



2009 TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FIRST RESPONDERS CHARITY WILD GAME COOK-OFF

Sanctioned by the International Bar-B-Que Cookers Association (IBCA)



BENEFITING TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FIRST RESPONDERS CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES AND THE 100 CLUB OF HOUSTON SURVIVORS FUND

Texas Association of First Responders is a 501 c (3) charitable organization, which benefits law enforcement officers, fire fighters, emergency medical personnel, and their families. It is the duty of Texas Association of First Responders to honor those who serve our communities, and who ensure the safety and well being of our citizens.

April 17th & 18th, 2009

Sam Houston Race Park
7575 N. Sam Houston Parkway W.
Houston, Texas 77064

Team Spaces are 40' X 40'
\$150.00 each

All Teams must have an Active/Reserve Law Enforcement Officer or Paid/Volunteer Fire Fighter/EMS representative as a member of the team

Visit www.tafr.org for Cook-off Rules and Entry Form.

Meat Categories include:

- Wild Game
- Seafood
- Brisket
- Pork Spare Ribs
- Chicken

* Entry Fee includes entry into all categories.
* All categories are not mandatory

For more information, contact:
Joe Matthews
281-841-0766 or
jmatthews@tafr.org

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FIRST RESPONDERS CHARITY WILD GAME COOK-OFF



Benefiting the Texas Association of First Responders Charitable Activities
and the 100 Club of Houston Survivors Fund
Cook-Off Dates – April 17th and April 18th, 2009

2009 COOK-OFF ENTRY FORM

Entry Fee per Space - \$150.00

Law Enforcement Agency or Fire Department Sponsoring the Team:

Team Coordinator:

(Must be employed/active reserve Law Enforcement or paid/volunteer Emergency Fire Fighter/EMS)

Team Name:

Name of Chief Cook:

Team Contact Person:

Mailing Address:

City:

_____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Office Phone:

_____ Mobile Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail Address:

Additional Tickets @ \$5.00 ea.

\$ _____

_____ 40' X 40' Spaces(s) @ \$150.00 ea.

\$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT PAID

\$ _____

Portable Toilets can be ordered at the Cook's Meeting on April 8, 2009.

Make check or Money Order Payable to: Texas Association of First Responders. Cash Accepted.

Entry form and payment must be submitted by 12:00pm, Friday, March 27, 2009 to reserve the same spot(s) as 2008. New entries will be assigned priority in the order they are received. Entries will be accepted until day of Cook-off.

Mail to:

Texas Association of First Responders
12620 FM 1960 West, Suite A4 – Box 255
Houston, Texas 77065

I intend to submit entries in the following categories
(please check all that apply):

Wild Game Seafood Brisket
Pork Spare Ribs Chicken

For Further Information you may contact: Joe Matthews 281-841-0766 or jmatthews@tafr.org.

Texas Association of First Responders is a 501c (3) charitable organization

For Committee Use Only:

Space Number(s): _____ Payment Amount: _____ Date Received: _____

Check Number: _____ Check Date: _____ Cash: _____

2009

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FIRST RESPONDERS CHARITY WILD GAME COOK-OFF

SANCTIONED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BARBEQUE COOKERS ASSOCIATION (IBCA)



COOK-OFF RULES



1. Cook-Off Dates and Location

Friday, April 17, 2009 and Saturday, April 18, 2009

Sam Houston Race Park - West Parking Lot
7575 N. Sam Houston Parkway West
Houston, TX 77064

2. Entry Forms

Contact Joe Matthews at 281-841-0766, e-mail @ jmatthews@tafr.org. or website - www.tafr.org.

3. Entry Fee

Each Cook-off Team will pay a fee of \$150.00 for each 40' X 40' space. Make check or money order payable to the **Texas Association of First Responders**.

4. Important Dates

March 27, 2009 Entry form priority date. Entries will still be accepted after this date until move-in day. You must complete move-in by 3:00pm Friday, April 17th. Teams from 2008 will be given the same spots if entry form and fee is received by this date. New Team entries will be assigned priority in the order they are received with fee paid.

April 8, 2009 Cook Team meeting at 7:00pm, Gander Mountain, 19820 Hempstead Hwy.. You will receive your badges, admission tickets and parking passes. You will also be able to purchase cook-off merchandise, portable toilets and ask questions.

5. Submittals of Entry Form

Please mail your entry form with payment to:
Texas Association of First Responders Charity Wild Game Cook-Off
12620 FM 1960 West
Suite A4 – Box 255
Houston, Texas 77065

6. Set-Up for Cooking Teams

- April 15, 2009 On Wednesday, April 15th from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. the facility is available for set up of professionally installed tents and large pits only. No tent stakes are allowed...water barrels only!
- April 16, 2009 On Thursday, April 16th from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Teams may begin set-up. No overnight camping is allowed on this date.
- April 17, 2009 On Friday, April 17th from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Teams may start or continue to set up spaces. All set-ups must be completed and vehicles removed from the cooking areas by 3:00 p.m.
- April 19, 2009 On Sunday, April 19th Team move-out is allowed beginning at 6:00 a.m. **Due to safety concerns, no exceptions allowed.**

7. Cooks Meeting

- April 17, 2009 On Friday, April 17th at 7:00 p.m., a mandatory meeting for all Chief Cooks is to be held under the tent for the Cook-off judging area.

8. Admission to the Cook-Off

Chief Cooks and Assistant Cooks will be given an Identification Badge that shall be used for recognition and admittance into the cook-off area.

Friday, April 17, 2009

Private Social Gathering

Gates will open at 4:00 p.m. All guests who enter including law enforcement & fire fighter/ems personnel requires an admission fee of \$ 5.00 unless a person has a pre-purchased or complimentary ticket. A law enforcement officer or fire fighter/ems must accompany all **paid at the gate** admissions on Friday.

Saturday, April 18, 2009

Gates will open to the General Public at 10:00 a.m.

Gates open at 10:00 a.m. All guests who enter requires an admission fee of \$5.00 for adults, unless a person has a pre-purchased or complimentary ticket. Children under 12 years old will be admitted free.

9. Clean-Up/Tear Down/Move -Out

April 18 & 19, 2009

Clean-up and tear down may begin at 9:00 p.m. Saturday April 18th. Move-out day is Sunday April 19th beginning at 6:00 a.m. and must be completed the same day. All Teams are responsible for tear down and clean up of their cooking spaces and areas. Tents must be removed from the cook-off area no later than 12:00 noon on Monday, April 20, 2009.

Due to safety concerns, no Teams will be allowed to leave until 6:00 a.m. Sunday morning. No exceptions.

10. Cooking Areas

- A. A Master Layout of the cook-off site shall be maintained by the Chairman at the Sam Houston Race Park.
- B. All individual **single** Team cooking areas are to be a minimum of **one (1) 40' x 40' space**.

11. Team Rules and Regulations

- A. **All Teams must be sponsored by and/or represent an officially recognized Law Enforcement agency or Fire Department, and the Team Coordinator must be employed or active reserve law enforcement agency or paid/volunteer Emergency Fire Fighter/EMS.** Each team must prominently display a sign which recognizes their law enforcement or fire fighter/ems affiliation on the aisle near their main team booth entrance.
- B. Team Members are to consist of one (1) Chief Cook and four (4) Assistant Cooks. Each Team will be provided Identification Badges to designate the Chief Cook and the four Assistant Cooks. The Badges will allow cooks admittance to and from the entrance gates. The Identification Badges are to be worn at all times by the Chief Cook and Assistant Cooks.
- C. Teams will be provided ten (10) complimentary tickets for each 40' X 40' space rented. (Note: Additional tickets may be purchased at time Entry Form is submitted or at the cook's meeting at a price of five dollars each
- D. Team Vehicles - No vehicles will be allowed in the cooking areas after 3:00 p.m. on Friday. This includes skateboards, bicycles, mopeds, 4-wheelers, and any motor vehicle. All vehicles not in the Team's space will be parked in the designated parking lot. After 3:00 p.m., Team supplies will be moved by shuttle provided by the Texas Association of First Responders. No Exceptions.
- E. Travel Trailers, Campers, and Motor Homes – Due to the amount of space available for each Team, Travel Trailers, Campers, and Motor Homes must neatly fit within the 40'x 40' space. Each Team will be allowed one travel trailer, camper, or motor home in their assigned space. The living quarters must be self-contained. All other travel trailers, campers, and motor homes must be parked on the designated parking lot.
- F. No machines that produce ice will be allowed in any space of the cooking Teams. Iceboxes that store and keep ice and food product will be allowed.
- G. Teams may use their own electrical generators used to run appliances and campers. Generators will **not** be allowed to operate under tents. All generators must be muffled and in excellent working condition. If not, the Team will be instructed to turn it off and not allow it to be used during the duration of the cook off. No gas shall be stored under covered area. Fuel storage must meet the Harris County Fire Code.
- H. Portable Restroom Facilities – Portable restroom facilities can be ordered at the meeting on April 8th for private use in the Team's space.
- I. Pets will not be allowed on premise unless allowed by law (example: seeing eye dog). Any pet brought on premise must be restrained by a leash at all times or contained within the confines of the Team's space.

- J.** Teams will be allowed to hire a band for use in their space for the enjoyment of Team members and guests. Teams must lower sound levels of the music by 1:00 a.m. on both Friday and Saturday nights so it is not considered a nuisance to neighboring Teams. A Texas Association of First Responders Official will be present to act as a moderator if a conflict arises over noise levels. No one will be asked to leave the Team booth or cook-off area on Friday and Saturday nights unless it is determined to be necessary by both Security Officers and Texas Association of First Responders Officials due to an individual's conduct. Once a person leaves the cook-off area for the parking area, you will be asked to proceed to your car and leave. No loitering will be allowed in the parking areas. **Please read paragraph on Page 7, Section 15, Line D.**

12. Harris County Fire Marshal's Office Rules & Regulations

The following rules and regulations are being strictly enforced by the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office.

1. All LP-Gas appliances shall be disconnected upon entering Sam Houston Race Park property and at check-in
2. Licensed LP-Gas Person shall perform all connections for LP-Gas appliances. (Provided by Texas Association of First Responders)
3. Container size does not exceed 60 lb. or (2) 30 lb. cylinders manifolded together.
4. Storage of spare LPG cylinders shall be in approved locations and away from the public and shall not exceed the amount needed for one day.
5. Inspection sticker on appliances. (UL listed, nothing homemade)
6. Protective barriers to keep public at least 3 feet away from LP-Gas and cooking surfaces (this includes electric and charcoal cooking).
7. LP-Gas cylinders are secured to prevent tipping over. (This can be in milk cartons or by buckets filled with water or secured to the tent posts)
8. Fire Extinguishers with a minimum rating of 2-A, 10-B:C with a current date tag on the unit. Booths exceeding 20 feet in length have two extinguishers as indicated above. Extinguishers shall be in all booths that are involved in cooking or using a heating device (LP, electric, charcoal) **"Type K" extinguisher for deep frying.**
9. Booths must have adequate egress. Example 2 feet between booths.
10. Booth covering and decorations shall be constructed of flame retardant materials or be treated with an approved material.
11. Combustible materials such as hay or straw shall not be used. Trash and rubbish shall not be allowed to accumulate.
12. All charcoal or wood will be started with an electrical starter designed for this purpose. No liquid starters will be permitted. (Quick-starting charcoal is recommended)
13. A metal pan must be provided and constructed of a minimum of 18 gauge sheet metal and be placed under the fire box of bar-b-que pits to catch live coals which may fall onto the ground. The dimensions of the pan shall be such that it will provide complete coverage beneath any opening under the pit firebox.

13. Services provided by Texas Association of First Responders

- A. Public Restroom Facilities – Public restroom facilities will be supplied by the Texas Association of First Responders at designated areas of the cook-off site.
- B. Electricity If available, Teams will be provided one 20 amp electrical circuit per space. The electrical service is not to be used to run excessive equipment such as travel trailers, campers, and /or motor homes. It is recommended that you bring your own power plant for additional needs.
- C. Ice – Ice will be available for purchase from the Texas Association of First Responders. Texas Association of First Responders will deliver ice to each Team space upon the next delivery time

scheduled. Any ice required outside of the scheduled delivery times can be picked up at the designated ice pick up site. Ice cannot be brought into the cook-off area after the gates open to the public on Friday for the duration of the cook-off and must be purchased from the Texas Association of First Responders.

Friday, April 17th - Delivery Schedule – 9:00a.m, 11:00a.m, 1:00p.m, 3:00p.m, 5:00p.m, 7:00p.m, 9:00p.m, and 11:00p.m.

Saturday, April 18th - Delivery Schedule – 8:00a.m, 10:00a.m, 12:00p.m, 2:00p.m, 4:00p.m, 6:00p.m, 8:00p.m, and 10:00p.m.

- D. Trash Pickup – Trash boxes will be furnished and trash pick-up will be provided on a schedule as follows. Please do not pack trash boxes excessively full. All bagged trash should be placed outside the Team space for pick up.

Trash pick-up schedule:

Friday, April 17th - 2:00p.m, 4:00p.m, 6:00p.m, 8:00p.m, and 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 18th - 8:00a.m, 10:00a.m, 12:00p.m, 2:00p.m, 4:00p.m, 6:00p.m, 8:00p.m, and 10:00 p.m.

- E. Water – Water will be available on the site. No hoses may be left connected to water outlets.

14. IBCA Cook-Off

- A. IBCA Cook-off rules shall apply with the following exceptions for safety concerns. Please refer to IBCA brochure for cook-off rules, or access their website @ www.ibcabbq.org.
- B. Gas or electricity cannot be used to complete cooking.
- C. Since cook-off grounds are on asphalt paving, open fire ground pits shall not be allowed.

A. Meat Submittals

- A. Team Entries of Wild Game, Seafood, Brisket, Pork Spare Ribs and Chicken may be submitted. In order for the Grand Champion to be qualified for the American Royal Invitational BBQ in Kansas City, MO and the lottery for the Jack Daniels’s Invitational, Lynchburg, TN, there must be at least 50 entries in the three basic categories (Brisket, Pork Spare Ribs and Chicken). In order to qualify for the National BBQ Championship, Meridian, TX - the event must have at least 10 teams participating and the top 3 places in each of the basic categories will be invited. Wild Game and Seafood are not recognized as a category.
- B. Teams that do not desire to participate in the Brisket, Pork Spare Ribs and Chicken categories may compete in the Open Wild Game/Seafood categories and be eligible for awards in those two categories only.
- C. **Wild Game Meat Submittals** - Wild Game may be submitted for judging and must be submitted and inspected before cooking. Wild game is defined as any animal regulated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife, any similar state agency, and/or any federal agency and to include white tail deer, mule deer, elk, dove, quail, duck, goose, alligator, antelope, javelina, squirrel, pheasant, Rio grande turkey, eastern turkey, rabbit, and/or hare. Wild game must be harvested during a regulated hunting season. Wild game may also include any wild game raised on any game

management ranch in the state of Texas and can be any species of African Plains animal and/or game such as axis or fallow deer.

- D. **Fish and/or Seafood Submittals** – Fish and/or Seafood may be submitted for judging and must be submitted and inspected before cooking. Fish and/or Seafood is designated as any game regulated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife, any similar state agency, and/or any federal agency and to include bass, catfish, crappie, or any fish taken off the coast of Texas, crawfish, and/or shrimp and may have a “seafood” topping or dressing.
- E. **Brisket, Pork Spare Ribs and Chicken Submittals** – IBCA rules apply.

B. Judging Process

A. Turn-in times:

10:00am – Seafood
11:00am – Wild Game
12:00 noon – Chicken
1:30pm – Pork Spare Ribs
3:00pm – Brisket
5:30pm – Awards Announcement

- B. The judging will be conducted on Saturday, April 18th.
- C. The number of rounds of judging will be determined by the number of teams participating in each category. Quantities will be announced at the cook’s meeting. Each team will be required to furnish one team member to judge the preliminary round (**BUT NOT THE FINALS.**) No Head Cooks will be allowed to judge.
- D. Competition entry trays will be available at the Cook-off Judging Area under the judging tent. Competition trays must be picked up and signed for only by the Chief Cook. Identifying tickets and matching numbers will be attached to the trays.
- E. Each Team is responsible for turning in their entries to IBCA cook-off officials at the Cook-off Judging Area. Any change to turn-in times will be announced at the cook’s meeting.

C. Awards

Grand Champion Award – (Wild Game points will not be counted towards the Grand Champion, but will be used to break a tie if necessary)
(one trophy & cash prize)

Champion Wild Game, Fish/Seafood, Brisket, Pork Spare Ribs and Chicken Awards

First Place (one trophy)
Second Place (one trophy)
3rd, 4th & 5th Place (one trophy)
6 thru 10th Place (one plaque each)

Outstanding Display Awards

First Place (one trophy only)
Second Place (one trophy only)
Third Place (one trophy only)
4th & 5th places (one plaque each)

The “First to Show...Last to Go” Hospitality Award

For the Team that exhibits the most Team Spirit and Hospitality towards the General Public this Cook-off is famous for!

One Place Only (one trophy only)

15. General Information

A. Texas Association of First Responders, Inc. and their representatives shall not be responsible or liable for any theft or damage to any participant's equipment or supplies.

B. The Texas Association of First Responders, Inc. and their representatives reserve the right to delete, amend, modify, or add rules and/or regulations as situations warrant. All decisions of the President/Officer-in-Charge of the Wild Game Cook-off shall be final.

C. Consumption of alcohol by minors is illegal and will not be permitted on Sam Houston Race Park property. Individuals of teams caught making alcohol available to minors will be excluded from this and all future competitions.

D. In case Texas Association of First Responders secures Entertainment for Saturday night, all Teams will be required to turn off their music at a designated time as not to conflict with the Entertainment. An announcement will be made at the Cook's Meeting on April 8th on whether there will be or will not be Entertainment.