



Rain or shine, starting High Noon
Saturday, May 17th, 2008
Historic Downtown Hico, Texas



Entry Fees, Chefs Requirements and Prizes:

Celebrity Chef

- This Celebrity Chef category is by invitation only. A Celebrity Chef is defined as a Chef who has achieved prominence notoriety and fame and is recognized by food critics for their top food achievements. The Cook-off will provide the use of a "Hasty Bake™" Charcoal Grill and a table under a tent. The Chefs are responsible for their own steaks, supplies, etc. The Celebrity Chef competition is the first event scheduled to allow the chefs time to return to their restaurants. The Chefs will be expected to interact with the public while competing. You may advertise your restaurant.
- There is only one Winner in this category - the coveted Texas Steak Cook-off, Beef Symposium and Tourist Trap Celebrity Chef Gold and silver First Place Belt Buckle, plus year long promotion leading up to the 2009 Cook-off. The Celebrity Chefs will be judged by a panel of noted recognized food critics invited from major newspapers, magazines and professional food industry.

Professional Chef

- This Professional Chef category is open to any professional chef defined as a person whose profession is a restaurant owner or chef. An entrant in this division will supply the grill or cooking surface and supplies, including the competition steak they will submit to the judges.
- Like the celebrity Chef category, there will be only ONE winning category – First Place. The First place Winner will receive Texas Steak Cook-off, Beef Symposium and Tourist Trap Professional Chef Gold and silver First Place Belt Buckle, plus year long promotion leading up to the 2009 Cook-off. The Professional Chefs will be judged by a selected group of independent local judges. As a Professional Chef, you agree to cook a minimum of 50 provided rib eye steaks for the public, and must stay until the awards are presented at 7:00 pm.

Backyard Chefs

- This is recognized as one of the most exciting groups to compete! The Backyard Chef Division is open to the general public. The entry fee is \$350. Entrants are responsible for their grill and fuel, their team members, their theme, etc. You must stay until the end of the cook-off. The cook-off is responsible for providing the rib eye steaks. The Backyard Chefs will be judged by a selected group of independent local judges. Steaks will be cooked to a temperature of medium for judging. The Backyard chef team also agrees to cook-to-order a minimum of 50 cook-off provided rib eye steaks to the public for dinner.
- The winner of the Backyard Chef division is as follows: First Place is awarded \$2,500; second place is awarded \$1,000; Third Place is awarded \$500; Fourth Place will receive \$250. All winners will be featured on the Texas Steak Cook-off, Beef Symposium and Tourist Trap web site for 2009.

Hors d'oeuvres

- This category is open to any Chef division. Anyone wanting to compete in this category is responsible for bringing their own product. Also, the chefs competing in this category are encouraged to give away samples of their Hors d'oeuvres to the public (who have purchased and are wearing wrist-bands). This is a peoples choice judging. The winner will receive \$300, and first place plaque; second Place gets \$200 and their name and/or team listed on the Texas Steak Cook-off, Beef Symposium and Tourist Trap web site for 2009.

Best in Show

- There will also be a "BEST IN SHOW" category with a cash prize of \$500. This category will be judged by the Fifth Annual Texas Steak Cook-off, Beef Symposium and Tourist Trap executive board.

General Notes and Agreement

- This year, we are defining providing food samples and Hors d'oeuvres to the public. The event admission is FREE. The steak Dinner/Raffle Ticket is \$25. Your Dinner/Raffle Ticket entitles the bearer to, not only dinner and a chance at the raffle items, but also he or she will be provided a wrist band that will allow Free access and sampling of any or all Hors d'oeuvres offered. If a person does NOT have a wristband, DO NOT give away any Hors d'oeuvres. If a person does not want to purchase a dinner ticket, they can purchase as wrist band for \$10 at the Cook-off Information Booth.
- All Chefs and their team members agree to good sportsmanship. This is a family event with more than 5000 visitors throughout the day. As entrants, you reflect the City of Hico and the Cook-off.
- All participants agree to allow the Cook-off, the Hico EDC, the Hico Chamber of Commerce, and any news media permission to publish you, your team, and your name, including restaurant affiliations and likeness and/or picture for publicly purposes gratis.

- As Chefs involving food products, you are required to follow the state of Texas food preparation and handling rules. If you are unsure what is expected, questions will be answered in the pre cook-off meeting Saturday morning.
- The decisions of the judges are final.
- The Fifth Annual Texas Steak Cook-off, Beef Symposium and Tourist Trap executive board, the City of Hico, the Hico Economic Development Corporation, and/or any of the suppliers, advertisers, volunteers, sponsors will not be held responsible or liable for injury, theft, loss or damage.

The Fifth Annual Texas Steak Cook-off, Beef Symposium and Tourist Trap executive board want to extend a very proud Thank You for choosing the Worlds best Rib Eye Steak Competition to compete in! GOOD LUCK!