box's that store and keep ice and food product will be allowed.
- F. Generators will **not** be allowed to operate under tents. All generators must be muffled, grounded, and in excellent working condition. If not, the Team will be instructed to turn it off and not allow it to be used during the duration of the cook off. No fuel shall be stored under covered area, near BBQ pits, open flames or any ignition source. Fuel storage must meet the Pasadena Fire Code.
- G. Portable restroom facilities can be ordered for private use in the Team's space.

- H. Any pet brought on premise must be restrained by a leash at all times or contained within the confines of the Team's space and out of public reach or contact. Service Dogs must remain with its owner at all times.
- I. Under no circumstances will any contestant, or member of the public, be allowed to bring onto the grounds: golf carts, motorized recreational vehicles, gators, bicycles, segways, roller skates, skate boards, scooters, motorized coolers, mopeds or any other type of transportation, with the exception of wheelchairs for handicapped individuals. Use of any of the above mentioned items would justify cook team disqualification. Only TAFR Cook-off Officials and working Committee Members will be allowed to operate TAFR Golf Carts.
- J. Teams will be allowed to hire a band for use in their space for the enjoyment of Team members and guests. Teams must maintain sound levels of the music so it is not considered a nuisance to neighboring Teams. **In the event TAFR is hosting a Concert on Saturday Night after the Awards Ceremony, any Team in close proximity to the Concert Venue will be required to lower their noise levels so it is contained in their Booth. All music must be end at 1:00am, or be lowered so it is contained in their Booth.**
- K. The following guidelines are recommended by the City of Pasadena Health Department. All Teams are required to follow these guidelines.
 - 1. A cover is required over all open food preparation areas.
 - 2. Three (3) containers of water must be utilized at all times, one (1) gallon each.
 - a. First Bucket – Soap and Water for washing, unless sink and running water is available.
 - b. Second Bucket – Clean Water for rinsing, unless sink and running water is available.
 - c. Third Bucket – One (1) Cap of bleach per gallon of water for sanitizing.
 - 3. Keep all food covered.
 - 4. Keep cold food stored on ice or refrigerated at all times. The food must be maintained at 45 Degrees Fahrenheit.
 - 5. Heated food must be maintained at 140 degrees Fahrenheit.
 - 6. Smoking tobacco should not be permitted in food serving area.

Guidelines for Pasadena Fire Marshal's Office Rules & Regulations

All Teams must comply with the current Pasadena Fire Marshal's Office rules and regulations, and must complete a compliance checklist provided by the Texas Association of First Responders Fire and Safety Committee in advance of the Pasadena Fire Marshal's Office on-site Inspection on Friday, April 20, 2018. Noncompliance may cause the PFMO to shut your Team space down until corrections are made. At least one (1) Type 10lb. "K" or one (1) 10 lb. ABC per 40' X 40' space must be provided in full view.

Services provided by Texas Association of First Responders

- A. **Public Restroom Facilities** – Public restroom facilities will be supplied by the Texas Association of First Responders at designated areas of the cook-off site.
- B. **Electricity** - Teams will be provided one (1) 20 amp and one (1) 30 amp electrical circuit per space, **except on West fence line**. If you provide your own power plant, it must be in good working order and properly grounded by use of a ground rod as required by the National Electrical Code for additional Team needs.
- C. **TRAVEL TRAILERS, COOLERS, OR OTHER EQUIPMENT:** ALL SHALL FOLLOW THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE GUIDELINES THAT STATES A BREAKER'S LOAD SHOULD NEVER EXCEED 80% OF RATED CAPACITY. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS!
- D. **Gray Water** – Gray Water from dishwashing, cooking and crawfish pots shall not be allowed to be poured out to freely pour out on the ground. Teams must provide a barrel labeled GRAY WATER and all such liquids must be captured and stored in the barrel. TAFR will provide a vacuum truck on Saturday and Sunday mornings to remove the waste. CONDENSATE WATER from coolers and RV drains must be routed directly into the City drain systems or a concealed container.
- E. **Beer & Ice** - Texas Association of First Responders will sell Beer and Ice.
 - 1. Contestants will not be allowed to re-stock beer or ice from outside the cook off.
 - 2. No glass bottles are allowed (**THIS MEANS NO GLASS BEER BOTTLES**). (City of Pasadena Ordinance).
 - 3. Under no circumstance will outside BEER or ICE Vendors be allowed into the BBQ cook off area.
 - 4. The sale of any drinks or food is strictly prohibited by cook teams.
 - 5. Prior to 12:00 noon on Friday, April 20, 2018, cook teams will be allowed to bring in (only) 25 cases of beer and 200 lbs. of ice per space.
 - 6. After 12:00 noon on Friday April 20, 2018, cook teams must purchase beer and ice from TAFR.
 - 7. Team spaces will be inspected at check in or after set up.
 - 8. Under no circumstances are alcoholic beverages to be distributed to the public by contestants.
 - 9. MIDWAY Spaces must have a rear access for Beer and Ice deliveries.

- F. **Trash Pickup** - Trash pick-up will be provided starting on Friday and continue during the course of the Cook-off. Please do not pack trash bags excessively full. Any bags that break will be left for the Team to promptly re-bag for pick-up. All bagged trash shall be placed outside the Team space for pick up. **MIDWAY Spaces must have a rear access for Trash Pick-up. USE ONLY CONTRACTOR GRADE BAGS (3 MIL MINIMUM) FOR YOUR TRASH. ANY NON CONTRACTOR BAGS WILL BE LEFT FOR RE-BAGGING.**
- G. **Water** – Water will be available at each Team space. **Not available on West fence line.**
- H. **Grease** – No Grease of any kind shall be allowed to spill on the Cook-off grounds. All grease must be placed in a spill proof container that will not leak for final placement in the on-site dumpsters.

Lonestar Barbecue Society

- A. LSBS Cook-off rules shall apply with the following exceptions for safety concerns. Please refer to the LSBS brochure for cook-off rules, or access their website @ www.lonestarbarbecue.com
- B. Gas or electricity cannot be used to complete cooking.
- C. Since cook-off grounds are on grass, open fire ground pits shall not be allowed. **A metal pan must be provided and constructed of a minimum of 18 gauge sheet metal and be placed under the firebox of the Bar-B-Q Pits to catch live hot coals which may fall on the ground.** The dimension of the pan shall be such that it shall provide complete coverage beneath any opening under the pit firebox. Holes or dug pits are not permitted.

Brisket Tagging

- A. Friday, April 20, 2018, between the hours of **2:00 pm and 5:00 pm.**
- B. Each cook team will be allowed to tag two (2) briskets per space; only ONE of which will be allowed as an entry.
- C. Only one cut of brisket will be judged per each cook team space.
- D. Brisket must be in vacuum packed packaging from manufacturer before the tagging begins
- E. Pre-cooked, salted, seasoned or marinated meat is not allowed.
- F. No cook team shall start cooking before briskets are tagged.

Wild Game & Seafood Submittals

- A. Team Entries of Wild Game, Seafood, Brisket, Pork Spare Ribs and Chicken may be submitted. In order for the Grand Champion to be qualified for the American Royal Invitational BBQ in Kansas City, MO and the lottery for the Jack Daniels's Invitational, Lynchburg, TN, there must be at least 50 entries in the three basic categories (Brisket, Pork Spare Ribs and Chicken). In order to qualify for the National BBQ Championship, Meridian, TX - the event must have at least 10 teams participating and the top 3 places in each of the basic categories will be invited. Wild Game and Seafood are not recognized as a category.
- B. Teams that do not desire to participate in the Brisket, Pork Spare Ribs and Chicken categories may compete in the Open Wild Game/Seafood categories and be eligible for awards in those two categories only.

- C. **Wild Game Meat Submittals** - Wild Game may be submitted for judging and must be submitted and inspected before cooking. Wild Game is defined as any animal regulated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife, any similar state and/or federal agency and to include white tail deer, mule deer, elk, dove, quail, duck, goose, alligator, antelope, javelina, squirrel, pheasant, Rio Grande turkey, eastern turkey, rabbit, and/or hare. Wild Game must be harvested during a regulated hunting season. Wild game may also include any wild game raised on any game management ranch in the state of Texas and can be any species of African Plains animal and/or game such as axis or fallow deer. Sasquatch is not regulated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife and will be disqualified.
- D. **Fish and/or Seafood Submittals** – Fish and/or Seafood may be submitted for judging and must be submitted and inspected before cooking. Fish and/or Seafood is designated as any game regulated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife, any similar state and/or federal agency, and to include bass, catfish, crappie, crawfish, any fish taken off the coast of Texas and/or shrimp and may have a “seafood” topping or dressing. **Seafood Stuffing in a NON-Seafood vessel will not be considered for judging and will be disqualified.**

Brisket, Pork Spare Ribs and Chicken Submittals

Lonestar Barbecue Society rules apply.

Brisket Cook's will turn in seven (7) full slices, approximately 1/4 to 3/8 Full slices, with the ends of the brisket. If sliced to thick or to thin the cook will be required to correct it.

Pork Spare Ribs Cooks will turn in seven (7) pork spare ribs...St Louis style is okay.

Chicken Cook's will turn in one half of a whole chicken not dis-jointed containing Skin, breast portion, leg, thigh and wing (with or without wing tip)

Judging Process

- A. Meat turn-in times will be announced at the Cook Team meeting at 7:00pm on Wednesday, April 11, 2018.
- B. The judging will be conducted as follows:
1. Wild Game and Seafood Entries will be judged on Friday, April 20, 2018.
 2. Brisket, Ribs and Chicken will be judged on Saturday, April 21, 2018.
- C. Turn-in times will be 30 minutes BEFORE judging (except for brisket). It is the contestant's responsibility to have the entries delivered to the judging area. Competition brisket **MUST** be inspected prior to cutting for turn-in to judging area.
- D. The number of rounds of judging will be determined by the number of teams participating in each category. Quantities will be announced at the cook's meeting. Each team will be required to furnish one team member to judge the preliminary round (**BUT NOT THE FINALS.**) No Head Cooks will be allowed to judge.

- E. Competition entry trays will be available at the Cook-off Judging Area Friday, April 20th, 2018 at 1:00pm in Campbell Hall. Competition trays must be picked up and signed for only by the Chief Cook. Identifying tickets and matching numbers will be attached to the trays.
- F. Each Team is responsible for turning in their entries to LSBS cook-off officials at the Cook-off Judging Area. Teams may have multiple spaces and each additional space will be allowed one set of turn-ins, but will require a separate entry form, Chief Cook and pit per each space.

Cook-off Awards

TAFR Wild Game Cook-off Grand Champion Award

Trophy - Belt Buckle - \$1,000.00 Cash Prize - Wild Game and Seafood Entries - (Wild Game is the Tie-Breaker)

TAFR Wild Game Cook-off Reserve Grand Champion Award

Trophy – \$500.00 Cash Prize - Wild Game and Seafood Entries - (Wild Game is the Tie-Breaker)

LSBS Grand Champion Award

Trophy - Belt Buckle – \$1,000.00 Cash Prize - (Brisket is the first Tie-Breaker, followed by Ribs then Chicken)

LSBS Reserve Grand Champion Award

Trophy – \$500.00 Cash Prize - (Brisket is the first Tie-Breaker, followed by Ribs then Chicken)

Champion Wild Game, Fish/Seafood, Brisket, Pork Spare Ribs and Chicken Awards

First Place	Trophy & \$250.00 Cash Prize
Second Place	Trophy & \$150.00 Cash Prize
Third Place	Trophy & \$100.00 Cash Prize
4 th & 5 th Place	Trophy
6 thru 10 th Place	One Plaque each

Outstanding Display Award

First Place	Trophy
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Longest Distance Traveled Award

First Place	Trophy
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Cleanest Cook Team Area Award

First Place	Trophy
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Most “Eye Catching” BBQ Pit Award

First Place	Trophy
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The “First to Show...Last to Go” Hospitality Award

For the Team that exhibits the most Team Spirit and Hospitality towards the General Public this Cook-off is famous for! Trophy

General Information

- A. Texas Association of First Responders, Inc. and their representatives shall not be responsible or liable for any theft or damage to any participant's equipment or supplies.
- B. The Texas Association of First Responders, Inc. and their representatives, reserve the right to delete, amend, modify and add rules and/or regulations as situations warrant. All decisions regarding individual Team space placement and/or Team space reassignment of the TAFR President or TAFR V.P. - General Chairman of the Wild Game Cook-off, and deemed in their estimation to be what is best for the Wild Game cook-off, shall be final.
- C. **Consumption of alcohol by minors is illegal and will not be permitted on Pasadena Municipal Fairgrounds property. Individuals of teams caught making alcohol available to minors will be excluded from this and all future competitions.**
- D. Texas Association of First Responders may provide Entertainment on Saturday after the Awards Ceremony. In that circumstance, Teams will be required to lower their music sound level at a designated time as not to conflict with the Entertainment and/or Awards Ceremony.
- E. Those attending or participating in the Wild Game Cook-off are required to wear appropriate clothing at all times. (No one will be allowed without shoes or shirts.)
- F. No glass bottles or glasses are allowed on the Cook-off grounds. (City of Pasadena Ordinance) Liquor in bottles must be kept out of sight.
- G. No one will be asked to leave a Team booth or cook-off area for the duration of the time TAFR occupies the Pasadena Fairgrounds unless it is determined to be necessary by both Security Officers and Texas Association of First Responders Officials due to an individual's conduct. Once a person leaves the cook-off area for the parking area, you will be asked to proceed to your car and leave. No loitering will be allowed in the parking areas.
- H. Cook Teams **are not permitted to charge** for entry into their assigned space(s) during the Cook-off.
- I. Cook Teams **are not permitted to sell ANY items** within the confines of their assigned areas during the Cook-off, unless approved by TAFR officials first.
- J. If it is determined by the TAFR President or TAFR V.P. - General Chairman of the Wild Game Cook-off that a Team did not adequately represent the image of the TAFR Wild Game Cook-off or purposely created a distraction to neighboring Teams or to the Public, the above stated Cook-off Officials will determine if a Team will be allowed to continue or return. **All decisions will be final.**
- K. **Repair costs for any damaged City of Pasadena Utilities or Pasadena Convention Center, Pasadena Fairgrounds, and its buildings, structures or equipment, will be the responsibility of the Cook Team!!!**