

Bronteoberfest Cook-Off Rules



The promoter/organizer is Restoring Bronte Foundation (hereafter known as RBF.) The promoters/organizers have the responsibility to select judges for their contest. The promoters/organizers may not cook in the contest.

Participant/contestant

A participant/contestant is any group or individual (hereafter known as a team) cooking in the Bronteoberfest (BFT) contest with the intent of preparing and cooking barbecue and other items for judging in said contest. Each team will be comprised of a head cook and as many assistants as needed. RBF recognizes one head cook from each team. All participants and judges must be 18 years of age if cash prizes are awarded.

Contest Officials

RBF contest official(s) (hereafter known as an official) is/are the person/persons who are assigned to manage the judging area during the contest. These officials enforce RBF rules and follow RBF procedure.

Entry Fees

The entry fee is \$120.00. This qualifies you for one (1) entry in each of the meat categories (chicken, ribs, and brisket.) and gets you two (2) wristbands and one (1) parking pass. The entry fee for the three (3) optional jackpots (beans, desert, and jalapeno poppers) is \$25 each.

Equipment

Each team will supply all the equipment necessary for the preparation and cooking of their entry, including a cooker, wood, or wood products. For contest barbecue meats, only wood and wood products are allowed as heat sources; however, a barbecue pit may include gas or electricity for starting the combustion of wood or wood products but NOT to complete cooking. Cookers that use electricity to run rotisseries or similar non-heating devices are allowed. Cookers that use pellets and an electric heating coil (e.g., Traeger Grills) are not permitted. No team may share a cooker or grill with any other team. NO OPEN FIRES ARE ALLOWED.

Campsites

Each team will be responsible for the cleanup of their campsites. Cookers may stay until Sunday. All cooking grounds must be cleared by 12 noon on Sunday. Each team will be responsible for their team members and guests.

Bronteoberfest is a family event. No lewdness or nudity in cook-off grounds. Excessive use of alcoholic beverages or use of illegal substances will be grounds for disqualification, without refund.

Only one (1) vehicle per team will be permitted in the cook-off area. All other vehicles can be parked outside of the cook-off area in the designated parking areas. Each team will receive one (1) free parking pass with entry. This must be displayed on the vehicle at all times.

Each member of the team MUST have a wristband. This wristband will get you into all events, including live music area, beer/wine garden, and cook-off awards area. Each team will receive two (2) wristbands with their entry. All team members must wear a wristband at all times. Additional wristbands can be purchased in advance for \$15 for 13 & up and \$10 12 & under, with same day pricing being \$20 for 13 & up and \$10 for 12 & under(with 3 & under being free).

Teams may begin setting up their campsites any time after 10 AM on Friday. Teams must be in place and set up by Friday at 6 PM.

Spots will be assigned. There are limited spots with full hook ups. These spots will be first made available to the previous year's team, then any remaining spots will be assigned by RBF officials by using the waiting list system. Full hook up RV spots with sewer are \$60 for Friday and Saturday nights. Full hook up RV spots without sewer are \$40 for Friday and Saturday nights. RV spots without hook-ups are \$20 for Friday and Saturday nights.

Each campsite must have an ABC fire extinguisher on hand.

Meat preparation and inspection

Each team is responsible for bringing their own meat. All meat will be cooked on site with no pre-marinating, injecting or pre-seasoning allowed. RBF officials reserve the right to inspect any team's meat if they feel a violation of the rules has occurred. Meat may be seasoned or marinated after 6 PM on Friday.

Cooks are to prepare barbecue in a sanitary manner as possible.

Cook's meeting

There will be a mandatory cook's meeting at 9 am on Saturday morning at the pavilion.

Categories

The main competition will consist of the following three meats, beef brisket, pork spare ribs and chicken. In addition there will be three optional jackpots (beans, dessert, and jalapeño poppers.) You must be a member of a cook-off team to enter any jackpot contest.

Double tickets

Bronteoberfest will use a double-blind ticket system. This system assures a fair and unbiased competition. The system requires that two tickets bearing the same number be utilized, one firmly attached to the bottom of the judging container or side of a cup in a manner that hides the number, and the other ticket easily removed by the head cook for retention. Winning numbers will not be revealed until time to announce each place in each meat category. At that time, the secret numbers attached to the container will be announced. Teams must present their portion of the ticket to claim their winnings.

Product Containers

Entries will be submitted in styrofoam containers provided by RBF. No garnishes are permitted in the containers. All judging containers should be clean and free of any markings. 1 piece of plain foil can be added to the bottom of the container to prevent burning the Styrofoam.

Turn-in Quantities

The RBF contest official or designated representative will inspect all trays at the time of turn-in to assure compliance with the turn-in criteria. Meats may be cooked with sauces and/or other liquids, but once the cooking is complete, sauces and/or liquids may not be added once put into tray.

Chicken:

One half (1/2) fully jointed chicken including the skin, breast, wing, thigh and drumstick. A wingtip does not have to be present for an acceptable entry. In addition to the half chicken, there should be ten (10) bite size pieces in the box. The backbone can be cut out if necessary. No cornish game hens allowed.

Pork Spare Ribs

Seven (7) ribs, bone-in, meat side up. St Louis cut spare ribs are an acceptable entry. However, baby back ribs, loin ribs, or country style ribs are not acceptable entries.

Beef Brisket

Seven (7) slices that fill the width of the container, about 3/8th inches thick or the approximate width of a #2 wooden school pencil. The fat cap of the brisket may be cut off after cooking. If the slices are too long, curl the meat ends around the sides of the box in a U shape.

Beans

The bean jackpot is open to any type of bean. There may be other items in the cup with the beans. However, non-bean items must not be larger than the size of a bean. Also, the contents of the cup should be at least 70% beans. The cup should be filled to at least half of the cup. Beans must be made on site.

Dessert

Desserts must be cooked, and they must be cooked on site. The use of ovens or microwaves is prohibited. They may have sauces or toppings, but they too must be prepared on site. The idea is campfire desserts.

Jalapeno Poppers

Poppers must be cooked on site over an open flame and not smoked. Poppers can be cleaned prior but the final prep of putting them together must be done on site. Submit six poppers for judging. Must use a jalapeño pepper only, no other peppers allowed. All ingredients must be inside or on the jalapeño. Dipping sauces and side condiments will not be considered by the judges.

Turn-in times

All judging will be done on Saturday. Turn in times for each category will be set by the contest officials. RBF contest officials are authorized to make changes to these times in the event of an emergency and with full notification of all teams in the contest.

A window of five minutes before and after the set turn in times will be recognized, for a total of 10 minutes. Product containers received at any time before or after each turn in window will not be accepted for judging and will be considered to be a disqualification.

11AM- DESSERTS

11:30- BEANS

12- CHICKEN

12:30: JALAPENO POPPERS

1-RIBS

2-BRISKET

Judging

Judging will take place at the Bronte park community center.

Judges will score each entry based on appearance, color, aroma, tenderness, and taste. Each category will be awarded points on a scale of 2 to 10. Taste, being the most important, will be on a scale of 2 to 20. A score of two is the lowest score any judge can give a product. Any entry that is disqualified will receive a score of one in each category. Judges will score each entry immediately after it is tasted. Judges will not compare entries to assign scores. Judges will use an approved RBF Bronteoberfest score sheet to record their assigned scores for each entry.

The total points awarded in each of the five judging categories will be added together to produce a total score for the entry.

Grand & Reserve Champion

Grand champion and reserve will be calculated by a point system. Each team will be awarded points according to how they place in each event. The team with the highest points will be awarded grand champion, followed by reserve.

Points are assigned based on the following for each category:

1st-10 pts

2nd-9 pts

3rd-8 pts

4th- 7 pts

5th-6 pts

6th- 5 pts

7th- 4 pts

8th-3 pts

9th- 2 pts

10th- 1 pt

Winners & Prizes

Winners and prizes will be announced at 5 PM on Saturday in the Bronte park pavilion.

The top four places in the meat categories (brisket, ribs, and chicken) will receive the following cash prizes.

Beef brisket:

1st- \$350 & Plaque

2nd-\$250 & Plaque

3rd- \$150 & plaque

4th- \$100 & plaque

5th- \$75 & plaque

Pork Ribs & Chicken :

1st- \$300 & Plaque

2nd- \$200 & Plaque

3rd- \$100 & Plaque

4th- \$75 & Plaque

5th- \$50 & Plaque

Winners in the beans, dessert, and jalapeño poppers jackpots will receive 50% of the total pot, with the other 50% going towards the RBF Bronteoberfest charity event.

Grand champion and reserve champion will receive trophies along with \$500 and \$250, respectively.

Tie Breakers

In the event of a tie, the team with the highest score in taste will be awarded the win. If a tie persists, then the winner will be determined by the higher score in the following order: appearance, tenderness, aroma, then color.

If a tie should happen for the grand champion, then the tiebreaker to determine the winner will be the higher score in brisket. If the tie persists, then it will be determined by the higher score in ribs, followed by chicken.

Disqualifications

If a container is found to be in violation of these rules, then it will be disqualified at the sole discretion of the RBF contest officials. Marked containers are not permitted and will be disqualified by the RBF contest officials. Chicken entries that are deemed to be raw by the RBF contest officials will be disqualified. Entries that are disqualified will be awarded a score of one in all scored categories by the contest officials for each participating judge. The decision of the RBF contest official concerning entry disqualification is final. Judges can only give a one to an entry if directed to do so by the RBF contest officials.

Miscellaneous

The event will continue rain or shine. No refunds will be given.

Contest officials reserve the right to amend these rules as they see fit, with full notification of all teams in the contest.

Double entry into a competition is permitted. The team will have to pay an entry fee for each entry. Each entry will be treated as a separate team for judging purposes. Each entry must have a different team name.

