

Dripping Springs Cook-Off Club

Founders Day Cook-Off

April 20th -22nd, 2012

Official Event Rules

Set-Up/Check-In/Head Cook Meeting/Take-Down

MAKE SURE YOU READ AND UNDERSTAND THESE RULES. ANY TEAm THAT VIOLATES THESE RULES WILL BE SUBJECT TO DISQUALIFICATION AND WILL RISK LOSING THEIR Camp SPACES IN FUTURE YEARS.

Set up times: All registered teams will be notified during the first week of April and will be sent a color coded card to let you know what time you may set up in your space and which gate to enter. Traffic will enter from one of three gates. Your assigned entry gate & space numbers will be given to you when you receive your confirmation letter. Each team will be given a designated time to set up and a designated entrance into the cook off area. At the team's designated time for set up, the team will need to unload vehicles/trailers, etc and then immediately remove your vehicles from the area. **All vehicles must be out of the area by 4:00 pm. No cars will be allowed in any area of downtown through the remainder of the weekend.**

This rule will be strictly enforced by the Founders Day Commission and the Dripping Springs Cook-Off Club. Anyone violating this rule will be disqualified from competing and will not be asked to return in following years. Please help enforce this important safety rule.

Campsite: Teams are responsible for providing their own shade canopies. Electricity will be provided within 100 feet of campsites. Please bring your own electrical extension cords. No RV's or travel trailers will be allowed within the cook-off area.

Check In: Please come to Cook-Off Club Headquarters as soon as you arrive to check-in and verify your cooking space.

Head Cook's Meeting: Friday at 5:00 pm at Cook Club Headquarters. Someone from each team must attend. No more than 2 per campsite since space is limited.

Clean Up: All camps must provide your own trash containers. All trash should be placed in bags or sacks prior to placing it in the dumpsters provided. Head Cooks are responsible for maintaining a trash-free campsite at all times and sites must be thoroughly cleaned before departure. Please bring your own brooms to sweep your areas for small trash and cigarette butts. All cook spaces must be clean and free of any grease spots before you leave the area when the cook off ends. Your spot must be inspected by a cook-club official and signed off on prior to leaving. Any team leaving grease spots will be charged \$100 for clean-up.

Early Camp Tear-Down and Departure: Every team is encouraged to participate in all events and stay until Judging/Announcements are concluded on Sunday. NO DEPARTURES WILL BE ALLOWED ON SATURDAY.

- Any team that wants to depart before 4:00 pm Sunday may tear-down their campsite and leave PRIOR to 10:00 am Sunday. No team may tear down or depart after 10:00 am Sunday until the closing time on Sunday. **If you're not out before 10 am...you're staying until 4 pm.**
- Regular end-of-event tear-down may begin at 4:00 pm Sunday. All campsites must be cleared from the city no later than 6:00 pm on Sunday.

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CITY RULES & REGULATIONS

Fire Rules: The City of Dripping Springs and the North Hays County Fire Department require each campsite be equipped with a portable fire extinguisher and a closed grease container. Cookers will be responsible for preventing and eliminating drips, spills and trash around their campsites. A grease vat will be available at Headquarters to dispose of your grease, if you wish.

City Regulations:

No music, radios, "boom boxes" or other sound systems may be played or operated during the hours of 10:00 pm and 8:00 am so as to be audible by more than 10 feet away from a camp site.

You may not drill holes or drive objects into the paved surfaces of any city street. Please use buckets of sand/cement to secure your posts.

Do not park your automobiles in or along the right-of-ways on Ranch Road 12, HWY. 290, Mercer or Loop 64. The City prohibits any unauthorized vehicles within the campsites, including cars, trucks, motorcycles and any small 4 wheel utility vehicles or golf carts. Cookers must follow the City Health Inspector's **Guidelines for Food Service at Special Events** (copies available via web-site and at headquarters).

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Cook Space Information: Approximate Space Size 12'x16'

Please visit our website, www.DSCOCTX.com to see the event map of the Cook-Off area to determine the space(s) you wish to occupy and list the spot number(s) in the choices below. The map shows the spaces occupied by teams in the prior Cook-off (2011). All spots must be paid for by Thursday, March 15, 2012 to guarantee your same cooking spot as last year. Any spots not paid for by March 15 will be made available to other teams on the waiting list on a first come basis. If you did not participate in 2011, please mark a preferred spot and turn in your entry form ASAP so we may put you on the waiting list.

Judging: We will be awarding over \$5000 in prize money this year. Judging will be announced on the Founders Day Stage on Saturday at 6:30 pm for Fajitas, Chicken, Pork Spareribs, Brisket, Best Camp, Best Pit, and Showmanship. Judging for Salsa, Chili, Beans, and Chicken Clucking will be announced Sunday at approximately 4:30 pm.

Awards & Prizes: Below is a table that shows the places that will qualify for the cash prizes and awards.

All Meat and Chili Entries

1st place: \$350 and trophy
2nd place: \$200 and trophy
3rd place: \$100 and trophy
4th place: \$50 and trophy

Best Camp and Best Pit

1st place: \$200 and trophy
2nd place: \$125 and trophy
3rd place: \$75 and trophy

Chicken Clucking

1st place: \$30
2nd place: \$20
3rd place: \$10

Beans and Salsa

1st place: \$200 and trophy
2nd place: \$100 and trophy
3rd place: \$50 and trophy

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COOK-OFF RULES & REGULATIONS PLEASE READ BEFORE SIGNING ENTRY

- 1. Cooking:** All food entries must be cooked at the Cook-Off and within the campsite area so as to be visible at all times. Marinating or seasoning must be done on-site (except for fajitas on Friday night which may be marinated prior to the event). The Head Judge and judging committee will be responsible for inspecting all meats and salsa and potluck ingredients.
- 2. Meat Inspection:** Will begin on Friday at 5:15 pm and continue through Sunday (for salsa, chili and potluck). If you do not check-in until Saturday or Sunday, your food items will be inspected at check-in. Sauces, garnishes, etc. may NOT be added to entries at turn-in. You will not receive your turn-in containers until the meat inspection form has been signed by a judge.
- 3. Meat turn in:** All meat will be in 30 bite size boneless pieces for judging – no slices, no bone-in chicken, no racks/slab ribs except as otherwise specified. Exceptions: (1) All brisket entries will have one ¼ inch slice of brisket which will be placed along with the 30 bite size pieces. (2) All pork spareribs entries will have one port sparerib with meat along with the 30 boneless bite size pieces. If entries are turned in with something other than 30 bite size pieces (plus slice of brisket and/or sparerib, as applicable), your container will be given back to you to correct and turn-in before the allotted turn-in time is ended. Cooks must sample their own entries, if requested.

Please make a note of the TURN-IN TIME for all food entries:

Beef Fajitas:	8:00 pm, Friday	Salsa:	11:00 am, Sunday
Chicken:	12:00 Noon, Saturday	Chili:	12:30 pm, Sunday
Pork Sparerib:	2:30 pm, Saturday	Beans:	2:00 pm, Sunday
Brisket:	5:00 pm, Saturday		

Entries will be accepted no more than 10 minutes prior to and not more than 10 minutes past the official turn-in times for all categories. So that your meat is kept warm while the judging occurs, aluminum foil will be provided. Each Head and Additional Head Cooks must “sign-in” your food entry with a Club member before it will be given to the judges. The container will be inspected upon turn in to insure that all rules have been followed for entry turn in. If rules are not followed, entries will be given back to allow cooks to correct and turned back in prior to the end of the turn in time window.

- 4. Chili and Beans:** Chili entries must be con-carne only. No beans or large pieces of food items may be in the chili, such as chunks of tomato, large pieces of peppers, etc. Bean entries may not include large pieces of other food items, such as chunks of tomato, large pieces of pepper, etc.
- 5. Showmanship:** Will be judged on Saturday, April 21st beginning at 3:00 pm Judges will announce their presence to each team entering the contest and will expect entertainment to begin promptly. Judging will be based on any of the following: (1) team costumes (2) originality (3) entertainment and (4) the team displaying the friendliest “Cook-Off” spirit. Entertainment, skits, songs, poems, dances, etc. should be limited to 5-10 minutes.
- 6. Best Pit:** Judged on Saturday, April 21st beginning at 11:00 am. Judging will be based on the following criteria: (1) quality of materials (2) craftsmanship (3) attention to detail (4) firebox construction (5) tightness of compartment and (6) general layout of pit in campsite.
- 7. Best Camp:** Judged on: (1) the overall appearance and layout of the camp (2) cleanliness of the site and (3) theme of the camp, accessories and novelty items.

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8. **Chicken Clucking:** Will take place on Sunday, April 22nd, on the Founders Day Stage between 4:00 and 4:30 pm (please check with Headquarters for the exact time). Chicken Clucking will be judged on the original presentation of clucking or crowing like a chicken. There is no fee and there are two categories: (1) 15 years of age and younger and (2) 16 years and older.
9. **Judging Results:** All judging will be announced on the Founders Day Main Stage. Results for Friday and Saturday events will begin Saturday at 6:30 pm for Fajitas, Chicken, Pork Spareribs, Brisket, Best Camp, Best Pit, and Showmanship. Results for Sunday events will begin at approximately 4:30 pm for Salsa, Chili, Beans and Chicken Clucking.
10. **Tickets on Containers:** Each Head Cook and Additional Head Cook will be given a ticketed Styrofoam container for each category entered. These will be take-out boxes for meat entries; and cups for chili, salsa, & beans. Tickets will be taped to the outside of the containers. The Head Cook should tear off the ticket that is not taped down to the container and keep for claiming awards. Do not lose your number as this is the only means of identifying your entry. Do not remove, tamper or damage the ticket that is to remain taped on the container or you may be disqualified.
11. **Judging:** Entries will be judged on Taste, Aroma, Consistency (Texture), Appearance, and Aftertaste.
12. **Tip Jars:** Teams are allowed to have "Tip Jars" for guests who wish to sample food. However, you may not sell or advertise for sale any items, including food items, craft items, or commercial products from your camp site. Please do not abuse the Tip Jar rules. Tip jars will be eliminated if the rules are abused. Teams or individuals who wish to sell or promote items must purchase a separate Vendor Booth away from the cook-off area from Founders Day Committee.
13. **Clean Up:** Please provide your own trash containers and bags and sack all your garbage before placing it in the dumpsters. A limited supply of trash bags and kitty litter will be available at Club Headquarters. Head Cooks are responsible for maintaining a trash-free campsite at all times and sites must be thoroughly cleaned before departure. Please bring your own brooms to sweep your areas for small trash and cigarette butts. All campsites must be cleared from the city no later than 6:00 pm on Sunday. **Teams not obeying this rule will be subject to disqualification and will risk losing their camp spaces in future years**
14. **Reasons for Disqualification:** Head Cooks, Additional Head Cooks and their Assistants may be disqualified for the following reasons:
 - Cheating, including discovery of entries cooked or marinated prior to Cook-Off, except as noted above
 - Violent behavior of any kind
 - Not adhering to the rules and regulations as set forth herein
 - Vulgar or obscene gestures, activities or language
 - Destruction of public or private property
 - Excessive abuse of alcohol which causes a major disturbance to the Cook-Off and its patrons
 - Cooks who do not maintain a trash-free camp site and who fail to clean their areas on Sunday
 - Violation of the Food Entry Rule - there must be separate entries in each Styrofoam container from any and all Head Cooks within one campsite
 - Unauthorized vehicles in the Cook-Off area or any other streets closed during Founders Day hours

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OFFICIAL ENTRY APPLICATION

--Please write clearly--

Team Name: _____

Head Cook: _____

Team Contact: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Home #: (_____) _____ Cell #: (_____) _____

Contact E-mail address: _____

--Club Use Only--

Space #	Category	Qty	Fee
	Entry (\$125)	_____	\$ _____
	Salsa (\$15)	_____	\$ _____
	Beans (\$15)	_____	\$ _____
Total Fees Rcvd: \$			_____
Date Paid.			_____ by: _____

****ENTRY FEE IS \$125 PER CAMP SPACE****

Each Team/Camp will be provided one 20-amp electrical hook-up within 100' of the campsite. Bring your own extension cord to connect to the panel. Additional hook-ups can be purchased from the City of Dripping Springs for \$20/each.

Entry fee will qualify you for one turn-in for each of the following categories: Fajitas, Chicken, Spare Ribs, Brisket, & Chili. Additional categories on Sunday are Salsa & Beans and cost \$15 extra per entry.

All returning teams will be assigned the same spaces they occupied last year unless you indicate that you want to move. New teams will be assigned a space on based on availability. The list of 2011 space assignments and a map are available on our website at www.DSCOCTX.com.

Did you compete here last year? Yes _____ No _____ Which space(s) were you assigned? _____

Will you be entering these contests?

There is no charge for these events.

Best Pit: Yes _____ No _____

Best Camp: Yes _____ No _____

Showmanship: Yes _____ No _____

Will you be entering these contests?

Entry fee is \$15 each

Salsa: # _____ Yes _____ No _____

Beans: # _____ Yes _____ No _____

Calculate Fees below:

Entry Fees (\$125/space) \$ _____ + Salsa \$ _____ + Beans \$ _____ = Total Amount \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: **Dripping Springs Cook-Off Club** and mail this signed registration form to:

Dripping Springs Cook-Off Club, P.O. Box 297, Dripping Springs, TX 78620

*****All Fees are Non-Refundable -- Deadline for Entry is 3/15/2012*****

No same day registration will be allowed; you must pre-register. Entries received after the deadline will be put on the waiting list

Please read the following acknowledgement: I, the undersigned Contestant, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages for the Contestant and all persons assisting the Contestant, against the Dripping Springs Cook-Off Club, including its officers, sponsors, and raffle donors, for any loss, damage, or injury to the Contestant and its assistants, regardless of how such loss or injury is occasioned and by whom during this event. I hereby agree to abide by the rules set forth above. Your signature indicates you have read the event rules and regulations and other attachments.

Signature _____ Date _____

For more information see our website at www.DSCOCTX.com
Event Coordinator: Chris Schmidt call 512-771-3730 with questions
Event e-mail dscookers@gmail.com