

Chili Competition Rules

1. Entry fee for the chili competition is \$10.00. If you are writing a check, please make it payable to the Lyons Firefighters Association. Entry forms and payment must be submitted by Wednesday October 3, 2018 to the Lyons main office to reserve your spot in the competition. Included with the entry fee is a 6x6ft. space. Entry forms and payments received after October 3rd may not be permitted to participate depending on available space.
2. The competition will be conducted according to the following rules: Exceptions may be made the day of the cook-off.
 - a. Each contestant must prepare a minimum of 5 gallons of chili. (more would be appreciated but is not required)
 - b. Chili recipes may not include rice, pasta, or other fillers. Acceptable recipe ingredients may include meat or any combination of meats, red or green chili peppers, beans, various spices, or other non-filler ingredients.
 - c. You may have your chili ingredients prepared before the cook-off. Simmering must be done at the cook-off.
 - d. Contestants must provide their own cooking apparatus, extension cord with power strip, tables, chairs, and ingredients. Tasting cups and spoons are provided.
 - e. Public chili entries will be judged in two categories: People's Choice is judged by the public, and Judge's Choice is judged by 5 members of the Lyons Fire Department. Fire department sponsored chili entries will be judged in the Fire Department Challenge category, which is judged by the public. Each category winner will receive an award. The winner of the Fire Department Challenge receives a revolving trophy which is kept for 1 year, and the winning department must return the following year to defend the title.
 - f. Contestants may start setting up on Saturday October 6th at 7:30am. You must be ready by 10am for official judging and taste testing. A fire department member will come around and pick up your cup of chili at 10am for judging.
 - g. Each contestant will be assigned a number by the head scorekeeper and given a container for voting tickets. Each contestant should verify that the number on the bottom of the container is the same as their assigned contestant number.
 - h. All contestants must keep their chili at serving temperature of 140 degrees and covered with a tight-fitting lid when not serving. All contestants must keep a clean and sanitary work area.
 - i. No alcoholic beverages will be permitted at the fire hall. Anyone violating this rule will be disqualified.
3. The decisions of the judges are final. Judges will vote for the chili they like based on the following criteria:
 - a. Aroma – Chili must have an appetizing smell.
 - b. Consistency – Chili should be a smooth combination of ingredients.
 - c. Color – Chili should look appetizing.
 - d. Taste – Chili must have a good flavor.
 - e. After Taste – Chili must leave a pleasant taste in your mouth after swallowing.

All proceeds from the competition go toward future Lyons Firefighters Association sponsored events.
We can't wait to see you there!