



2025 Ellinger Chamber of Commerce BBQ Cook-off

May 23 – 24, 2025

FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIALS...Anything but BBQ!:

* Margarita, Chips & Salsa, Entree and Dessert

\$80 for all 4 categories; or \$25 entry fee per category

SATURDAY CATEGORIES:

* Farmer's Breakfast, Bloody Mary and Beans

\$60 for all 3 categories; or \$25 entry fee per category

* Chicken, Pork Spare Ribs, Pork Butt and Brisket

\$175 for all 4 meat categories; or \$50 entry fee per category

Friday: Margarita	Entries will be judged on taste and showmanship (container / presentation). 10 individual cups will be provided and used for judges. Designated area for drink presentation setup in the ECC Main Hall. May use any container; however no distinguishable marks or team name/logo. Must be 21 to participate in the contest or to be a judge. Officials are at liberty to check for ID.	6:45 pm Set Up Opens, 7:00 pm TURN-IN TIME Double Glass Doors open at 6:45 pm for setup and it must be completed by 7:00 pm .
Friday: Chips & Salsa	A three compartment container will be provided. Lid must close. It is not required that the dish be cooked on site.	6:50-7:00 pm TURN-IN TIME
Friday: Entree	A single compartment container will be provided. Lid must close. Dipping sauces allowed. Only edible items should be submitted for judging, with the exception of the provided condiment cup. Label cards will be provided to identify your dish. It is not required that the dish be cooked on site.	7:20-7:30 pm TURN-IN TIME
Friday: Dessert	A single compartment container will be provided. Lid must close. Dipping sauces allowed. Only edible items should be submitted for judging, with the exception of the provided condiment cup. Label cards will be provided to identify your dish. It is not required that the dish be cooked on site.	7:20-7:30 pm TURN-IN TIME
Saturday: Farmer's Breakfast	Requires the use of a Tomato ingredient. (Examples: fresh tomato, salsa, ketchup, tomato paste, etc) Breakfast must be prepared on one of the two ECC blocks, and may use any method of preparation. Entries will be judged on taste, presentation, and use of the tomato ingredient. A single compartment container will be provided. Only edible items should be submitted for judging, with the exception of the provided condiment cup. Lid must close. Label cards will be provided to identify your dish.	8:05 - 8:15 am TURN-IN TIME
Saturday: Bloody Mary	Entries will be judged on taste and showmanship (container / presentation). 10 individual cups will be provided and used for judges. Designated area for drink presentation setup in the ECC Main Hall. May use any container; however no distinguishable marks or team name/logo. Must be 21 to participate in the contest or to be a judge. Officials are at liberty to check for ID.	9:15 am Setup Opens, 9:30 am TURN-IN TIME Double Glass Doors open at 9:15 am for setup and it must be completed by 9:30 am
Saturday: Pinto Beans	Entries will be judged on taste, pinto beans should be the main ingredient. One 20 oz cup will be provided. Lid must close.	11:20 - 11:30 am TURN-IN TIME
Saturday: Chicken	Turn in one halved chicken, uncut. Lid must close. Entries judged on appearance, texture and taste.	11:50 am - 12:00 pm TURN-IN TIME
Saturday: Pork Spare Ribs	Turn in up to 10 ribs. Lid must close. Entries judged on appearance, texture and taste.	12:50 - 1:00 pm TURN-IN TIME
Saturday: Pork Butt	Turn in up to 15 bite-sized pieces and up to 10 slices (any length). Lid must close. Entries judged on appearance, texture and taste.	1:50 - 2:00 pm TURN-IN TIME
Saturday: Beef Brisket	Turn in up to 15 bite-sized pieces and up to 10 slices (any length). Lid must close. Entries judged on appearance, texture and taste.	2:50 - 3:00 pm TURN-IN TIME

**All winners for Friday & Saturday events will be announced during Saturday Awards Ceremony
(4:30 pm Non-Meat AWARDS & 5:45 pm Meat AWARDS)**

2025 Ellinger Chamber of Commerce BBQ Cook-off

May 23 – 24, 2025



REGULATIONS & SHOWMANSHIP THEME

Showmanship Theme: Hillbilly Holidays (You pick the holiday!)

All winners for Friday & Saturday events will be announced during Saturday Awards Ceremony (4:30 pm Non-Meat AWARDS & 5:45 pm Meat AWARDS)

1. **MANDATORY Chief Cooks' Meeting at 10:00 am, Saturday, May 24 inside the ECC Main Hall.** Judging containers will be distributed at this meeting. The Chief Cook will be required to sign all tickets at the time of container pickup.
2. **Secret Double Ticket Numbering:** Two tickets with the same number will be used for each category. One ticket firmly attached to the top of the judging tray which hides the number and the other ticket easily removed by the Head Cook and signed. Winning ticket numbers in each category will be announced at Saturday Awards Ceremony. Must show signed ticket to judges to confirm winning.
3. **Judging Opportunity:** Each team will have the option to provide one judge for the cook-off. Categories to be judged will be decided by a random drawing at the chief cooks' meeting. *No person may judge more than one category.*
4. **Turn-in Guidelines:**
 - A. Concealed official entry ticket should be undisturbed on the outside lid of each entry. Lid must close.
 - B. No foil or sauce in chicken, pork spare ribs, pork butt or beef brisket containers.
 - C. Promptly turn in containers at the Double Glass Doors of the ECC Main Hall.
 - D. **An official clock will be posted at the turn-in table. Turn in window begins 10 minutes before published turn in time. (Example: Turn in window 7:20-7:30 pm. Clock turns to 7:30:00 doors will be locked and no other entries will be accepted. Entries at 7:30:01 will NOT be accepted).**
5. Meat may be pre-seasoned.
6. Sauces may be used during cooking, but should not be submitted for judging.
7. The Team Chief Cook is responsible for the behavior of their team.
8. Each team will furnish all needed equipment and supplies.
9. ALL FIRES MUST BE CONTAINED. NO HOLE or DUG pits are permitted.
10. **PIT** - Any commercial or homemade, trailered or untrailered, pit or smoker normally used for competitive barbeque. A BBQ pit may include gas or electricity for starting the combustion of wood or wood products but NOT to complete cooking. NO gas, electric or pellet grills will be allowed for beef, pork, ribs or chicken.
11. Any cooking source may be used for Friday Night Categories, Round One of Chopped Challenge, Farmer's Breakfast, and Bean Contest.
12. All cooking facilities for the cook-off must be located on one of the two ECC blocks, EXCEPT for the Friday Night events.
13. The covered pavilion near the glass door entrance will not be available to cook-off participants.
14. RVs using generators will be allowed on the block across from FM 2503.
15. A limited number of 110-RV hook-ups are available on a **first-come, first-served** basis for a fee of \$100 per night, per RV. You must supply your own power cords, hoses, faucet splitters, etc. RVs on the main block **must be removed by 6 am Sunday morning**. They may be parked on the block across FM 2503.
16. NO FIREARMS ALLOWED
17. Contest committee RESERVES THE RIGHT to make additional regulations as situations warrant.
18. ALL DECISIONS of the COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN and JUDGES are FINAL.

Registration and Payment: Send completed registration forms and payment to

Mail: Ellinger Chamber of Commerce Attn: BBQ Cook-off PO Box 37 Ellinger, TX 78938

Onsite: Friday, May 23 at 4:30 pm-6:30 pm, or Saturday, May 24 at 8:00-9:00 am. Inside the double glass doors of the ECC Main Hall. **Venmo** to @EllingerTexas **Email:** ellingtexas@hotmail.com

Contact Information: Paula Urban, BBQ Cook-off Chairman, 713.252.2774 (text any time, call after 6 pm weekdays and any time on weekends) or send email to EllingerBBQ@gmail.com

We are always looking for new teams, so feel free to forward this information and entry forms.



2025 Ellinger Chamber of Commerce BBQ Cook-off

May 23 – 24, 2025

BBQ Cook-off Best Overall Guidelines

During the Awards Announcements on Saturday, May 24, 2025 at 5:45 pm, the top 10 places for these categories will be called: Chicken, Pork Spare Ribs, Pork Butt and Brisket. **The only way to win the Best Over All Category is by competing in all 4 meat categories.**

Each of the 10 places will receive points based on their place, and the points will be calculated to determine the Best Overall Winner. The Best Overall Winner will win a cash prize.

Points will be awarded as shown in the chart below.

In order to award the Best Overall Category, each team announced should come forward to claim their place and points in the Best Overall calculation. Officials will check the signature on winning tickets to award the points to the correct team.

Tickets are signed at container pickup to designate the Chief Cook name. In the event that a team enters multiple entries per category, they will be assigned a Team Name #1, Team Name #2, etc. Each team should determine the entry they want turned in with their different Team # tickets. Officials will be able to determine the team that receives the correct number of points based on the signature and team name on the ticket.

In the event that a tie occurs, the determining factor will be which team places highest in the Brisket category. For example, if Team A and Team B tied for Best Overall, the Officials will review Team placement for Brisket. If Team A placed 3rd in Brisket and Team B placed 8th in brisket, the Best Overall would be awarded to Team A.

ALL DECISIONS of the COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN and JUDGES are FINAL.

Team Placement	Points Awarded
10th place	1 point
9th place	2 points
8th place	3 points
7th place	4 points
6th place	5 points
5th place	6 points
4th place	7 points
3rd place	8 points
2nd place	9 points
1st place	10 points



2025 Ellinger Chamber of Commerce CHOPPED CHALLENGE

May 23 - 24, 2025



Pre-Registration is required to participate. Limited Spots.

\$60 Early Registration: thru Monday, May 19, 2025

\$75 Late Registration: Tuesday, May 20 - Friday, May 23, 2025

Check In/On Site Registration Friday, May 23 from 4:30-6:30 pm

MANDATORY Chief Cooks' Meeting, Friday 7:45 pm under Main Hall Pavillion

ECC will provide an overview of the event rules, and answer questions. Judging containers and first round of secret ingredient items will be distributed at this meeting.

<p><u>FRIDAY, MAY 23</u></p> <p><u>CHOPPED CHALLENGE ROUND 1:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Participants will receive 6 secret ingredients that are required to be used in the competition dish. * Any cooking method may be used to prepare the dish, and any additional ingredients may be used. * All cooking facilities for the Chopped Challenge must be located on one of the two ECC blocks. * An official clock will be posted at the turn-in table. Turn in window begins 10 minutes before published turn in time. (Example: Turn in window 8:50-9:00 pm. Clock turns to 9:00:00 doors will be locked and no other entries will be accepted. Entries at 9:00:01 will NOT be accepted). * Entries will be judged on taste, presentation, and use of the secret ingredients. * Entries must include the description card describing how the secret ingredients were used. * The Team Chief Cook is responsible for the behavior of their team. * Each team will furnish all needed cooking equipment and pantry supplies during Round 1. * After Round 1 of the chopped Challenge, the Top 5 Teams will be posted on Saturday, May 25 at 11 am on the ECC Hall double glass doors. Only 3 Teams will compete in the Final Showdown. 	<p><u>TURN-IN GUIDELINES:</u> <i>An official clock will be posted at the turn-in table. Late entries will NOT be accepted.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Turn-in one presentation plate; a one compartment container will be provided. Lid must close. 2. The sealed description envelope must be on top when submitted. 3. Must include the description card describing how the secret ingredients were used. 4. Promptly turn-in the container at the Double Glass Doors of the ECC Main Hall. 5. 8:50 - 9:00 pm Round 1 Turn-in Time on Friday, May 23.
<p><u>SATURDAY, MAY 24</u></p> <p><u>CHOPPED CHALLENGE LIVE FINAL SHOWDOWN</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The Top 3 Teams will be announced at 4:30 pm and will compete in a LIVE Cooking Showdown starting at 5 pm * Participants will receive 6 secret ingredients that are required to be used in the competition dish. * A basic cook's pantry and cooking station will be provided for each of the final 3 teams. * Teams are only allowed to use the provided pantry and cooking station items to prepare the dish * Only 2 team members (listed on the Registration Form) are allowed in the cooking area at a time. * Entries will be judged on taste, presentation, and use of the secret ingredients. * Local celebrity judges will be commentating and observing the teams as they cook their final dish in front of the audience. * Cash Prizes for the Winners! 	<p><u>TURN-IN GUIDELINES:</u> <i>An official clock will be posted at the turn-in table. Late entries will NOT be accepted.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Teams will have 40 minutes to cook in front of live audience. 2. Teams must present the dish to the judges and describe how the secret ingredients were used.

Chopped Contest committee RESERVES THE RIGHT to make additional regulations as necessary.
ALL DECISIONS of the COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN and JUDGES are FINAL.

For questions, call/text Nicole Vasut at 979.966.3651 after 5 pm or email ellingertexas@hotmail.com



2025 Ellinger Chamber of Commerce BBQ Cook-off

May 23 – 24, 2025

AT-A-GLANCE SCHEDULE

Friday, May 23	
4:30-6:30 pm	Check In/On Site Registration
6:45 -7:00 pm	Margarita Turn-in
6:50 - 7:00 pm	Chips & Salsa Turn-in
7:20 - 7:30 pm	Entree Turn-in
7:20 - 7:30 pm	Dessert Turn-in
7:45 pm	Chopped Challenge Meeting
8:50 - 9:00 pm	Chopped Challenge Turn-in Round 1
8:00 -11:00 pm	Entertainment by Airplane Band
Saturday, May 24	
7:00 am	Tomato Trot Check In/On Site Registration at St. Mary's Church
7:30 am	Tomato Trot 5K Fun Run/Walk Starts
8:00 - 9:00 am	BBQ Cook-off On Site Registration
8:05 - 8:15 am	Breakfast Turn-in
9:00 - 9:15 am	Bloody Mary Turn-in
10:00 am	Chief Cooks Meeting
11:00 am	Chopped Challenge Top 5 Teams Posted
11:20 - 11:30 am	Pinto Beans Turn-in
11:50 - 12:00 pm	Chicken Turn-in
12:50 - 1:00 pm	Pork Spare Ribs Turn-in
1:50 - 2:00 pm	Pork Butt Turn-in
2:50 - 3:00 pm	Beef Brisket Turn-in
3:00 pm	Tomato Toss
4:30 pm	Non-Meat AWARDS & Chopped Top 3 Finalists Announced
5:00 pm	Chopped Challenge Final Showdown LIVE Cooking Competition
5:45 pm	Meat AWARDS & Chopped Winners Announced
7:00 pm	Live Auction at ECC Hall Pavilion
Following Auction	Music: D.J.



2025 Ellinger Chamber of Commerce BBQ Cook-off
May 23 – 24, 2025

BBQ Cook-off Entry Form
Page 1 of 2

Team Name: _____

Chief Cook: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Team Members: _____

REGISTRATION: FRIDAY, May 23, 2025 at 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm and/or SATURDAY, May 24, 2025 at 8:00 - 9:00 am. inside the double glass doors of the ECC Main Hall. Submit completed entry form and pay all entry fees.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY CONTESTS

Category	Entry Fee	Total Fee
ULTIMATE Cook-off Package --Entry for ALL Categories (<u>includes:</u> Friday- Margarita, Chips & Salsa, Entree & Dessert, Saturday- Breakfast, Bloody Mary, Pinto Beans, Chicken, Pork Spare Ribs, Pork Butt & Brisket) SAVE \$85	\$290	

FRIDAY CONTESTS

Category	# of Entries	Entry Fee	Total Fee
Friday Night Special Cook-off Package (<u>includes:</u> Margarita Chips & Salsa, Entree & Dessert) SAVE \$20		\$80	
Friday Night Margarita		\$25	
Friday Night Chips & Salsa		\$25	
Friday Night Entree		\$25	
Friday Night Dessert		\$25	



2025 Ellinger Chamber of Commerce BBQ Cook-off

May 23 – 24, 2025

BBQ Cook-off Entry Form

Page 2 of 2

SATURDAY CONTESTS			
Category	# of Entries	Entry Fee	Total Fee
SATURDAY Special Cook-off Package – Entry for ALL Saturday Categories <i>(includes: Breakfast, Bloody Mary, Pinto Beans, Chicken, Pork Spare Ribs, Pork Butt & Brisket)</i> SAVE \$50		\$225	
3 Categories-Breakfast, Bloody Mary & Pinto Beans SAVE \$15		\$60	
Breakfast Dish-Requires use of TOMATO ingredient		\$25	
Bloody Mary		\$25	
Pinto Beans		\$25	
4 Meat Entries - Chicken, Pork Spare Ribs, Pork Butt and Brisket SAVE \$25		\$175	
Chicken		\$50	
Pork Spare Ribs		\$50	
Pork Butt		\$50	
Brisket		\$50	

RV SPACE RESERVATION				
RV Space	Fee	# of Spaces	# of Nights	Total Fee
110 hookup Limited availability, first-come first-served. Call or email early!	\$100 per night			

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES:	
Payment Info/For ECC use only	

For questions, call/text Paula Urban at 713.252.2774 after 5 pm or email EllingerBBQ@gmail.com



2025 Ellinger Chamber of Commerce

CHOPPED CHALLENGE

May 23 - 24, 2025



CHOPPED CHALLENGE Entry Form

Page 1 of 1

Pre-Registration is required to participate. Limited Spots.

Team Name: _____

Chief Cook: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Team Members: _____

CHOPPED CHALLENGE

Category	Entry Fee	Total Fee
Chopped Challenge Early Registration (by May 19)	\$60	
Chopped Challenge LATE Registration (May 20-23) <i>No registrations accepted after 6:30 pm, Friday May 23</i>	\$75	
TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES:		
Payment Info/For ECC use only		

For questions, call/text Nicole Vasut at 979.966.3651 after 5 pm or email ellingertexas@hotmail.com