



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY
FAIR ASSOCIATION**

KIDZ-Q COOK-OFF RULES & STANDARDS

CONTEST DATE & SCHEDULE:

*Date: April 20, 2024

*Check-In: 9:00 a.m.

Parents can assist chefs from 9-9:45a.m. with seasoning, knife work, prep, etc.

*Head Cook Mandatory Meeting: 9:45 a.m. (supplies, pork chop, & turn-in containers will be given at this time). The committee will light fires during this meeting. All Junior and Senior parents vacate competition area. 1 parent per Peewee family may remain.

* Fir Up Pits: 10:15a.m.

*Pork Chop Turn-In: 11:00 a.m.

*Open Category Turn-In: 11:30 a.m.

*Awards Ceremony: 1:30 p.m.

AGE DIVISIONS:

Peewee Division 5-9 years old

Junior Division 10 – 13 years old

Senior Division 14 – 18 years old

(Divisions will be judged separately)

FORMAT:

Register online at www.mcfa.org

Registration will open on February 5, 2024, at 9AM and close by 5 p.m. on February 16, 2024.

\$35.00 entry fee per child entered.

Entry fee includes one admission armband for the Competitor. Parents will need to pay to enter the grounds. No refunds will be given.

This is a solo competition. Teams are not allowed.

20 entries per age division (totaling 60 entries) will be selected via Random Drawing.

Rules:

Peewee Competitors are allowed one parent for entire time. Junior Competitor are allowed one parent only for lighting the grill and cutting. Senior Competitors will compete without parent support. Only one child is allowed to cook per entry.

Each Competitor will be provided with only an Old Smokey grill 20-22 Inch, charcoal, two pork loin chops and one turn in tray for each category. Competitors are required to use only the grill and charcoal provided by ev organizer. Wood chips, BBQ fans, chimneys, etc. are allowed. You provide good times & tasty turn-ins.

No electricity will be provided. 6' tables will be provided with 2 Competitors per table.

Pork Chop Entry – this entry is **required**. No pre-seasoning or precooking of the meat is

allowed until it has been inspected and approved by the Committee. Once the pork chop is given, it may not leave the prep/table area. **Only 1 pork chop will be used for turn in. The 2nd can be eaten, discarded, etc.**

Open Meat Only Entry - this entry is voluntary and may be anything except pork chop. **Example: Shrimp, Fish, Beef & Chicken.** You must provide your own food products for the open entry. Kids **MUST** cook the open entry on the same grill used for the provided pork chop. Entries will be inspected and approved prior to seasoning or cooking NO pre-seasoning will be allowed, all must be done the day of cook-off. Both the pork chop entry and open entry can be cooked simultaneously if needed to meet the turn-in times.

Competitors will need to bring their own cooking utensils, i.e., knives, thermometer, tongs, spatulas, etc. and are allowed and encouraged to use their own "special" seasonings and marinades. Sauce and mops may be used during cooking. Sauces must be cooked on, not poured on for presentation. No sauces or garnishes may be added to the judging container.

Only the Competitor is allowed to turn-in their pork chop and open entry food item. Entries will be submitted in the appropriate container supplied by the event organizer at check-in. NO GARNISH or foreign objects. Only the entry to be judged is allowed in the container. Each entry will be judged on APPEARANCE, TASTE/FLAVOR, TENDERNESS and TEXTURE. Meat may be sauced or un-sauced. Turn-in times for each category are listed above.

Each division will have a designated table for each category turn-in. It is the competitor's responsibility to place the entry on the appropriate table.

Once all entries are turned in, it is the responsibility of the Parent when applicable and or competitor, to see that the contest area is kept clean both during and after the contest. This is extremely important for everyone's SAFETY. Failure to do so could result in being disqualified from the competition. There will be a dumpster provided to dispose of trash.

Peewee Division Competitors – Peewee Division is the only division allowing a parent in the competition area. Only one parent is allowed in total, regardless of how many children a family has entered in this division. Remaining family members must stay in the parent/family designated area and cannot enter the competition area once the competition begins.

Parent with peewee competitor may help use a knife. **Parents may also assist in lifting the bbq pit lid or replacing it atop the pit as necessary.** Parent involvement will not be tolerated for seasoning, preparation, flipping, check temperature or box the turn-in. Verbal assistance is allowed only to help the peewee competitors if needed. Parents cannot turn in the food container, only the peewee competitor can. Parent and competitor may be disqualified at the discretion of the committee.

Junior Division Competitors - Parent involvement in preparing and/or cooking with/for Junior Competitor is not allowed. The only assistance allowed is to cut meat with knife only if necessary otherwise competitors will do everything on their own. No parents or family members allowed to be in the competition area for the Senior division cooks. Parents need to remember that **this is a friendly kid's competition**, not an adult

competition.

Senior Division Competitors – parent involvement / guidance is not allowed. No parents or family members allowed to be in the competition area for the Senior division cooks.

Example of event setup.



Example of pits/fire



Example of table arrangement (2 cooks per 8' table).



These are examples only. MCFA and Committee members reserve the right to change the arrangement if needed.

Committeemen will discard of hot coals in a separate receptacle at the conclusion of the competition.

There will be a window between end of turn in and the awards ceremony to allow families to enjoy the fair or take cooking gear, pit, etc. to their car. Parents, please take note of the times and ensure your cook is back in time for the awards.

Any questions, please ask a Committee Member or Committee Chair. Please remember, this is a CHILDS BBQ COMPETITION designed to be fun and help your child grow and compete.

The Montgomery County Fair Association and its committee reserves the right to disqualify Competitor(s) for failure to follow these rules and standards. The Committee reserves the right to make additional rules and regulations as the situation warrants. Decisions of the committee are final.

Awards will be given in the following placement:

Peewee Division 1st-3rd place.

Junior Division 1st – 3rd place

Senior Division 1st – 3rd place

Peewee Division 4th – 10th place

Junior Division 4th – 10th place

Senior Division 4th – 10th place