

GENOA BLUFFS BBQ BATTLE

Sponsored by



OFFICIAL RULES AND ENTRY FORM

- 1.) The decision and interpretations of the BBQ BATTLE rules and regulations are at the discretion of Genoa Bluffs Farms Representatives at the contest. Their decisions and interpretations are final to the extent consistent with the rules.
- 2.) Each team will consist of one head cook and no more than four assistants. Head cook and/or assistant cooks may only cook for their designated team during the contest.
- 3.) Each team will be assigned a cooking space. Pits, cookers, props, trailers, vehicles, tents or any other equipment shall not exceed the boundaries of the team's assigned cooking area. All seasoning and cooking of product shall be done within the assigned cooking space. Teams shall not share an assigned cooking space or cooking device.
- 4.) Contestants shall provide all needed equipment and supplies. **ALL TEAMS MUST HAVE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER NEAR BY ALL COOKING DEVICES.** A fire extinguisher shall be shown to a contest representative before firing up of cooking devices. If the team does not have a fire extinguisher they may not compete until one is shown. There will be the possibility of being disqualified from competition therefore forfeiting the entry fee if no extinguisher is arranged.
- 5.) It is the responsibility of the teams to see that the cooking space is kept clean and orderly throughout the contest. All fires must be put out properly and all equipment removed from site at the end of the contest. Contestants must bring their own trash bags and Genoa Bluffs Farms will provide a dumpster to place trash in as contestants leave the contest. Any team's assigned cooking space left in disarray or with loose trash, may incur consequences, including disqualification of the team from future participation in Genoa Bluffs BBQ Battles.
- 6.) Fires for pit, smokers, or grills, must be based on wood, wood pellets, or charcoal. Gas and electric heat sources are not permitted for cooking or holding of meat. No open pits or holes in ground are permitted or any fires built on ground.
- 7.) All meat will be provided by Iowa Pork Producers. Each head cook for each team will draw a number to pick from the provided meat. Once each team has picked their meat, it shall not leave the contest site. All competition meat shall start out raw. No pre-seasoned meat is allowed. All seasoning of meats starts when contest begins. No Parboiling or deep-frying of competition meat is allowed. If any of the banned processes are discovered before team turns in the team will receive zeros. If any misconduct is discovered after turn-in, the team will receive a one for all criteria for that entry.
- 8.) Meat shall not be sculpted, branded or presented in a way to make it identifiable. Rosettes of meat slices are not allowed. Violations of this rule will be scored as a one on all criteria by all judges.
- 9.) To make the presentation equal and consistent on garnish among all teams, Genoa Bluffs BBQ Battle has chosen that all teams will use parsley to present their meats. Containers for presentation will be provided by Genoa Bluffs BBQ Battle. If teams do not follow this criteria for presentation the team will receive a score of one for presentation.
- 10.) Sauce is optional. If used it shall be applied directly to the meat and not pooled or puddled in the container. No side sauce containers will be permitted in the turn in container. Chunky sauce will be allowed. Chunks are to be no larger than fine dice, approximately 1/8 inch cubed. Sauce violations shall receive a penalty score of one for appearance.
- 11.) The container shall not be marked in any way so as to make the container unique or

identifiable. Aluminum foil, toothpicks, skewers, foreign material, and/or stuffing are prohibited in the container. Marked containers or entries with the above listed material will be a disqualification of presented container.

12.) ***The following cleanliness and safety rules will apply:***

- No use of any tobacco products while handling meat.
- Cleanliness of the cook, cook assistants, cooking devices and team's assigned cooking space will be inspected and will be monitored.
- Shirt, shoes, and ball caps or hair nets are required to be worn.
- Sanitizing of work area should be implemented with the use of bleach/water rinse (one cap per gallon of water). Each contestant will provide a separate container for washing, rinsing and sanitizing of utensils.
- First aid kits are suggested but not required. Genoa Bluffs Farms has first aid kits located in Gift shop (blue building).
- Prior to cooking, meat must be maintained at 40 degrees or less
- After cooking, all meat: Must be held at 140 Degree or above OR Cooked meat shall be cooled as followed: Within 2 hours from 140 degrees to 70 degrees and within 4 hours from 70 degrees to 41 degrees or less.
- Meat that is cooked, properly cooled, and later reheated for hot holding and serving shall be reheated so that all parts of the food reach a temperature of at least 165 degrees for minimum of 15 seconds.

13) THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS OF ANY ENTRY FEE FOR ANY REASON

ADDITIONAL RULES AND GUIDELINES :

A cook team is responsible jointly for their head cook, assistant cooks, and guest of the team.

1. Foul abusive, or unacceptable language, or any language causing a disturbance is not allowed.
2. Genoa Bluffs Farms will be having customers visiting the farm during the competition and teams need to be respectful to our customers or they will be asked to leave.
3. Excessive noise is not allowed.
4. Fighting and/or disorderly conduct will not be tolerated.
5. Theft, cheating, use of prohibited meats is not allowed.
6. Use of gas or other auxiliary heat source inside the cooking device is not allowed.

14) Genoa Bluffs Farms will allow alcoholic beverages to be consumed during competition by participants of legal age that consume responsibly.

1. Team must stay in their designated cooking areas while consuming alcoholic beverages.
2. Teams friends are not allowed to drink under any circumstances on the property, including in the cooking area of the team.
3. Alcohol must be in a can koozie or in a glass and not visible to farm customers attending.
4. Excessive or continued complaints from customers or other cooking teams will be taken seriously.
5. Violation of any rules of the GENOA BLUFFS BBQ BATTLE can be cause for disqualification.

JUDGING PROCEDURES

1. All judging will be done by blind number entry in containers provided by Genoa Bluffs BBQ Battle.
2. Judges will not be able to walk through cooking area and talk to team cook's or assistants during competition until judging is complete.
3. The number of judges will be based on the number of competitors, min of 3 no more than 6.
4. Only judges, contest representatives, and necessary support staff will be allowed in judging area.
5. Each judge will first score all the samples for appearance of the meat. Then the judges will take a piece of meat out of the container and place it on the proper place on the judging plate for tasting purposes. The judges are not allowed to lick their fingers while taking these samples. Paper towels or unscented wipes will be available between entries. Judging will focus on taste and appearance.
6. The scoring system will be as follows:
 1. 9 to 2 all whole numbers, 2 to 9 may be used to score any entry. 9 excellent 8 very good 7 above average 6 average 5 below average 4 poor 3 bad 2 inedible. A score of 1 is a penalty or disqualification. Example of 1 score are as follows: use of unapproved garnishment, pool or chunky sauce exceeding 1/8" cubed pieces, not enough meat turned in to fit number of judges, a mark or tampered turn in container, in correct meat during number turn in (example first turn meat is pork loin and pork ribs are in turn in box instead).
 2. The weighing factors for the point system are: Appearance - .5600, Taste 2.2972, Tenderness- 1.1428.
 3. Low scores in appearance, taste, and tenderness will be thrown out than results tallied. In case of a tie, judges will add the one of the low scores back in until a winner is determined. Starting with taste, appearance, lastly tenderness. If all three low scores are added back in, a coin toss will determine winner.