

**Dollies or carts will not be available for set-up or clean-up.  
BRING YOUR OWN**

**2009 Clear Lake Crawfish Festival  
Gumbo Cook-off Rules**

1. Each team will be assigned one 10' x10' space. Cooker must provide table, chairs, cook stove (propane or white gas), fire extinguisher, cooking supplies, pop-up tent or tarp shelter. No electricity will be provided.
2. No beer may be brought into Clear Lake Park. Limited discounted beer tickets will be available for sale by Gumbo Cook-off Chiefs.
3. **GUMBO MUST BE COOKED ON SITE** – All gumbo must be cooked from scratch on site the day of the cook-off. All gumbo must be prepared in the open space provided (no cooking in motor homes, etc.)
4. Gumbo must be prepared from scratch. No box mixes, jar or prepared roux mixes. Roux must be prepared on site. Vegetables and seafood may be cleaned and cut-up in advance but must be in their raw state prior to adding to gumbo pot.
5. Gumbo may be seafood, non-seafood or any combination of ingredients. No fillers (rice) allowed in judging cup. You may want to cook some rice to serve with your gumbo for public tasting.
6. One pot of gumbo per team. Each team must cook a minimum of 2 gallons of gumbo for tasting and judgment. Teams with multiple spaces will be designated as Team 1, Team 2, etc. and must have separate cook stoves and gumbo pots for each space.
7. Cooks are to prepare and cook gumbo in as sanitary a manner as possible. Cooking conditions are subject to inspection by cook-off referee. Failure to maintain sanitary conditions is subject to disqualification.
8. Cooks may have to taste their gumbo. At the discretion of the head judge or referee gumbo cooks may be asked to remove the lid from their gumbo judging cup and taste their gumbo before turning it in for judging. If a contestant refuses their gumbo is disqualified.
9. Judging will be by the blind ticket system. Each judging cup will have a ticket with a number on it in the cup. A matching ticket will be taped to the outside of the cup with the numbers covered. Before filling the cup remove the ticket from the inside of the cup and keep it in a safe place. Only you will know your number and you must have the matching ticket to claim your award.
10. Do not decorate, mark, or alter the cup in any manner. If your cup becomes damaged or marked you may obtain a replacement cup from the head referee only after turning in the damaged cup and both tickets.

**-OVER-**

11. **Judging Criteria** – Competition Gumbo is blind judged on the following 4 criteria:

- **AROMA** – Gumbo should smell appetizing.
- **CONSISTENCY** – Gumbo should be a smooth combination of ingredients and roux.
- **TASTE** – Gumbo should taste good.
- **AFTERTASTE** – Gumbo should leave a pleasant taste after swallowing.

A single score will take into consideration the four criteria for scoring gumbo. Each cup of gumbo will be judged on its own merits with a whole number from 0 to 10, ten being the highest score.

Peoples Choice Award will be based on total number of tasting tickets collected by each team.

12. The decision of the judges and the cook-off referee is final.

13. Important Times:

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 8:00 AM | Cooks check-in/Set-up                         |
| 9:00 AM | Cooks meeting                                 |
|         | • cooking can begin immediately after meeting |
| 2:00 PM | Tasting and Judgment                          |
| 7:00 PM | Gumbo Awards                                  |

Following awards, early tear down is allowed ONLY through a special gate,  
NO exiting through the pavilion. No dollies or carts available for tear down.

**Good Luck and Have Fun!**