

# Racks by the Tracks Rib Cook-Off

Saturday, May 10, 2008

## Official Rules and Information

- Festival starts at 12:00 pm. and ends at 7:00 pm on Saturday, May 10, 2008.. Set up time starts at 4:00 pm. on Friday. **No set up after 10:00 am Saturday will be allowed.** The event is located on Main Street in front of the Chamber of Commerce in downtown Kingsport, TN.
- Contestants must pick 1 of 2 categories to participate in, professional or amateur.  
A professional is an operation that engages in a food service business and is licensed in the state of Tennessee. Professional competitors **will be able to retail their other food products.**  
An amateur is an unlicensed operation that is participating only for competition sake **is not able to sell food at this event.**
- There are 2 awards for each category, “Judges Choice” and “Peoples Choice” Contestants may participate in one or both the Judge’s or People’s Choices.

**Judges Choice** is selected by a celebrity panel of judges.

**Winners receive \$100 Amateur and \$250 Professional along with plaques.**

**Peoples Choice** is balloted by attendees. All competitors agree to give a sample rib to each attendee in exchange for a “rib ticket”. 1 ticket = 1 rib. Event organizers will pay each vender \$.50 for each ticket redeemed after the event. Event attendance will be limited to 1500 attendees. **To effectively participate in this aspect of the competition, 50 racks of ribs is recommended.**

**Winners receive \$100 Amateur and \$250 Professional along with plaques.**

**Best Ribs in East Tennessee** is chosen by combining Judges Choice scores and Peoples Choice votes. This award is open to amateur and professional competitors. Winner is the highest total. There will be one award for all categories, both amateur and professional categories.

**Winner receives \$500 and a trophy.**

- Judging for the event is at 5:00 pm. At 4:30 pm each contestant must provide 6 samples for the Judge’s Choice. A sample is a single rib. An anonymous panel of celebrity judges will sample all entries and determine a winner, which will be announced at 6:00 pm on the main stage after the last band’s performance.
- Ballotting for the People’s Choice will end at 5pm. Ballots will be counted prior to 6 pm and the winner will be announced after the Judge’s Choice is announced.
- Pork ribs are the standard for this competition. Ribs may be par-cooked prior to the event but must be finished “on the fire” during the event. **Bonus points are given for entries started and finished on site.**

- Contestants may cook and sell other meats or vegetables as desired as long as they are a licensed Tennessee food service operation. ***Contestants may not sell any beverages.*** Contestants must provide their own serving plates, utensils and napkins.
- All contestants must provide their own tent or shelter, plus tables and chairs, and are responsible for set-up, take-down and clean-up of their booths. If you need a tent, a 1-day rental of a 10' x 10' self-supporting tent is available from the festival for \$50.
- Each contestant must bag their trash and place it in the designated area.
- Contestants are responsible for meeting all applicable Health Department regulations. As this is a one-day event, no permit or inspection is required. A hand wash station must be in each booth. This may be an alcohol based sanitizer wash. Plastic gloves, aprons, and hair nets are recommended, but not required.
- Contestants are responsible for meeting applicable fire codes. No cooking under tents or in booths. Grills and smokers must be adjacent to, but not in, tents or booths. Propane tanks must be secured to stationary object. Each booth must have a 5lb BC or K type fire extinguisher.
- Professional contestants **may** sell their ribs, additional varieties of barbeque meats, sauces, side dishes, team tee-shirts, souvenirs, etc. Prices are the sole determination of each team. Contestants are responsible for any (sales) tax liabilities
- **Contestants may not sell or give away beverages of any kind.**

If you would like to participate in this competition, please fill out the attached application and mail it to:

Racks by the Tracks  
 c/o  
 Second Harvest Food bank  
 127 Dillon Court  
 Gray, TN 37615

If you have any comments or suggestions, please call Doug at (423) 797-1647. Once we receive your application, we will send you a participant's package with more relevant information.