



KING OF THE COUNTY BBQ CHALLENGE RULES & REGULATIONS 2026

- Set up on the day of the event – 7:00 a.m. Must be completed by 9:30 a.m.
- Judging starts at 12:30 p.m. Samples must be ready in containers and delivered to the barbecue judging area by 1:00 p.m. for chicken, 1:30 p.m. for Ribs and 2:00 p.m. for Chef's Choice. Late entries will be disqualified.
- Presentation of awards will be at 4:00 p.m.
- Each contestant/team will be assigned a cooking space. Equipment shall not exceed the team's assigned cooking space. Assigned spaces are 10' x 10'. A second 10' x 10' space can be purchased for an additional fee of \$65. Please refer to the application for details.
- Contestants shall provide all needed equipment and supplies, including a fire extinguisher. (*Extinguisher must meet the Contra Costa County Food Vendor Operations Requirements.*) The fire extinguisher shall be near all cooking devices. Contestants who do not have a fire extinguisher on site will NOT be allowed to participate. INITIAL _____
- Contestants will also provide their own tables, water and soap for hand washing, chairs, and shade cover, if needed.
- Meats allowed in competition are pork or beef ribs, chicken, and Chef's Choice. Chef's Choice can be either chicken, beef, pork, sausage, vegetable type side dish or dessert. For ribs and chicken – both wet and dry are allowed. If supplying samples of wet ribs or chicken for judging, please apply sauce directly to meat. No sauce in containers or pooled in containers will be allowed. Presentation is optional for ribs and chicken. Presentation will be part of the judging process only in the Chef's Choice judging. Please see below for Chef's Choice information. INITIAL _____
- Food cannot be given away or sold to the public due to Contra Costa Health Code Regulations and is prepared for judge's consumption only. Portions should be small and be in portion-controlled containers supplied by the Chamber of Commerce. INITIAL _____
- Fires shall be wood, wood pellets or charcoal. **Gas and electric grills will not be permitted or electronically fed augers when using wood pellets.** INITIAL _____
- It is the responsibility of the contestant to see that the assigned cooking space is clean and orderly following the contest. All fires must be extinguished, and equipment removed from the site. It is imperative that clean-up be thorough. (Coal buckets will be provided).
- There will be no refund of entry fees for any reason. All entry fees must be paid in advance of the event deadline. Deadline for entry fees is June 5, 2026.

- Please provide portions to serve up to eight (8) judges. The Chamber of Commerce will supply containers. One (1) container will be provided for each turn-in. See below for Chef's Choice information.
- Prizes will be awarded each day on Saturday and Sunday for first place through third place. First Place – Trophy and \$200; Second Place – Trophy and \$100; Third Place – Trophy and \$50. There will be three (3) awards for ribs, three (3) awards for chicken and three (3) awards for Chef's Choice.

CHEF'S CHOICE CATEGORY

See below for the rules regarding the Chef's Choice category ONLY. This can be meat, vegetable side dish or dessert.

- Presentation will be part of the judging. Let your creative juices flow!
- Meats allowed: beef, pork, chicken, sausage
- Meat MUST be cooked. Raw or uncooked product will be disqualified.
- Side dishes such as vegetables, potatoes or beans are allowed. Some folks have a great side dish that they prepare and would like to have judged.
- Must have servings for up to 8 judges.
- Must be cooked and prepared on-site and stay on site.
- Any garnish can be used – anything goes!!
- Not required to use the Chamber supplied 9" x 9" turn-in containers. You can use any container of your choosing.
- Limit the turn-in to an overall size of 18" x 18" x 18" so that one person can carry your samples without assistance.
- Have fun and be creative!!
- Please refer any questions to the Martinez Chamber of Commerce at (925) 228-2345.

In addition to the above, the Martinez Chamber of Commerce wants this family and friends event to be a fun time for all. The following are general public and safety concerns that **MAY CAUSE EVICTION AND DISQUALIFICATION:**

- Excessive use of alcohol or public intoxication causing a public disturbance.
- Serving alcohol to the general public.
- Selling of samples or giving samples to the general public.
- Use of illegal controlled substances.
- Excessive noise from speakers or PA systems.
- Fighting or other disorderly conduct.
- Foul/unacceptable/abusive or any language that causes a disturbance to others.
- Theft, dishonesty or cheating or any act involving moral turpitude.
- No team name can be used, that is or can be construed to be inappropriate in a family setting.

I have read and agree with the Rules and Regulations and will abide by these Rules and Regulations.
 (Please sign and date below)

Contestant/Team Leader _____

Date _____