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Cook-Off Contestant Rules & information
23rd Annual Burnin' Down Main Cook-off
Oct. 4th, 2025

1. **MEAT:** pre-cook it at home.
2. **INGREDIENTS:** Anything but Alcohol.
3. **PREP WORK:** Preping can be done at home, **BUT COMBINING & COOKING** (except meat) is to be done at event.
4. **START TIME:** Set up anytime after 6:30am **IN YOUR ASSIGNED SPACE. BE READY TO START SERVING AT 11:30am SHARP!**
5. **GALLONS:** **MINIMUM of 4 gallons. If you run out, you will lose votes.**
6. **SUPPLIES:** Bring **EVERYTHING** you need to cook and for booth/display, including tables. (See #10).
7. **DECORATIONS:** Optional, but to be judged in the **BEST THEME/DRESSED/DECORATED TEAM/BOOTH** contest, you will need to check the box on the entry form and put some effort into it. Be creative & energetic as it will draw people to your booth. Judges will determine if entry qualifies for consideration, prize will not be automatically awarded.
8. **CONDIMENTS :** You **CANNOT** sell or give away any food or drink, but are allowed to have condiments like peppers, cheese, catsup, crackers, etc. to accent your dish.
9. **HOUSEKEEPING:** Please have a washing station with a thermal jug of hot water, soap and a towel. Keep your area clean and trash picked up. (Trash Cans will be supplied). Some hand sanitizer will also be provided.
10. **WE PROVIDE:** Ladle sized for serving, sampling cups, gloves, ballot box, spoons and napkins, & two wristbands without votes, for you to taste other entries.
11. **ELECTRICITY :** Roasters pull 12 amps each. You will need at least a 20 amp 12 Gauge heavy duty cord and/or heavy duty power strip. Cords must be secured and/or marked with cones to avoid a trip hazard. Other heat sources like camping stoves, grills, turkey fryers, are allowed, but any fire pits, chiminea, or wood burning devices that are not normally used for cooking food must be pre-approved with the fire department. Gas generators are prohibited.
12. **VOTING:** Public will vote between 11:30am-1:30pm, each \$5 tasting wristband will have 2 votes. There will be 3 winners (based on a minimum of 6 entries per category). First place \$500, 2nd \$250 and 3rd \$100.
13. **JUDGING:** The Best Theme/Dressed/Decorated Team/Booth, if qualified, will be judged by a secret panel and will win \$100. We also have a judged Dessert Contest First place \$100, second place \$50, and third place is \$25 (see separate form for rules).
14. **ACTIVITIES:** There will be family friendly activities like free pumpkins for kids to decorate, face painting, crafts, and free inflatables for the kids.

Questions should be directed to Johni at 620-241-7430 or email mainst@mcphersonks.org We would LOVE to have you participate!