

BACON BASH TEXAS OFFICIAL RULES



Be sure to read all rules thoroughly, but to sum it all up: your team gets 15lbs of Pederson's bacon, and you make the coolest bacon dish you can think of! Winner gets a minimum of \$4,000 and is featured on 40,000 packages of Pederson's Natural Farms bacon! Pretty good deal, if you ask me!

GENERAL RULES, GUIDELINES, AND EVENT INFORMATION

- » Teams are made up of six team members (1 team captain and 5 team members).
- ◆ Two additional team members can be added for \$25 each (for a max team of 8).
- » All team members must be 18 years or older.
- » Excessive consumption of alcoholic beverages or disruptive behavior by any team member will result in team disqualification and immediate removal from the event grounds.
- » At the time of registration, teams can secure a 20'x20' cook space or a 20'x40' cook space. Space sizes are approximate, and teams must do their best to fit all equipment, cook trailers, etc., within their designated area.
- ◆ Spaces will be assigned in the order you arrive at Bacon Bash Texas.
- ◆ Bacon Bash Texas will not provide power or refrigeration to any team, however, also does not frown upon teams who are able to find power on their own.
- ◆ No individual utilities are available.
- ◆ There will be ice and water available for general use.
- » Teams are responsible for decorating their own space and providing their own signage, if they choose. *HIGHLY RECOMMENDED*
- » Teams must provide any tables, work spaces, cooking tools, and grocery and sampling supplies they need to compete.
- » Teams are not permitted to have microphones or sound systems at their cook spaces. If your team receives a noise complaint, you will be asked to turn your music off immediately by event staff. Teams who play music that can be heard over the sound system from event stages could be disqualified.
- » Quiet generators are allowed.
- » No pets allowed in any cook areas.
- » No personal vehicles are permitted within cook off spaces.
- ◆ Teams who plan to have an RV, food truck, or other large recreational or commercial vehicle at their cook off space MUST notify Lynna (lynna@baconbashtexas.com) by October 1.
- No motorized vehicles or golf carts are permitted in the cook off area.
- Access to the cook off area will be strictly enforced beginning at 7:00 a.m.
- » on Saturday, October 21. Only team members, wearing their provided team member armband, will be granted access to the cook off area.
- » ADA compliant parking and cook spaces are not widely available, and teams are not guaranteed compliant spaces. If your team needs to make arrangements for the most accessible areas we have to offer, please coordinate with Lynna (lynna@baconbashtexas.com) prior to October 1.
- » Vehicles will not be permitted into the event area for team load out until all ticket holders have cleared the street and staffing/security have deemed it appropriate and safe. An announcement will be given when it is safe to move vehicles and begin loading out. (For reference, bands end at 10pm this year.)
- » No glass bottles permitted.
- » There will be no refunds issued for team entry fees.
- » Each team must have access to a fire extinguisher at their cook site.
- » Teams must have hand-sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, and food service gloves available at all times.
- » Teams are responsible for the removal of all trash within their cook site. Community trash cans will be provided.
- » Grease disposal on the street, in planters, or in other non-approved locations will not be tolerated! A grease disposal station will be provided for teams behind The Horny Toad.
- » Judges' rulings and selections are final.
- » All rules are subject to change. Written notification of changes will be provided to team contacts as the event becomes closer, and final rules will be gone over at the team captains' meeting on October 21.



TEAM QUALIFICATION AND CHECK-IN

» Each team must check in before their cook site set-up can begin.

◆ Check-in times are:

- Friday, October 20 from 6:00 - 11:00 p.m. If you need to move in after this designated time, arrangements can be made for later Friday night or Saturday morning with Lynna (lynna@baconbashtexas.com) by October 10 to ensure staff is available for your check-in.

- *Teams are highly encouraged to load in on Friday night.*

◆ At Check-in, each team will receive:

- 6 team member wristbands (additional will be available for \$25 each - limit 2 per team)

- Bacon dish recipe card (as needed)

- Team member release forms (as needed)

- Bacon Bash Texas schedule of events

» Each team will receive a minimum of 15lbs of Pederson's Natural Farms bacon to use in their entry and samples. Bacon can be picked up from the truck after your team check in on Friday or on Saturday morning after 6:30 a.m. Arrangements can also be made for bacon to be shipped to you in advance. This fifteen pounds needs to cover the amount of bacon needed for all judging portions and the team's required 500 ticket holder samples.

◆ We are happy to deliver more bacon to your cook spot throughout the day, but please know staffing is limited and 30 minute advance notice is required.

» Team captains must attend the mandatory team captains' meeting at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 21. Location to be announced prior to the event.

◆ Each captain will receive:

- Their assigned round 1 (on-site) judging time (between 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.)

- Bacon dish recipe card (as needed)

- Team member release forms (as needed)

- People's Choice jar

- Grease bucket

- Any other supplies provided by Bacon Bash Texas

» Teams must be ready for judging at specified times. Failure to be ready on time could result in disqualification.

» Teams must be ready for ticket holder sampling beginning at 4:00 p.m. when Bacon Bash Texas gates open.

» Team entries will not be judged without completed recipe sheets and signed release forms for all team members.

» All teams must participate in the Battle of the Bacon contest, however, the Pork Butt Competition is optional and has an additional entry fee of \$50.

» Pork butt contestants must provide their own pork butt and foil pans.



PREPARATION FOR JUDGING AND SAMPLING

» Each team will receive 15 pounds of Pederson's Natural Farms bacon. This bacon must be used in the team's Bacon Bash entry and ticket holder samples.

» Contestants must supply all other ingredients and/or supplies needed to create their Bacon Bash Texas entry and ticket holder samples.

» Bacon Bash Texas entries are required to contain Pederson's Natural Farms bacon but have no other guidelines or restrictions on ingredients, which means you'll see entries that are appetizers, main course dishes, and even desserts!

» There is one judging category: bacon. All entries, regardless of food type (appetizer, main course, dessert, etc.), are judged together.

» All cooking and prep work can happen prior to Bacon Bash for the sole purpose of cooking it in advance. If you would like to have the bacon shipped to you prior to the event, please email Lynna (lynna@baconbashtexas.com) by October 1.

» All teams are required to maintain impeccable sanitary conditions, including refrigerating ingredients and proper handling of all ingredients and cooked dishes.

- Sanitize hands and surfaces often.
- Separate raw meats from other foods.
- Refrigeration temperature must be at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below.

• After cooking, all meat must be maintained at a minimum temperature of 140 degrees Fahrenheit.

• All team members handling food must wear food service gloves.

» There are no restrictions regarding cooking methods or equipment. Electricity is not provided. Fires must be contained, not on the ground. Propane is allowed.

» Entries can be garnished. In fact, they can be plated as extravagantly as you can dream up. **Note: Some teams go all out, especially for judging!!**

» Teams must prepare a minimum of 500 samples of their submitted Bacon Bash dish for ticket holder samples.

» Teams must be ready to start serving samples to ticket holders at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 21.

» Teams are responsible for serving their creations to ticket holders until 8:00 p.m. That means, if you've served your minimum 500 samples to ticket holders by 6:00 p.m., and you have the ingredients on hand to keep serving, we're asking you to keep going until at least 8:00 p.m.!





CONTESTS AND JUDGING

BATTLE OF THE BACON

First round / on-site judging

- » ♦ Two pairs of judges (4 total) will visit each cook off site for the first round of judging between 2:30 and 3:30 p.m.
 - Each pair of judges will be responsible for scoring three to five teams.
 - ♦ Teams must have two samples of their bacon entry plated and ready for each pair of judges to score when they arrive at the cook site (4 total).
 - Your team's on-site judging times will be provided at the 12:00 p.m. team captains' meeting.
 - Your entry can be plated as extravagantly or festively as you'd like, however, plating must be representative of what you would turn in at final table judging.
 - ♦ Entries will be judged on appearance, taste, and creativity.
 - See page 9 for official judges' scorecard.
 - ♦ Top 5 teams will go on to the second round: final table judging.
 - Round 2 final table teams will be announced from the main stage at 5:00 p.m.
 - Event staff will deliver your final table call time to your cook spot.
- » Second round / final table judging
 - ♦ The top 5 teams will be announced at 5:00 p.m.
 - ♦ Round two is judged live, on the Bacon Bash Texas main stage, beginning at 6:00 p.m.
 - Teams will receive their slotted final table judging time upon announcement.
 - ♦ Each of the top 5 teams will present their Bacon Bash entry to the final table judges on the main stage.
 - ♦ Teams have two minutes to present their dish, talk up their creation and their team to the final table judges and Bacon Bash ticket holders.
 - In the past, teams have used this time to sway, persuade, and win the hearts of judges and ticket holders.
 - Failure to leave the stage within two minutes will result in disqualification.
 - ♦ Final table entries must be representative of what on-site judges sampled in the first round of judging.
 - i.e. Entries must be the same dish served to onsite judges, plated in the same way.
 - ♦ Samples of final table entries must be served to ticket holders until 8:00 p.m. NO EXCEPTIONS!
 - ♦ The top five teams will be announced from the main stage at 7:50 p.m.
 - » Winners: There will be cash payouts for the top five teams. Winners will be announced at 7:50 p.m. from the main stage.
 - ♦ Cash payouts will be based on a \$10,000 pot!
 - Top five team payout ratio will be as follows:
 - ♦ 1st place: 40%
 - Guaranteed minimum of \$4,000.
 - Also receives their team photo, mini bio, and winning recipe featured on 40,000 packages of Pederson's Natural Farms bacon distributed nationwide!
 - ♦ 2nd place: 25%
 - ♦ 3rd place: 20%
 - ♦ 4th place: 10%
 - ♦ 5th place: 5%

RYAN JACKSON MEMORIAL PORK BUTT COMPETITION

Join us for the eighth annual Bacon Bash Texas Pork Butt Competition, dedicated to the memory of our friend Ryan Jackson! This contest is optional and has an additional entry fee.

» Contestants must be registered Bacon Bash Texas teams and participants of the Battle of the Bacon contest.

» There will be an additional \$50 entry fee to compete in the Pork Butt Competition.

◆ Teams can register and pay in advance or at team check-in.

» Contestants must present a raw/uncooked pork butt of at least 10lbs. for inspection at team check-in on Friday or Saturday morning.

◆ All contestants' meat must be inspected prior to being marinated, salted, seasoned, or cooked.

» Competitors may begin preparing pork butts as soon as inspection/check-in has happened (at their team check-in on Friday or Saturday).

» Pork butt competitors will receive a special banner to hang at their cook site to let ticket holders know who entered the additional competition and has pork butt samples.

» Pork butt entries must be turned in at 3:00 p.m. at the advertised pork butt turn in location. The following instructions must be followed precisely.

◆ TEAMS MAY NOT ENTER THE JUDGING LOCATION. THIS WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION.

◆ Teams must turn in 5 small servings (roughly 1/2 pound) of their pork butt for judging.

◆ Entry must be turned in in a foil pan with foil covering.

◆ No markings or identifiers of any kind may be placed on your foil container.

◆ Pork butt must be pulled when submitted for judging.

◆ Meat may be cooked with sauces and/or other liquids, but once the cooking is complete, sauces and/or other liquids may not be added or put into the tray. No puddling in the bottom of the tray.

» All other 'Preparation for Judging and Sampling' rules apply.

» Pork butt judges will be a separate panel from the bacon judges.

» Pork butt entries will be judged on aroma, appearance, color, tenderness, taste, and aftertaste.

◆ Please see page 9 for official judges' scorecard.

» Each competing team will be provided with tortillas and BBQ sauce to serve samples to ticket holders.

» Teams must prepare a minimum of 150 samples of their submitted pork butt for ticket holder samples.

» Ticket holder samples can be served with any type of sauce, seasoning, or garnish you wish!

» Teams must be ready to start serving samples to ticket holders at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 21.

» Teams are responsible for serving their pork butt to ticket holders until 8:00 p.m.

» Winners: There will be cash payouts for the top three teams. Winners will be announced at 7:50 p.m. from the main stage.

◆ Cash payouts will be determined by number of Pork Butt Competition participants. Jackpot will be 100% of team entry fees received!

◆ Top three team payout ratio will be as follows:

- 1st place: 60%
- 2nd place: 25%
- 3rd place: 15%





PEOPLE'S CHOICE

» Each team will have a donation jar at their cook spot, and it's up to our ticket-holding bacon lovers to decide how much to donate. Teams with the most friends, best bacon dish, or most spirit are top contenders in People's Choice!

» Winners: The winner will be announced on the main stage at 7:50 p.m. Winner receives a trophy and half of the money they've collected in their jar. The remaining People's Choice money goes directly to Bacon Bash Texas charities.

BEST IN SHOW

» Each team will be judged on their overall theme, appearance, and spirit. Our incognito Best in Show judges will be looking for the showiest, most enthusiastic, bacon-loving team! Everything from creativity in your space, to plating for the judges, to big personalities will come into play.

» Winners: The winner will be announced on the main stage at 7:50 p.m. Winner receives a trophy and \$500.



SAMPLE JUDGING CARDS



Battle of the
Bacon Judge's
Score Card

Team # _____
Judge # _____

Baconism
75% of Total Score

Appearance (See lots of Bacon) 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9
Taste (Tasted lots of Bacon) 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9
Flavor (Overall taste) 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9
Creativity (Originality of Bacon) 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9
Overall Impression 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9
Total: _____ / 50 = _____

Bacon Bits
25% of Total Score

Bacon Bits 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9
Presentation 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9
Total: _____ / 30 = _____

Baconism Score _____ x .75 = _____

Bacon Bits Score _____ x .25 = _____

Qualifying Points _____



Pork Butt
Competition Judge's
Score Card
Whole points only!

Team # _____
Judge # _____

I Like Pork Butts and I Cannot Lie
100% of Total Score

Aroma 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9
Appearance 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9
Color 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9
Tenderness 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9
Taste 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9
Over taste 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9
Total: _____ / 50 = _____

Qualifying Points _____