

St. Anthony Fire Department Bar-B-Q Contest

Backyard Grilling

August 16th, 2025

1. Meat categories judged for overall winner: chicken, pulled pork and St. Louis style pork ribs, chili any style and can have noodles. (Meat will be judged on appearance, aroma, tenderness and taste.)
2. Minimum amount of meat to be turned in for judging: 10 oz chili, ½ chicken not separated, 10 oz. pulled pork shredded and 6 ribs separated. Only submit meat to be judged, no food garnishing.
3. Meat must be cooked on site.
4. You will not be allowed to sell meat. You are encouraged to pass out samples.
5. Each entry must have their own grill.
6. Alcoholic beverages must be covered at all times. (Can Coozy). **NO KEG BEER, NO ALCOHOL AFTER 3PM. YOU MUST GO TO THE BEER GARDEN TO DRINK. THE FESTIVAL COULD LOSE THEIR BEER PERMIT IF THIS IS NOT FOLLOWED.**
7. Proper conduct will be enforced at all times. Unacceptable behavior will lead to disqualification and you will be asked to leave.
8. Prizes will be awarded for First, Second and Third in four categories plus First, Second and Third overall. **PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED AT 4:00 PM ON THE MAIN STAGE. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN.**
9. The judges decision will be final.
10. Meats will be turned in at 4 separate times. Chili at 11 am, Chicken at 12 pm, Ribs at 1 pm, Pulled Pork at 2pm.
11. Grilling for contest meats can begin at 4 am. Grills must be torn down by 3 pm to allow for parking for other events later in the afternoon & evening.
12. Booth spaces will be assigned by order of entry before 8/7/25. 2024 participants will be able to reserve their spot from 2024 and are entitled to keep that spot as long as they keep participating. The first year they miss the space opens up for another team. Teams returning and wanting to move spaces will have first pick of spaces that have opened by teams not returning. The other spots go into a drawing on the meeting night. The meeting is 8/6/25, 7:00 pm EST, **St. Anthony Volunteer Fire Dept. Station.**
13. Entry fee is \$30.00 per team. Contact Nick Merkley 812-639-639-3974, Darin Blessinger 812-631-1164, or Nick Persohn 812-631-1052
14. **BE SURE NO ONE SAMPLES YOUR FOOD WITHOUT DESIGNATED BOWL/PLATE & WRIST BAND. PLEASE ASSIGN SOMEONE TO MONITOR THIS.**
15. There will be designated areas to dispose of your charcoal. **PLEASE DO NOT DUMP YOUR GRILLS IN THE GRASS.**
16. Throw all meat scraps or fallen meat in trash cans or other appropriate containers. **PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ANY FOOD SCRAPS ON THE GROUND.**
17. Take everything home with you that you brought. **EXAMPLE: Broken canopies, broken grills, coolers, etc.**
18. Trash boxes and extra trash cans will be provided to each team.

Ambassador's Award

Chosen by Fire Department BBQ Contest Ambassador's for either of these or a combination of all: continuity, flow, variety, specialty items, booth appearance or anything that pleases the crowd.

People's Choice Award

Voted on by the crowd through cash donations to the event. To be eligible tasters must be provided from 11 am to 1 pm. Tasters selection is at the discretion of the competing teams. **This counts for 10 points in the overall judging.**

Send registration and \$30.00 to:
Checks payable to:
St. Anthony Fire Dept. note BBQ

Nick Merkley
5219 S Kyana Rd.
Birdseye, IN 47513