



Welcome To The Cook-off!

Thank you for participating in the Fifth Annual Rootin'- Tootin' Chili Cookoff presented by MBS Textbook Exchange! This year's event will be our biggest yet and provides a tremendous amount of support and awareness to the Boys & Girls Club of Columbia.

If you haven't been to our previous events you are in for a great time. Teams can begin setting up and cooking as early as 8 am the morning of the cook-off. Doors open to the public at 4p.m. and people are given a small cup and a spoon and encouraged to sample each team's special chili recipe and eat as much as they want. All the while listening to great live music.

Award Categories

Chili Champion:

This is one that shows off your double secret recipe! During the event each team will be asked to provide a large sample for the judges. The judges will be asked to select the best tasting chili out of all the entries. This does not mean the hottest but best tasting.

People's Choice Award: Each event patron will be given 5 vote tickets to vote on the chili they like most. They can spread out their votes for their favorite tasting chili or they can award them all to one team. The team with the most vote tickets will win.

Biggest Bowl Award:

While this event is a contest for the best chili recipe, **our primary objective is to raise money for the Boys and Girls Club** and we ask for you help in this endeavor.

Teams are also encouraged to begin collecting "votes" prior to the event. Ask your friends, family, and coworkers to sponsor your team by making a donation. Another option is through ticket sales. Sell items at your booth (hot dogs, etc). Teams will be able to sell event tickets and count those funds toward their vote jar!

Best Booth:

As another fun element of the competition is the Best Booth Award. Teams can decorate their booth however they choose to show their team spirit and creativity.

About The Club

The Columbia Boys & Girls Club opened in 1997 and has experienced tremendous growth since then. The Club serves an average of 80 kids daily after school at its Fay Street Facility, and currently has a waiting list for new members. The Boys and Girls Club is a professional, full time youth development organization that offers kids a safe and encouraging environment to develop character, life and leadership skills, and self-respect. Members do not just “hang” out and play games. They are involved in diverse programs that do everything from homework tutoring to organizing their own community service projects. See the enclosed brochure for more information.

Lets Get Cookin’

We're only a few weeks away from the cook-off. Get your recipe fine-tuned and start raising money to win the Biggest Bowl Award. Enclosed you will find several items with which you should become familiar including the contest rules. (Please note these look harder than they really are. We will go through them at the team meeting.)

Thanks again for you participation and help in supporting the Boys & Girls Club!

Jeff Jones
Event Chair

We like to extend our utmost appreciation to our sponsors!



Contest Rules & Information

AWARDS

Grand Champion Chili Award: 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners. Trophy is awarded to the top three teams for the best over-all chili, according to the judges.

People's Choice Award: 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winners. Each event patron will be given 5 vote tickets to vote on the chili they like most. They can spread out their votes for their favorite tasting chili or they can award them all to one team. The team with the most vote tickets will win.

Best Booth Award: Trophy is awarded to the top with the best theme, booth design, and decoration, according to the judges.

Biggest Bowl Award: While this event is a contest for the best chili recipe, our primary objective is to raise money for the Boys and Girls Club and we ask for your help in this endeavor.

The Biggest Bowl Award is given to the top three (3) teams collecting the largest dollar amount for their "donation jar" on their table.

Teams may begin fundraising prior to the Chili Cook-Off. Ask your friends, family, and coworkers to sponsor your team by making a donation. Teams will also be able to sell event tickets and count those funds toward their votes! Tickets will be given out at the team meeting.

Special Awards:

If you belong to a particular group and would like to create a special competition award, we will consider it if there are at least three teams in your group. For instance: A competition between Contractors, or Greek Organizations, or Public Servants (Fire, Police, and EMTs) etc. Please let us know your idea and work with you as best as we can. An extra fee of \$15 per team will be assessed.

BOOTH PROVISIONS

Your booth area will be approximately 8 ft. x 10 ft. A table will be provided for serving your chili to the public as well as an additional table for cooking. The tables are approximately 6 ft. long. You will need to bring your own tablecloths. Plastic spoons and small bowls will be provided at the door for the public to sample your chili. A pipe & drape backdrop will hang behind your booth area. Up to eight cook passes will be given out at the team meeting on Jan. 20th to the

booth/team. The cook passes are for booth members only. Please bring a fish bowl or donation box to collect contributions/donations from the general public. (NOTE: ALL Proceeds from the fish bowl count toward your Biggest Bowl proceeds.)

RULES

1. No ingredients may be pre-cooked or treated in any way prior to the Chili Cook-Off.
2. Each team is requested to prepare a minimum of five (5) gallons of Chili. Twelve ounces of chili will be required for judging purposes and the general public will be sampling your chili throughout the event.
3. Chili for judging will be allowed to contain beans but, no extra toppings. Chili samples served to the public may contain beans and any additional toppings on the side such as cheese, onions, etc. All condiments must be in individual pre-packaged containers. Additional toppings such as cheese, onions, etc. must be served by a team member with gloved hands or appropriate utensils, per the health department guidelines. All decisions by the judges are final.
4. Chili for the Cook-Off is defined as any kind of meat or combination of meats (USDA Approved), ie: beef, pork, chicken, seafood, etc.(absolutely no wild meat, including venison will be permitted) cooked with chili pepper seasonings or spices and other assorted ingredients.
5. The Health Department requires all meat and/or seafood, and ingredients to be in it's original packaging, stamped "USDA Inspected". No wild game (including venison), home-canned or home-prepared items will be allowed. This will be checked and strictly enforced by the Food Safety Officer. Once your team is inspected and approved it may begin chili preparation.
6. The number of members per team shall not exceed eight (8) people including the head cook. Regardless of the number of booth spaces, each team is limited to 8 cooks per team.
7. Beer or alcohol can only be brought into the facility by teams FOR COOKING ONLY.
8. COOKING BY FLAME IS PROHIBITED.

EQUIPMENT / ITEMS NEEDED

1. Cooking Equipment - Bring whatever you will need to prepare your five gallons, or more of chili. Electrical outlets will be provided. (110 outlets will be available.) Don't forget spoons, knives, etc. Please note: No galvanized or chipped enamelware cooking equipment is permitted by order of the Health Department. **COOKING BY FLAME IS PROHIBITED**
2. Each booth will be provided, automatically, with two (2) 110 power outlets, with an average of 2000 watts per cord. Please note: the average size household electric skillet is approximately 1000 watts. A power strip does not increase the power load nor allowed... please plan accordingly.
3. Electric crock pot, hot plate, etc... and heavy 3-prong extension cords. (25 ft.maximum). Powerstrips, or 2-prong cords are not allowed.
4. All ingredients for cooking your chili. (See Rules #5 for details regarding meat.)
5. Coolers with ice to store meat and other refrigerated ingredients.

6. An appropriate container is required to hold 100ppm of bleach water and cleaning rags. (approx. 1 capful per gallon).

7. Small bottle of bleach.

8. Two gallon min. water pitcher or a cooler with a spigot to dispense clean water as needed for hand washing. Locate hand washing equipment for easy accessibility in your booth area. Restroom sinks are not an acceptable substitute for the hand-wash station in the booth. All team members must wash their hands at the hand washing station inside the booth area upon returning to the booth.



Sample coolers for water from Igloo and Rubbermaid. Holds 5 gallons and available at retail stores.

9. Container to catch/hold dirty water after washing hands.

10. Hand Soap and Paper Towels.

11. Folding chairs for your team members.

12. Bring your own materials for booth decoration – banners, signs, costumes, props, tablecloths, etc.

13. Drop Cloths for the floor of your booth to catch any spills or leaks to make clean up easier.

Our Utmost Thanks To Our Sponsors!

Rootin'-Tootin' Chili Cookoff Judging Instructions 2010

Fine chili should look good, smell good and taste good! Accordingly, each cup of chili is to be judged on five (5) categories to arrive at one whole number. Each of the five categories will be given a score on a scale from zero (lowest) to 10 (highest).

Judging Criteria:

- a) **Color** - Chili should look appetizing, reddish brown is generally accepted as good.
- b) **Aroma** - Chili should smell good. This also indicates what is in store when you taste it.
- c) **Consistency** - Chili must have a good ratio between sauce and meat. It should not be dry, watery, grainy, lumpy, or greasy.
- d) **Taste** - Taste, above all else is the most important factor. The taste should consist of the combination of the meat, spices, etc. with no particular ingredient being dominate.
- e) **Aftertaste** - The aftertaste or bite is the heat created by the various types of spices and or peppers.

- **Cup Distribution:** Between 2 and 2:30 teams will be given a cup to submit 12oz of chili for judging. Each cup will have a covered number on it. This is the only container that will be accepted. You will be given a claim check for that matching that number when you turn in entry. You will need to present your claim ticket if your cup number is announced as a winner.

- **Team Judge Orientation 3pm:** Each team must furnish one judge to for the preliminary round. At 3pm the team judge should report to the chili judging area for a 20 minute orientation regarding the judging procedures.

- **Preliminary Judging:** Your Team Judge must bring your entry in the cup with the lid attached at the time designated on your cup. The judges will be divided into groups to judge 7-10 entries. (You will not be judging your own cup.) Each group's top chili will go on the final round.

- **Final Judging:** The winners of the preliminary round will go to the final round to be judged by a group of community judges.

Votes will be tabulated and winners will be called at the end of the night (approximately 6:45pm). Note: you must have your claim check to claim your award.

Electrical Points for the Chili Cookoff:

To insure proper use of these outlets we have a few minor rules. This will minimize down time and keep the chance of fire or other electrical issues low.

Side A

2 Outlets

1,500 watts each



Side B

2 Outlets

1,500 watts each

You will be provided with an outlet just like this one. Each booth will be sharing a quad outlet with another booth. Each outlet provided has 2 circuits (side A and side B). Each circuit can take 2 appliances equaling 1,500 watts each.

We ask that you use a skillet and a slow cooker on each circuit and don't use both appliances on high at the same time. Once you are done cooking your meat of choice you will be able to plug in 2 slow cookers or warmers on each circuit.

Please only use 12/3 gauge extension cords that are less than 25' in length.

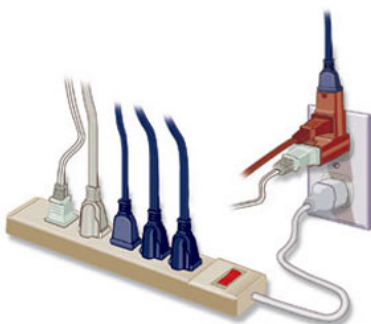
(12/3 extension cord = 12 gauge wire with a ground or 3 prong)



Midway Electric, Inc. has volunteered to be available to help with power issues. If you have any questions please ask any staff member to locate them. They will be at the chili cook off all day.

PLEASE NOTE! DO NOT USE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

Power strips, extension cords longer than 25', zip cords or taps.



(Too long - must be less than 25')

