West Virginia Horse Expo
Cowboy Cook-Off
Sunday, April 18, 2010

Rules and Regulations

DEADLINE: MARCH 15, 2010

REGISTRATION

1. All interested parties must complete a registration form listing name of team, team captain, chief cook, no more than three (3) team assistants and contact information.
2. Each contestant will provide a written recipe with the application providing ingredients and preparation instructions. These recipes will become the property of the West Virginia Horse Expo. Copies of the recipes will be given to the judges with your identifying number which will be supplied by the WVHE Management.
3. The Registration Fee is $25.00. Registration forms must be in by March 15, 2010.

ARRIVAL

1. With the exception of handicap accessibility, no animals or small motorized vehicles (golf carts, mopeds etc.) will be allowed in the cooking area.
2. Upon arrival, gate security will direct you to the Cowboy Cook-off sign in area.
3. At sign in, each contestant must present their Food Handler's Card

SETUP

1. Set up time is from 8:00 am -10:00am
2. Each contestant will be pre-assigned a 15 x 20 space identified by the team's name.
3. Contestants must provide their own tables, stoves and other cooking utensils and equipment including generators and vehicle.
4. Contestants must provide their own fire extinguisher and it shall have it accessible at all times.
5. Contestants must bring their own trashcans and/or garbage bags. Contestants are required to place all collected trash in disposal bins supplied by the fairgrounds.
6. Teams must not exceed the boundaries of the team's assigned cooking space.
7. Contestants must adhere to all electrical, fire, and other state and local codes.
8. All equipment must be removed from the site by the end of day. Clean up must be thorough.
9. Each contestant's setup will be judged on Use of space, originality, and overall presentation.
10. Judging of Set-up will start at 11:00 am.

COOKING

1. The cooking period will begin immediately after the Set-up and can continue through 5:00 pm at the discretion of the contestant.

2. Only a cut of beef dish will be judged. Other meats and side dishes may be prepared to serve to the general public (See selling to the public below.)
3. All competition meat will start out raw.
4. All competition meats shall be inspected by the Official Meat Inspector. Cooking shall not begin until the competition meat has been inspected by the Official Meat Inspector.
5. All contestants must have a current "Food Handler Card" from the West Virginia Health Department and must wear plastic gloves while handling food.
6. Only pre-registered team assistants may assist the contestant in any manner during the cooking period.
7. No use of tobacco products, alcoholic beverages or controlled substances while handling meat and other food products throughout the day among the team
8. Cleanliness of the cook, assistant cooks, cooking equipment/devices and space is required. Shirt and shoes must be worn throughout the day.
9. Sanitizing of work area should be implemented with the use of bleach/water rinse. Each contestant will provide separate containers for washing, rinsing and sanitizing of utensils.

JUDGING

1. Judging of contestant's entries will begin at 1:00 pm. Each contestant will be given a pre assigned general time to present the entry to the judges.
2. A selected board of qualified judges will assess the entries on Presentation of the Entry, Taste, Aroma, and Texture on a scale of 1-10 with 10 being excellent.
3. All contestants will be provided three numbered plates to serve their entry to the judges at sign in. Entries may only be presented on plates provided.
4. This is a blind judging. Contestants will bring their entry to the back of the judge's booth for judging. The three numbered plates will be presented for judging by expo staff and/or volunteers.
5. Each judge will enter the identifying number on the judging score card. Score the presentation and submit score cards to a volunteer who will be in the booth with the judges for tabulation.
6. Judges reserve the right to refuse to taste any entry that appears unhealthy or spoiled or otherwise unfit for human consumption.
7. The judging will also include compliance with the rules and regulations
8. The decisions of the judges are final
9. The winners will be announced and prizes awarded at 3:30pm.

SELLING TO THE PUBLIC

1. Tickets for the general public to sample the entry recipe will be sold at the ticket booth.
2. Purchased tickets will be presented to contestants during the day for a sample of the contestant's entry.
3. Contestants may sell whole portions of the entry meat, other meats and side dishes to the public at fair market price.
4. Only coca cola beverages can be sold at the Cowboy Cook-Off. Other soda beverages will cause the contestant to be eliminated from the competition.
5. Contestants are responsible for the collection and security of monies for goods sold.

GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. WV HE Management reserves the right to reject the application of or request the removal of any contestant who is deemed offensive.
2. Video and photos taken by WVHE Management are the property of WVHE Management.
3. WVHE Management shall provide security throughout setup, the event, and breakdown.
4. However, WVHE Management shall NOT be responsible for contestants' personal items left on the grounds.
5. WVHE Management makes no representations or guarantees as to the number of attendees to the WVHE nor does WVHE Management guarantee any financial gain to contestant.
6. WVHE Management shall NOT be held liable for any damages or financial loses if the event is delayed or canceled due to circumstances beyond the control of management (i.e. acts of God, governmental emergency, or bomb threat). Should such a cancellation take place, WVHE Management may retain some of the amount paid by contestants to defray the cost to date that management has incurred in producing the event. The balance to be paid to contestant within 30 days of cancellation.
7. The West Virginia Horse Expo is a Social Enterprise of Arms Wide Open Ministries, Inc. (AWOM). Contestants agree to indemnify and hold harmless West Virginia Horse Expo and it organizers, AWOM, TAHOE, and the State Fair Event Center also referred to as management, organizers and venue, their agents, officers, volunteers and employees from all claims, loses, damages, or expense resulting or arising from any and all injuries to or death of any person or damage to any property caused by an act, omission, or neglect of management, organizers, venue, contestants, contractors or attendees.
8. Although not required, it is strongly recommended that each contestant, at its own expense procure and maintain in force liability insurance.
9. Contestants shall abide by and observe all federal, state, and local codes, ordinances and laws.
10. Contestants shall also comply with the rules and regulations of the venue, the State Fair Event Center. All materials, equipment, and utensils used in the Cowboy Cook-Off must meet West Virginia Fire Code regulations.
11. Should any Contestant fail to abide by these terms and conditions/rules and regulations Set forth in this agreement, WVHE Management reserves the right to terminate the contestant's contract and refuse the contestant's participation in future events produced by the WVHE Management.

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