

Open Chili Cook Off Rules

- A. Chili is defined as any spicy stew like dish cooked with meat and spices. The open category can use any edible ingredients to cook and present in the competition chili (i.e. beans, macaroni, corn, etc.).
- B. CHILI COOKED ON SITE - All chili must be cooked from scratch on site the day of the cookoff. All chili must be prepared in the open (no cooking in motorhomes, etc.).
 - 1. CHILI COOKED FROM SCRATCH - "Scratch" is defined as starting with raw meat.
 - 2. SANITATION - Cooks are to prepare and cook chili in as sanitary a manner as possible.
 - 3. INSPECTION OF COOKING CONDITIONS - Cooking conditions are subject to inspection by the head judge or his/her designee. (Failure to comply is subject to disqualification.)
- C. COOKS MAY HAVE TO TASTE THEIR CHILI - At the discretion of the head judge chili cooks may be required to remove the lids from their chili cups and taste their chili before turning in for judging. (If a contestant refuses, his or her chili will be disqualified.)
- D. COOKS MUST SIGN NUMBER SLIPS - Chili cooks must sign their secret ticket slips in ink with their first and last names at the time cups are issued. A cook will not be eligible to win (place in the top 10), if their secret ticket is unsigned when presented.
NOTE: Cooks must present their signed secret ticket to win.
- E. PROTECT THE JUDGING CUP - Once judging cups have been issued, each head cook is responsible for his or her judging cup. Cooks must not remove or tamper with the ticket on the outside of the cups. Any marked or altered cup must be replaced prior to turn-in or it will be disqualified. (*See* Sections A.4. and 5. for cup replacement.)
- F. FILLING CUPS – 16 oz cups must be filled to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch from the top of the cup or to the level designated at the cooks' meeting.
- G. CHILI TURN-IN - Chili will be turned in at the place and time designated at the cooks' meeting or as otherwise designated by the head judge.
- H. PYROTECHNICS - No chili contestant may discharge firearms or use any pyrotechnics or explosives at a chili cookoff. Contestants discharging firearms and/or using explosives or other pyrotechnics will be disqualified from the chili cookoff.
- I. H. PENALTIES - Failure to comply with rules will result in disqualification of an individual cook for the cookoff. Decisions of the official(s) are final. In case of disqualification, the Veterans United official monitoring the cookoff will immediately notify the head cook and give a reason for disqualification. In the event disqualification of a cup of chili occurs after judging has started, it is not necessary that the cook be located or given an explanation for the disqualification.

People's Choice Chili Cook Off Rules

At least 2 gallons (8 Quarts) of chili should be made for the People's Choice event. Chili may be made ahead of time and brought back to 150 degrees Fahrenheit before People's Choice begins at 11am.

Chili is defined as any spicy stew like dish cooked with meat and spices.

Participants must keep People's Choice chili warm while serving between 11am and 2pm.

People's Choice ends at 2pm and all tickets will be counted promptly.

SHOWMANSHIP Competition

Showmanship judging will begin at 11 am and end at 12pm.

Showmanship is based upon:

Theme

Costume

Booth set up and decorations

Action

Audience appeal/involvement.

NOTE: PYROTECHNICS - No chili contestant may discharge firearms or use any pyrotechnics or explosives at a chili cookoff. Contestants discharging firearms and/or using explosives or other pyrotechnics will be disqualified from the chili cookoff.

Cooks must bring any materials they plan to use. Some examples to bring are as follows.

1. Any tables for prepping and serving people's choice
2. A 10 x 10 Canopy
3. All cooking elements needed for cooking chili. If you need electricity be sure email us at: events@veterans-united.org
4. All ingredients for chili
5. All serving utensils needed (with exception of People's Choice spoons)
6. Any decorations for your booth

Veterans United will provide the following:

1. A 10' x 10' space for cooks to utilize
2. 16oz Competition cup for each entry
3. People's Choice 4 oz serving cups
4. People's Choice tasting spoons
5. People's Choice voting container