

## Chili Cook-Off Rules

### Event Details

- Date & Time: October 18
- Location: La Verde Park, Brenham
- Check-In Time: 1:00pm
- Judging Time: TBD

### Entry Guidelines

1. Each team will consist of a Head Cook and Assistants
2. All team members must be at least 14 years of age. The Head cook must be at least 18 years of age.
3. Each team is responsible for bringing these items
  - a. Heating source (single stove burner, dual stove burner, hot plate, Etc.)
  - b. Cooking Utensils and serving utensils (cups, bowls, cutlery, napkins)
  - c. Cookware
  - d. Cleaning supplies
  - e. Tables, chairs,
  - f. Power source (line 5)
  - g. Canopy
  - h. Signs
4. Each team will receive a 10x20 space. Electricity will NOT be provided by the city. Quiet generators are required.
5. Each team will provide their own ingredients including seasonings, sauces, and tools.
6. Each team will be required to provide an ingredient list at all times in case of allergies.
7. Entries to judges must be submitted into containers provided by the City of Kyle. Each team will be required to provide  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of chili to each of the 4 judges. Garnish is optional.
8. All team members will be required to wear shoes, shirts, and pants while in the contest area.
9. Each team will be required to respect the rights of other teams. The City of Kyle reserves the right to disqualify any team that is disrespectful to other team's participants, or staff at any time.
10. Eligibility: Open to all community members. Teams or individuals may enter
11. Entry Fee: **\$50** All fees must be paid prior to the event.
12. Registration Deadline: October 1<sup>st</sup>. **Late entries will not be accepted.**
13. Each participant must sign a liability waiver and agree to follow all event rules.
14. Any outside beverages must be kept within the team's cooking site. We encourage you to support the festival vendors.

15. Vehicles are not permitted to enter or exit the competition site once they have arrived. Please plan accordingly and ensure your vehicle remains parked throughout the duration of the event
16. All teams must comply with all local, City, & County Health Food Requirements.

City of Kyle, Parks and Recreation will provide some of these items:

### **Chili Requirements**

1. Type of Chili: Any style is welcome (traditional, vegetarian, white chili, etc.).
2. Ingredients: Must be prepared from scratch. No store-bought chili or pre-made mixes.
3. Quantity: Minimum of 3 gallon to ensure enough for judging and public tasting.
4. Cooking Method: Chili must be cooked on-site.
5. Temperature Control: Chili must be kept above 140°F (60°C) at all times. Use insulated containers or heating equipment.
6. All ingredients must be clearly labeled for allergy awareness.

### **Judging Criteria**

Chili will be judged by a panel of selected community members and culinary experts. Each chili entry will be assigned a number to ensure blind judging. Official judging schedule time is TBA. Judges will score based on the following criteria:

- Taste
- Spice level
- Consistency
- Aroma
- Creativity

Scores will be tallied and winners announced at the end of the event.

### **Awards & Prizes**

- Judges Choice, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> winners will receive trophies and prizes
- People's Choice, one winner will receive a trophy and prize.

### **Safety & Cleanliness**

1. All participants must follow food safety guidelines per Hays County Health Department. This information can be found through Hays County or Teamsideline.com/Kyle > Downloads.
2. Gloves and hairnets are recommended during food preparation and serving.
3. Cooking stations must be kept clean and sanitized.
4. Handwashing stations will be available on-site.
5. All chili must be stored and served in food-safe containers.
6. Any participant found violating safety rules may be disqualified.

### **Additional Notes**

- Bring your own serving utensils and heating equipment.
- Family-friendly event: no alcohol in chili.

- Participants are encouraged to decorate their booths.
- Volunteers will be available to assist with setup and cleanup.