

## Trego County Fair Chili Cook Off 2011

### Official Rules

1. The official rules are based off of the rules, regulations, and definitions of the International Chili Society. This is not an ICS sanctioned event and does not require an active membership in the ICS.
2. Open Class Chili – while this category is not specified by the ICS, it will be the only sponsored category for the first annual Trego County Fair Chili Cook Off. The Open Class Chili may consist of any combination of meat or meats, any combination of green or red peppers, any combination of spices, and chili may include beans or pasta.
3. No ingredient may be pre-cooked in any way prior to the commencement of the official cook off. The only exceptions are canned or bottled tomatoes, tomato sauce, peppers, pepper sauce, beverages, broth and grinding and/or mixing of spices. Meat may be treated, pre-cut or ground. **MEAT MAY NOT BE PRE-COOKED**, in any manner. All other ingredients must be chopped or prepared during the preparation period.
4. A team must be at least three persons and may not exceed five persons. The team leader must be at least 18 years old.
5. Cooking will begin 12:01pm and must be completed by 3:50pm. Judging will begin at 4pm.
6. A representative of the sponsoring organization shall conduct a contestant's meeting, at which time final instructions are to be given and questions answered, at 11am in the designated covered area. Look for the signs.
8. Contestants are responsible for supplying all of their own cooking utensils, portable cook top/stove/oven, pots/pans/mixing bowls, chili ingredients, etc. and provide a fire extinguisher for their area. The sponsors of the cook off will provide a table and covered area for cooking.
9. Each contestant must cook a minimum of 4 quarts of competition chili prepared in one pot which will be submitted for judging. Sharing or splitting Chili for judging with another contestant for the purpose of increasing the number of entries in any event will result in disqualification for a minimum of one year. Any cook off chairman, chief judge or scorekeeper knowingly allowing cheating in any way at their event will result in disqualification from that position permanently, no exceptions.
10. Chili entries will be judged in two ways. First, a panel consisting of three judges will rate the entries. Second, the public will vote by coin (\$0.25) for the People's Choice Chili.
11. Each contestant will be assigned a contestant's number by the Chief Scorekeeper and given 3 official 12 oz. judging bowls. In order for a cook to receive the judging bowl for their specific contest, they must sign the contestant list. Each contestant should verify that the number on the bottom of their bowls is the same as their assigned contestant number. Each contestant is

responsible to deliver their bowls, which must contain at least one full ladle of chili per bowl, to the judging area at the official time for judging.

12. Judges will be told that they should vote for the chili, based on the following major considerations: good chili flavor, texture of the meat, consistency, blend of spices, aroma and color.

13. The People's Choice Chili competition will be conducted by allowing each chili entry having a one gallon milk jug at the registration table. Each contestant will be given multiple 4oz cups and spoons. The general public will be allowed into the cooking area after judging in order to taste competition chili that has been placed into the 4oz. bowl. Members of the public may then vote for their favorite chili by placing \$0.25 into the milk jug of their preferred entry. The entry receiving the most votes will be awarded the People's Chili Choice Ribbon.

14. Judging awards will not be revealed until after the People's Choice Chili competition is complete. It is estimated the People's Choice Chili competition will begin about 4:15pm and last until approx. 5:30pm. This estimate is based on when the contestants will run out of chili.

15. An entry fee of \$20 will be obtained from each contestant/team prior to the start of the competition. The entry fees will be used as prize money and broken into shares as follows: 1/2 (or 3/6) will be given as First Prize, 1/3 (or 2/6) will be given as Second Prize, and 1/6 will be given as Third Prize. A ribbon will be given for First, Second, and Third prize. At the discretion of the judges, Honorable Mention Ribbon's will be awarded. The ruling of the panel of judges will be considered final.

16. Monies received from the People's Choice Chili competition will be used to cover expenses of the competition. Any monies left over after expenses have been covered will be sent to the National EMS Memorial in Colorado Springs, CO.