

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 (AKA the BBT Heroes):

- Each team consists of six members (one captain + five team members).
- Additional Members: Up to two extra members can be added for \$25 each (maximum team size: 8 members).
- Age Requirement: All team members must be 10 years or older.
- Behavior: Excessive alcohol consumption or disruptive behavior will result in immediate disqualification and removal from event grounds.

Cooking Spaces:

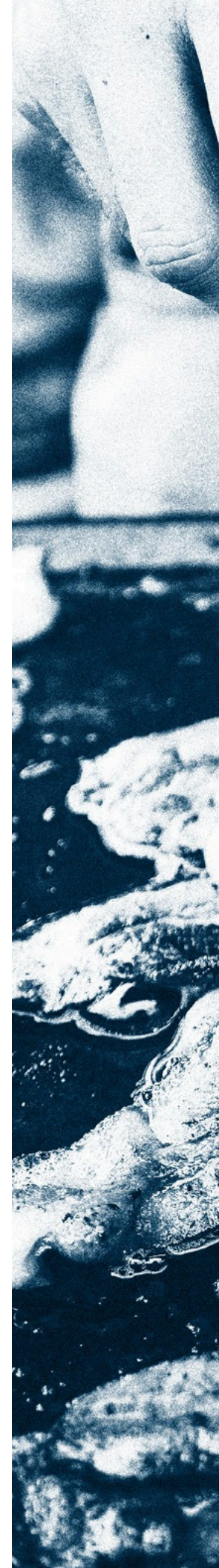
- Teams may secure either a 20'x20' or 20'x40' cook space (approximate sizes).
- Teams will select their cook space in the order their team registration was **purchased**. However, last year's 1st Place winner will have the first pick before general selection begins.
- All equipment, trailers, etc., must fit within the designated area.
- Power and refrigeration are not provided but teams may find power on their own.

Utilities & Supplies:

- No individual utilities available.
- Ice and water available for general use.
- Teams must provide their own decorations, signage, tables, workspaces, cooking tools, and supplies.

Noise & Equipment:

- No microphones or sound systems allowed at cook spaces.
- Quiet generators are permitted.
- Teams playing music that interferes with event sound may be disqualified.





Vehicles & Accessibility:

- No pets allowed in cook areas.
- No personal vehicles allowed in cook spaces.
- *RVs, food trucks, and large vehicles must be pre-approved by Becca prior to September 28.*
- Motorized vehicles and golf carts are prohibited in the cook-off area.
- Access restrictions begin at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 18; only team members with wristbands will be permitted.
- Limited ADA-compliant spaces available; coordinate with Becca (becca@baconbashtexas.com) before September 28

Event Closure & Load-out:

- Vehicles will not be allowed in until all ticket holders have left, after the final band ends at 10:00 p.m.
- An announcement will be made by Becca or Ryan Jackson when it is safe to load out.

Safety & Cleanup:

- No glass bottles allowed.
- **No refunds for team entry fees.**
- Each team must have a fire extinguisher at their cook site.

Sanitation requirements:

- Hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, and food service gloves required at all times.
- Teams are responsible for their own trash disposal (community trash cans provided).
- Proper grease disposal required—station available behind The Horny Toad.

Judging & Rule Updates:

- Judges' decisions are final.
- Rules are subject to change; updates will be provided to teams before the event.
- Final rules will be discussed in the team captains' meeting on October 18.

LOAD IN AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Check-in Required Before Setup

Check-in / Load In Times:

- Friday, October 17: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- 6:00 p.m. arrival is highly encouraged
- Friday Check-in is **required** unless other arrangements have been made with Becca
- Teams will be loaded in based on their assigned location on the event map, **not in the order of arrival.**
- We encourage teams with trailers or food trucks to arrive at 6 PM to ensure they can fit in to their designated space
- Please note: If you arrive late and are unable to back your trailer or truck into your space due to reserved spots on either side, it is your responsibility to find a solution to fit into your assigned space.

After teams are loaded in, they will receive:

- 6 team wristbands (additional available for \$25 each, limit 2 per team).
- Digital link for team release forms.
- Event schedule.
- Minimum 15 lbs of Pederson's Natural Farms bacon (pick up after check-in or on Saturday morning at 7:00 a.m.; advance shipping available upon request).
- Grease Bucket

Mandatory Team Captains' Meeting:

- Saturday, October 18, at 12:00 p.m. (location to be announced).
 - Team captains will receive:
 - Assigned round 1 judging time (2:30 - 3:30 p.m.)
 - People's Choice jar
 - Pork Butt Bunting (if applicable)

Judging & Sampling Requirements:

- Teams must be ready for judging at assigned times.
- Teams must be prepared for ticket holder sampling at 4:00 p.m.
- Recipe and signed release forms are required for judging.
- Participation required in Battle of the Bacon; Pork Butt Competition is optional (\$50 entry fee, must provide own pork butt and foil pans).





PREPARATION FOR JUDGING AND SAMPLING

Cooking Requirements:

- Each team gets 15 lbs of Pederson's Natural Farms bacon.
- No restrictions on ingredients except Pederson's bacon must be included.
- One judging category: Bacon (all types of dishes judged together).
- Teams must supply all other ingredients and cooking supplies.
- Extravagant plating is encouraged for judging.

Pre-cooking is allowed; bacon can be shipped to teams in advance (request made with Becca by September 28).

All food safety regulations must be followed, including:

- Sanitizing hands & surfaces frequently.
- Keeping raw meats separate from other foods.
- Refrigeration at 40°F or below.
- Cooked meat must be kept at 140°F or above.
- Food service gloves required for all handlers.
- Cooking methods/equipment are unrestricted (electricity not provided; fires must be contained; propane allowed).

Sampling Requirements:

- Teams must prepare a minimum of 500 samples for ticket holders.
- Sampling begins at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 18.
- Teams must continue serving samples until 8:00 p.m. if they have ingredients left.

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 last page 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. 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%

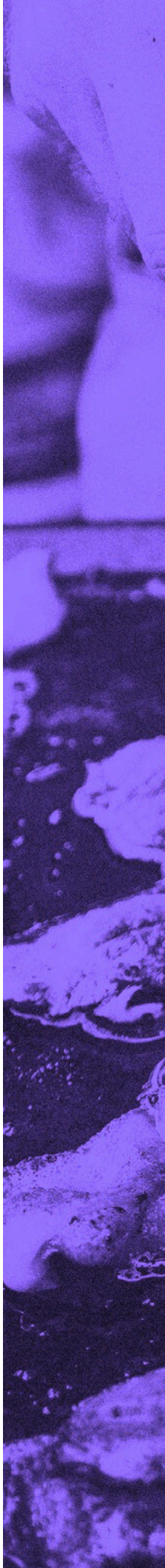
- Guaranteed minimum of \$4,000.
- Also receives their team photo, mini bio, and winning recipe featured on 40,000 packages of Pederson's Natural Farms bacon distributed nationwide!

◇ 2nd place: 25%

◇ 3rd place: 20%

◇ 4th place: 10%

◇ 5th place: 5%



RYAN JACKSON MEMORIAL PORK BUTT COMPETITION

Join us for the ninth 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.
- Entries will be judged on aroma, appearance, color, tenderness, taste, and aftertaste. *See final page 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 18.
- Teams are responsible for serving their pork butt to ticket holders until 8:00 p.m.

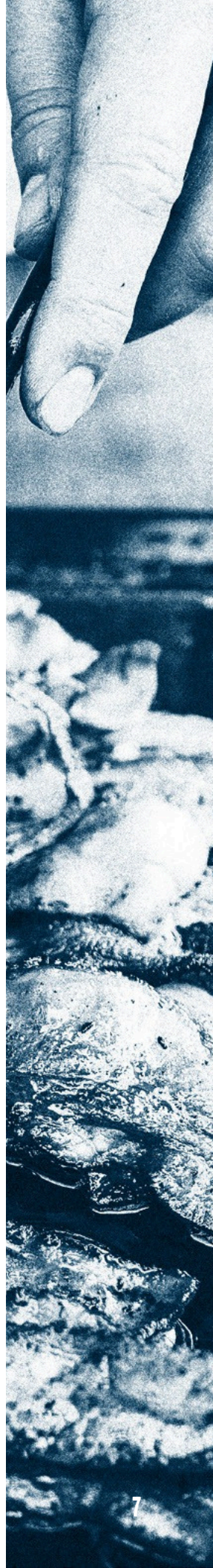
Winners: There will be cash payouts for the top three teams.

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!





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

Team # _____
Judge # _____

SAMPLE JUDGING CARDS

I Like Pork Butts and I Cannot Lie

100% of Total Score

Aroma	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Appearance	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Color	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Tenderness	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Taste	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Aftertaste	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Total: _____ / 60 = _____	

Qualifying Points _____



Battle of the Bacon Judge's Score Card

Whole points only!

Team # _____
Judge # _____

Baconism

75% of Total Score

Appearance (See lots of Bacon)	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Taste (Tasted lots of Bacon)	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Flavor (Overall taste)	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Creativity (Originality of dish)	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Overall Impression	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Total: _____ / 50 = _____	

Bacon Bits

25% of Total Score

Bacon Fit Well in Recipe	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Presentation / Plating	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Cook Site Presentation	1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 -- 9 -- 10
Total: _____ / 30 = _____	

Baconism Score _____ x .75 = _____

Bacon Bits Score _____ x .25 = _____

Qualifying Points _____