



# Ham Lake Lanes Rib Cook Off Amateur Rib Cook-off Official Rules



Date of Event: Saturday, May 19, 2018

Location: Ham Lake Lanes, 16465 Highway 65 NE, Ham Lake, MN 55304

**Thank you for your interest in participating in this wonderful community event.**

**The Amateur Rib Contest is a community based fundraising event. Ham Lake Lanes supplies six (6) racks of ribs. Contestants will submit the best six (6) bones from the 6 racks for judging. It is expected that five racks of ribs cut into individual ribs from the six slabs Ham Lake Lanes provides, will be available for public tasting.**

## CONTEST RULES

These rules are based nearly identical to the rules of the Kansas City BBQ Society. The primary difference is that they only allow wood and charcoal cookers. We allow ANY and ALL kinds of cookers for this event to encourage anyone to come and cook. The goal is to have a good time and to raise money for our local Veterans.

Each team will consist of a chief cook and as many assistants as the chief cook deems necessary. Contestants will provide all pits (cooking device) to be used. The use of a single pit (cooking device) by more than one team is permitted. All cooking of product shall be done within the confines of the team's assigned cooking space. Cooking spaces are assigned by a member of Ham Lake Lanes staff or designee.

Teams may enter multiple entries, provided they pay a separate entry fee and use a different team name. Contestants must be 18 years of age or older to enter.

Six (6) slabs of St Louis Style Ribs will be provided for each team. Each team that registers "Early Bird" prior to May 1, 2018 will pay a \$75.00 entry fee. Late entries begin May 2, 2018 through Wednesday, May 16, 2018 and will pay a \$100.00 entry fee.

Each team must cook the six (6) slabs of St Louis Style Ribs provided. This includes ribs for judging and sampling tickets. **Ribs must be cooked on site!**

**Meat will be provided by Ham Lake Lanes and will be uncooked slabs of St Louis Style Ribs.** Meat must be held at a food safe temperature, a minimum of 140 degrees Fahrenheit,

Pits, cookers, props, trailers, tents or any other equipment, including generators, must be provided by the teams and may not exceed the boundaries of the team's assigned cooking space which is approximately 10' x 20'.

- For this contest, ribs are defined as St Louis Style Ribs.
- You may cook your ribs in any manner that you feel will deliver a competitive product in the time allowed, provided that safe food handling guidelines are followed.
- Fires must be of wood, pellets, charcoal or gas. Electric or Gas grills ARE permitted. Fires may not be built on the ground. Ashes must be disposed of on site and ONLY in approved ash disposal containers provided by Ham Lake Lanes.
- It is the responsibility of the contestant to see that the team assigned cooking space is kept clean and policed following the contest. All fires must be put out and all equipment removed from site. It is imperative that cleanup be thorough.

Any team's assigned cooking space left in disarray or with trash, other than at trash containers, may disqualify said team from future participation. All teams must clean their area at the end of the event, and have a designated Ham Lake Lanes volunteer inspect their area before leaving.

### **The following miscellaneous cleanliness and safety rules will apply:**

- Cleanliness of the cook, assistant cooks and the team's assigned cooking space is required. Shirt and shoes are required to be worn.
- Sanitizing of work area should be implemented with the use of a bleach/water rinse (one cap of bleach/gallon of water).
- Each contestant will provide a separate container for washing, rinsing, and sanitizing of utensils.

Ham Lake Lanes will need a minimum of 8 contestants with a maximum of 30 to hold this event.

Trophies will be awarded for the first, second, third place as judged. A People's Choice trophy will also be awarded.

### **Submission Process for Judging**

- Each contestant **MUST** submit at least six (6) separated ribs placed in the large container provided. The inside of the container may be decorated with lettuce or parsley only and sauce is optional. **ALL CONTAINERS WILL BE PROVIDED.**
- Ham Lake Lanes Amateur Rib Cook-off allows for blind judging only. Entries will be submitted in an approved numbered container provided by contest organizer then will be randomly selected for judging, without the judges knowing the team's name or number. Entries will be judged by a judging team (a minimum of 4 judges\* that are at least 18 years of age). \*Judges will be either Minnesota Barbeque Society qualified or Ham Lake Lanes trained judges.
- Marking or sculpting of any kind to the meat will not be tolerated. This will include but is not limited to painting, sculpting, or decorating. No aluminum foil, stuffing, toothpicks, skewers, or any other foreign material is permitted, and will not be tolerated.
- To simplify the judging process, no side sauce containers will be permitted in the meat judging containers. Meats may be presented with or without sauce on it as the contestant wishes. Sauce may not be pooled or puddle in the container.

### **Scoring Procedures**

Each team will enter a total of (6) six ribs for judging in a large contest container.

**ALL CONTAINERS WILL BE PROVIDED.**

The judges voting sheet will consist of the following scoring opportunities:

On a scale of 1 (bad) to 10 (excellent)

1. Appearance\*
2. Tenderness
3. Taste

\*Appearance does not include presentation. Scores will be tallied with a possible 30 points for perfection. The top 3 teams will receive a trophy. A People's Choice trophy will also be awarded.

### **No outside food or beverages will be allowed!**

#### **CAUSES FOR DISQUALIFICATION**

- Failure to comply with the rules and regulations established in this document.
- Use of controlled substances by a team, its members, and/or guests.
- Foul, abusive or unacceptable language by a team, its members, and/or guests.
- Health Department has the authority to remove any contestant.

There will be **NO REFUND** of entry fees for any reason, except at the discretion of the event organizer.