

“Chili Cookoff On the River” Cooking Rules

(Modeled on the Rules of CASI (Chili Appreciation Society International))

1. **CHILI COOKED ON SITE** – All chili must be prepared in the open and cooked from scratch on site the day of the cookoff. Cooking teams can consist of up to 4 members, 18 years or older, including a Team Captain.
2. **CHILI COOKED FROM SCRATCH** – “Scratch” is defined as starting with 30 #'s of raw meat. No marinating is allowed. Commercial chili powder is permissible, but complete commercial chili mixes (“just add meat” mixes that contain premeasured spices) are NOT permitted.
 - a. **NO FILLERS IN CHILI** – beans, macaroni, rice, hominy, etc. are NOT permitted.
 - b. **SANITATION** – Cooks are to prepare and cook chili in as sanitary a manner as possible. Any Team that fails to maintain sanitary cooking conditions will be immediately disqualified, without any reimbursement or refund whatsoever. The contents of the cooking booth will be immediately disassembled and removed by the Team. The Team will immediately dispose of all of any food products in their possession and will not be allowed to serve any food products or chili to anyone.
 - c. **INSPECTION OF COOKING CONDITIONS** – Cooking conditions are subject to constant and continuing inspection by the “Chili Cookoff On the River” Moderator and Staff. Failure to comply with any instructions from the Moderator or Staff is subject to immediate disqualification, without any reimbursement or refund whatsoever and the Team will not be allowed to serve chili to anyone.
 - d. **COOKS MUST HAVE TO TASTE THEIR CHILI** – At the discretion of the Moderator, a cook may be required to remove the lid from the chili cup and taste their chili before turning it in for judging. (Refusal to do so will lead to immediate disqualification)
3. **ONE CHILI PER COOK** – Each head cook is responsible for preparing only one pot of chili which is to be judged. No more than one judging sample can be taken from any one pot.
4. **JUDGING**- Judging of the chili will be in the blind method also recommended by CASI.
5. **COOKS MUST SIGN NUMBER SLIPS** – Chili cooks must sign their secret ticket slips in ink with their first and last names at the time the cups are issued. A cook will not be eligible to win, (place in the top three) if their secret ticket is unsigned when presented. Cooks **MUST** present their signed secret ticket to win.
6. **PROTECT THE JUDGING CUP** – Once judging cups are issued, team captains are responsible for the judging cup. The ticket on the outside of the cup must not be removed or tampered with. A marked or altered cup must be replaced prior to pick-up or it will be disqualified.
7. **FILLING CUPS** – cups must be filled to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch from the top of the cup.
8. **CHILI TURN-IN** – Cups of chili to be judged will be picked up from the booths promptly at a designated time.
9. **PYROTECHNICS** – No chili contestant may discharge firearms or use pyrotechnics or explosives at the chili cookoff. Contestants discharging firearms, pyrotechnics or explosives will be disqualified.
10. **AUTHORITY** – If any interpretations or decisions are necessary, they will be handled by the Moderator. The Moderator’s rulings will be binding and final.

11. **PENALTIES** – Failure to comply with these rules will result in immediate disqualification of an individual cook for the cookoff. Decisions of the Moderator are final. In case of disqualification, the team captain will be immediately notified. In the event disqualification of a cup of chili occurs after judging has started, there will be no explanation for the disqualification.
12. **FIRE EXTINGUISHER** – Each cooking team is required to have in the booth a 2A/10BC fire extinguisher with a current inspection tag. The fire extinguisher in each booth will be inspected by a designated person from the David Crockett Fire Company No. 1.

“Chili Cookoff On the River” Other Information

Prizes will be awarded to the 1st Place, 2nd Place and 3rd Place Winners in the contest.

Online applications available at www.stjosephgretna.com OR applications can be picked up M-F 9 a.m. - Noon at:

St. Joseph Church Office
610 Sixth Street
Gretna, LA 70053
(504.368.1313)

Simply print and fill out the application. Write a \$100 check to: “St. Joseph Restoration Fund.”

Return the application to the St. Joseph Church Office
OR

At night or on weekends, drop in the metal “Drop Box” on right side of door at the church office.

Upon receipt of the completed Cooking Team Application and fee, the team will receive a packet including a wristband for each team member and a total of two (2) Parking Permits for a designated parking area. Fee is non-refundable once teams are accepted into the competition.

Each cooking team will be furnished an open 8’ square booth made of barricades with a booth number sign. Each team must furnish their own cooking equipment, table and chairs. It is permissible to erect a canopy over your booth, but it cannot exceed 10’ square. Bowls, spoons and napkins will be supplied for each team. Teams are encouraged to display a reasonably sized banner or logo that identifies their team.

No team will be allowed to have outside music in their booth.

Teams will be allowed to bring in alcoholic beverages for consumption by their team members only. No glass bottles allowed on the batture at any time. Ice chests restricted to cooking areas. For liability reasons, teams will be prohibited from distributing alcoholic beverages to the general public. There will be reasonably priced beer, wine and drink concessions open once the general public enters the grounds.

The Chili Committee reserves the right to remove anyone from the river batture area for any reason. Team cooperation and good sportsmanship is expected and encouraged. We are happy that the Gretna Police Department will be in attendance to enjoy the day with us!

This cookoff is not won by popular vote, but by a blind method of judging. Be a good “chili-head” and get your application in now!