

BBQ & Brew at the Ballpark

Frequently Asked Questions

The Iowa Pork Producers Association and the Iowa Cubs are hosting the “BBQ & Brew at the Ballpark”, fun, charitable event for food pantries in Iowa. “BBQ & Brew” will feature an “all-pork” backyard BBQ competition, right here in the heart of pork production!!! While enjoying pork and sampling some of Iowa’s finest local breweries, learn some tricks and tips to smoking pork at the Pork BBQ Bootcamp. Plus, there will be music, yard games, and more!

BBQ & Brew at the Ballpark Schedule:

11:30 am	Judging begins
12:00 pm	Gates open to the public
12:00 – 1:30 pm	Music, BBQ vendors, brewery sampling, yard games, & more
1:30 – 2:00 pm	BBQ Bootcamp
2:00 - 3:30 pm	Charity Fundraiser & Music
3:30 pm	Awards presentation

BBQ & Brew Backyard BBQ Competition:

Who is eligible to compete?

The Backyard BBQ competition is open to non-professional BBQ’ers who are Iowa residents. All are welcome whether this is your first BBQ competition or if you have competed in others. Iowa’s pork producers take great pride in producing quality pork, and we want to see how you cook it! We encourage you to be a part of the first BBQ & Brew!

What is the registration deadline?

Registration deadline is June 1st or until full. Registration limit is 30 contestants.

What does the registration fee cover?

The registration fee is \$150. That fee covers the cost of the pork for the BBQ competition and Charity competition. Each competitor will receive (2) admission tickets. Additional tickets are available for purchase. Fyi ... \$25 of the registration fee will be going to the Charity Fundraiser to support pork donations to food pantries in Iowa.

What is the BBQ Competition schedule?

Team Meeting: July 14th at 6:00 pm
Judging: July 15th from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm
Charity Fundraiser: 2:00 to 3:30 pm
Awards: 3:30 pm

How early can we arrive to start setting up on July 14th?

You can set up any time after 12:00 pm on Friday.

What are the categories? How much meat will be provided?

Pork Belly (skin on) ... (1) pork belly provided
Pork Ribs ... (2) St. Louis pork ribs provided
Pork Butts ... (2) pork butts provided

Do I have to use the provided meat? Can I bring me own?

The provided pork is the only pork that can be used in the competition. We want to assure a level playing field for everyone.

When will we receive our pork?

The pork will be distributed following the team meeting.

What is the judging schedule?

The turn in times are:

11:25-11:35 Pork Belly

11:55-12:05 Pork Ribs

12:25-12:35 Pork Butts

Do I have to compete in all three categories?

Competitors do not have to compete in all three categories. However, you must compete in all three categories to be eligible for either Reserve Champion or Grand Champion.

What will judging be based on?

We will be using the Iowa Barbecue Society scoring system.

Is every competitor required to get a Temporary Food Establishment License?

The Polk County Department of Public Health requires that every competitor have a Temporary Food Establishment License. Here's the link for the Temporary Food Establishment License: <https://dia.iowa.gov/food/business-licensing>. If you have questions regarding the food permit, contact Addison Boughton at the Iowa Department of Inspections & Appeals at Addison.boughton@dia.iowa.gov / 515-281-6538.

Are competitors responsible for the \$50 fee for the Temporary Food Establishment License?

Competitors need to submit the \$50 fee when they apply for their temporary food license. The Iowa Pork Producers Association will reimburse each competitor their \$50 at the Team Meeting.

Do I need to bring my own handwashing stations?

All competitors are required to have a hand washing station. Please let us know if you have a handwashing station. If you do not, one will be provided for one.

What is the BBQ Bootcamp?

The BBQ Bootcamp is a fun, educational presentation for the attendees. We will have an expert BBQ'er sharing tips and tricks with smoking pork.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the competition and/or registering?

If you have questions about the competition and/or registration, contact the Iowa Pork Producers Association:

Joyce Hoppes

jhoppes@iowapork.org

515-225-7675

Carla Vanderheiden

cvanderheiden@iowapork.org

515-225-7675

Charity Fundraiser Competition:

What is the Charity Fundraiser Competition?

The Charity Competition is a fun, public sampling, and fundraiser event. The public will have the opportunity to sample pulled pork prepared by each competitor, and then vote with a donation on their favorites ... pork and/or competitors. All donations collected will go toward pork donations to food pantries in Iowa.

Are all competitors required to compete in the Charity Fundraiser Competition?

All BBQ competitors are required to compete in the Charity Fundraiser Competition. Each competitor will receive an additional 4-6 pork butts to cook and serve for the Charity Fundraiser Competition. Click the FAQ button in the Charity Fundraiser Competition section for more details.