# BAYOU BATTLE: MARDI GRAS COOK-OFF

# **RULES**

#### **General Information**

- Event Date: February 7, 2026
- Location: Kingwood Town Center
- Entry Fee: \$25 per team (covers all categories: Gumbo, Jambalaya, and Booth Decoration)
- Categories:
  - Best Gumbo
  - Best Jambalaya
  - Best Decorated Booth
- Prizes:
  - Trophies for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each category
  - o 1st place winners also receive a \$100 Amazon gift card

# **Cooking Guidelines**

# 1.Ingredients:

- All ingredients must be provided by the cooking teams.
- No pre-cooked or pre-prepared ingredients are allowed (except for spices, sauces, and pre-marinated/seasoned proteins).
- Teams must prepare their dishes on-site.

# 2. Cooking Equipment:

 Teams are responsible for bringing all necessary cooking equipment, including pots, burners, utensils, and tables.

# 3. Food Safety:

- Maintain proper food safety practices, including keeping cold items below 40°F and hot items above 140°F.
- The judging committee reserves the right to disqualify teams not practicing proper food safety.

## 4. Serving:

- Each team must prepare enough food for taste testing attendees.
- Teams should provide bite-sized portions for attendees tasting. Food will be served at 12:00PM. Serving cups and spoons will be provided.

# 5. Setup and Cleanup:

- Teams may begin setting up at 8:00 AM.
- Teams are responsible for cleaning their area at the end of the event.

#### **Booth Decoration Guidelines**

- Each team is encouraged to decorate their booth in a Mardi Gras theme.
- Decorations must be family-friendly and safe.
- Teams should ensure their booth does not block walkways or other booths.



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## **Judging and Scoring**

# 1.Judges:

• All taste testing attendees will cast votes to judge each dish and booth.

## 2. People's Choice:

- Taste testing attendees will be given one ticket for Jambalaya, one for Gumbo, and one for Best Decorated Booth. They will vote by placing their tickets in the appropriate bucket, at the provided voting table.
- Votes from taste testers will determine the winners in each category.

#### 3. Announcement:

• Winners will be announced at 2:30 PM.

#### **Additional Rules**

- Teams must adhere to the event timeline. Late entries will be disqualified.
- Teams exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct will be disqualified.
- The event organizers reserve the right to modify these rules at any time.

#### **Contact Information**

For questions or special requests, please contact Jamie Moyer @ jmoyer@bloomconsultingco.com

We look forward to your participation in the Bayou Battle: Taste of Mardi Gras Cookoff! Let the good times roll!

