



2019 Crawfish Cook-Off

Saturday, April 27, 2019

RULES

PLEASE READ IN ITS ENTIRETY.

These rules must be understood and followed by all participants. The Mississippi Coast Coliseum reserves the right to amend these rules without notice.

- 1) The Cook-Off is open to amateurs and professionals, but there will be no division of these categories in judging.
- 2) A total of **30 teams** will be accepted for the competition. Entry is based on a first-paid, first-entered basis.
- 3) The entry fee is \$50.00 per team (non-refundable, and payable with entry form). Make checks payable to MCCC. Drop off or mail entry form and fee to: MCCCC-Crawfish Cook-Off, Attn: Lindsey Arthur, 2350 Beach Boulevard, Biloxi, MS 39531. The entry fee includes: space for each team, two 8-foot tables, two chairs, serving plates for the People's Tasting, water & drains (shared), and limited electricity (if requested), **and one sack of crawfish.**
- 4) Teams must furnish their own cooking utensils, ice, crawfish, equipment, tent (if desired) and decorations for their booth. Teams may supply their own decorated bowls to serve their crawfish in to the public if they wish. **Note:** The Coliseum will supply the container for presentation to the judges.
- 5) Each team may consist of up to four (4) members. The team captain will receive four general admission passes for entry into the Festival, four wristbands for entry into the competition area, and 4 parking passes.
- 6) Team guests may be permitted into the Cook-Off area throughout the day **provided they purchase guest wristbands ahead of time.** You can do this on the separate team guest form, attached. Guest wristbands are \$27 for adults and \$18 for children ages 6 to 12. Children under 5 are free but must be accompanied by a wrist banded adult. Guest wristbands may be available for purchase from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm on the day of the event. Guests must be presented to purchase the wristbands on the day of the event.
- 7) Teams will be allowed to set up beginning at 8:00 am on Saturday, April 27th. Vehicles will be allowed on the festival grounds for unloading but must be moved into the general parking lot by 10:00 am.
- 8) Teams that have competed previously at the Cook-Off may request the same booth location as 2018 on the application. Remaining booth locations will be assigned to teams on a first come, first serve basis on the morning of April 27th beginning at 8:00 am.
- 9) The competition area will be roped off. Team members and team guests must wear a wristband for entry. The public will purchase tasting tickets outside the competition area the day of the event and will allow the bearer to view the contestant's booth, receive one "plate" from each team to sample their recipe, and then cast their vote on the people's choice award.
- 10) Teams may purchase their crawfish from an outside vendor of their choice or from MCCC/Quality Seafood on-site that morning at market rate. To purchase on-site, you must

indicate that intention on the application form. **A minimum of three** 30# (30-pound) sacks must be cooked for the competition. You are free to cook more if you would like.

- 11) Teams are allowed to add corn, potatoes, and other lagniappe for cooking, and for serving to the public and the judges.
- 12) The judges' scoring will be based on the crawfish only – appearance, firmness/ease of peeling, and taste. Scoring is on a scale of 1-10, but is weighted as follows: **Appearance of crawfish (.25); Firmness/Ease of Peeling (1.3); Taste (2.45).**
- 13) Teams are responsible for maintaining clean and safe boiling and serving areas. Propane tanks must be in good working order and within code. Team PA systems, loudspeakers, or other audio equipment capable of broadcasting speech are not permitted. Music players are permitted, but must be managed in compliance with cook-off officials' instructions.
- 14) Contestants may bring coolers with alcoholic beverages for their team's consumption only (ages 21 and older). Coolers will be allowed in the boiling area only. When the competition is over, coolers must be returned to team members' vehicles. Teams are prohibited from distributing beer or other alcoholic beverages to the public. Violation of this policy will result in immediate disqualification from the competition.
- 15) Teams will be randomly assigned a time for their plate to be judged and must have their plate to the designated spot at that time or face disqualification. Any issues with meeting the assigned time must be brought to the attention of the Cook-Off Manager prior to the assigned time. All decisions of the judges are final.
- 16) Judging will begin at a time determined by the Cook-Off manager on the day of the competition based on the number of teams entered. The last pot of crawfish should be done at 3:30pm. No crawfish shall be cooked later than 3:30pm.
- 17) There will be cash prizes awarded in two categories (Judges' and People's Choice). The cash prizes will be:
\$1,200 / \$800 in the Judges Category and \$1,000 winner take all in for Peoples' Choice Award!
- 18) There will be a Spirit Award presented to the team with the best booth design, cooking team attire, and team spirit, as determined by the Cook-Off sponsors.
- 19) MCCC will make a standard sign identifying the team name, but teams may also display banners at their booth identifying their team or sponsors. Getting a corporate sponsor is a great way to offset some costs and provide valuable exposure for the sponsor.
- 20) Teams may put sponsor materials out on the tables or at their booth for the public to view; discuss this with Cook-Off Manager prior to event date so that it is not perceived as an inducement. No couponing allowed. Teams may **NOT** sell any items to the public.
- 21) The Mississippi Coast Coliseum reserves the right to amend these rules without notice.

Verification

I, _____, team captain for _____
verify that I have read the rules and procedures for the 2019 Crawfish Cook-Off and agree to abide by them.

Signature

Date



2019 Crawfish Cook-Off

Saturday, April 27st, 2019

TEAM ENTRY FORM

TEAM NAME: _____

TEAM SPONSOR(S) if applicable: _____

TEAM CAPTAIN'S NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

We are a Returning Team New Team

We plan to Supply our own crawfish Purchase on-site that morning

Number of sacks to purchase

PRE-PURCHASE TEAM GUEST TICKETS

All Cook-Off teams are welcome to have team guests with them during the Cook-Off competition. Each guest needs to wear a purchased Team Guest wristband at all times while inside the cooking area. Wristbands may be purchased from the Coast Coliseum box office at any time before April 27 or on-site the day of the Cook-Off from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm. If purchasing wristbands on the day of the event, guests must be present.

Children 5 and under free but must always be accompanied by a wrist banded adult.

- Children 6-12 are \$18 each.
- Ages 13 and up are \$27 each.

Guests must exit the competition area prior to gates. Guests will receive voting ballots and may re-enter as soon as gates open, before public.

I hereby purchase Team Guest wristbands for:

Team: _____

Number of adult tickets (\$27) _____

Number of child tickets (ages 6-12, \$18) _____

Above amount Includes cost of Festival general admission for Saturday, April 27th (\$15 adult; \$6 child) and tasting ticket (\$12).

Total \$ _____