



**MARCH 16 & 17, 2024**

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY FAIR**

**BACKYARD  
DIVISION**

[www.hillsboroughcountyfair.com](http://www.hillsboroughcountyfair.com)

**Dear BBQ Teams,**

**Thank you for joining us for our 1<sup>st</sup> ever Back Porch Jam KCBS BBQ Competition. On behalf of the Hillsborough County Fair Board of Directors we thank you for your participation.**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**FRI MARCH 15**

**Vendor Check In 10 AM – 5 PM**  
**Quiet Time 11 PM – 7 AM**

**SAT MARCH 16**

**Vendor Check in 7 AM – 10 AM**  
**All competitors must be in Red Lot 10 AM**  
**Meat Inspection 10 AM**  
**Gates Open to Public NOON – 8 PM**  
**Free Daily Entertainment 12:30 PM – 8 PM**  
**Backyard Competition Meeting 2 PM**  
**Master Series Competition Meeting 3 PM**  
**Quiet Time 11 PM – 7 AM**

**SUN MARCH 17**

**Gates Open to Public NOON – 8 PM**  
**Free Daily Entertainment 12:30 PM – 8 PM**  
**All competitors must be in Red Lot 10 AM**  
**Judges Meeting 11 AM**  
**Contest Judging**

**Chicken Turn-In (Pro/Backyard) 12:00 PM**

**Any portion of the chicken that is grilled or BBQ**

**Pork Ribs Turn-In (Pro/Backyard) 12:30 PM**

**The portion of the hog that contains the ribs (no country style ribs)**

**Pork Turn-In (Pro/Backyard) 1:00 PM**

**Pork shoulder or Boston Butt**

**Beek Brisket Turn-In (Pro/Backyard) 1:30 PM**

**The breast of lower check of a beef animal**

**Awards Ceremony 5 PM**



**2024 AWARDS**  
**BACKYARD DIVISION**

**GRAND CHAMPION - \$500**  
**RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION - \$300**

**Category Winners**  
**Chicken, Pork Ribs, Pork, Beef Brisket**

**Trophies will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> place in  
all four meat categories. (1<sup>st</sup> - \$125, 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$100,  
3<sup>rd</sup> - \$75, 4<sup>th</sup> - \$50, 5<sup>th</sup> - \$25)**

**Ribbons will be awarded for 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> place in all four meat categories.**

## **Competition Rules**

**THE OFFICIAL BACK PORCH “JAM BUCKS” - All participants are encouraged to sell their products. All vending teams selling BBQ or any other items at the Back Porch Jam will use “Jam Bucks” only. No Cash Sales will be permitted. Sales will be split 80% Vendors and 20% Event Organizer for gross sales.**

**RULES – This contest will follow KCBS SERIES RULES for 2024. You will find a set of these rules on the website at [hillsboroughcountyfair.com](http://hillsboroughcountyfair.com). All teams must follow codes regarding electrical, fire and local regulations.**

**NON-BBQ COMPETITIONS CONCESSIONS – Any food, drink or other items to be sold or dispensed at the Back Porch Jam to be approved prior to the event. The Back Porch Jam reserves the right to refuse vending privileges. Alcoholic beverages and Water are sold exclusive by the Back Porch Jam. Under no circumstances should alcoholic beverages or water to be distributed (sold or given away) to the general public. Vending is permitted Sat March 16 & Sun March 17 from Noon – 8 PM.**

**VEHICLES – All competition team vehicles that are not part of the team space must be moved to our competition parking by Saturday at 11 AM.**

**ARRIVAL - Arrival and directions will be sent you via email 2 weeks prior to event. You will have your space assignment at check in. Please email [suzanne@hillsboroughcountyfair.com](mailto:suzanne@hillsboroughcountyfair.com) or 813-737-3247 with any questions.**

**MEETING – The competition meetings on the event schedule are MANDATORY. You must attend this event.**

**COMPETITION MEAT INSPECTION – Meat inspection will be available Sat at 10 AM. Uncooked meat must be kept below 40 degrees F. A cooler with ice is acceptable. Cooked meat must be kept 140 degrees F. It is the responsibility of each competition team to follow these guideline and are subject to random inspection.**

**SUPPLIES – Each contestant will supply all of his/her meat, cooking ingredients, cooking devices, utensils, preparation table, fire extinguishers, etc. Please note that provided for you will be a regulation cooking area electricity and water (onsite - not at every space) All contestants must abide by all electrical, fire, food safety and other codes and rules set forth by the Hillsborough County Fairgrounds, local and state authorities.**

**SPACES – Each contest cooking space will will 20 feet by 20 feet. Please stay within your boundary and allocated area. All equipment and tent stakes must be within the 20' by 20' area.**

**TEAM CONDUCT – The main cook is responsible for the conduct of his/her team. This is a family event and failure to adhere to instruction will eliminate team.**

**CHECK-IN – All teams will enter through the main gate at 215 Sydney Washer Road. Please look for the Check-in Tent located on Main Road.**

**TENTS – All tents larger than 900 sq feet must be permitted.**

**ICE – Ice will be available to purchase at \$3 a bag. Available at the main fair office.**

**TEAR DOWN – You may not tear down before the awards ceremony at 5 PM on Sunday. Teams can exit property after gates close at 8 PM and must be vacated by 11 PM on Sunday, March 17**

**ELECTRIC & WATER - Each team will be provided with one outlet of 20 amp service. It is your responsibility to notify the event organizer when you submit your application if more electric is requested. Each team will have access to water.**

**REFUNDS – No refunds will be given. This is a rain or shine event.**

**APPLICATION DEADLINES – Applications will be open until March 1, 2024.**

**PROHIBITED ITEMS – The following can not be displayed, sold or dispersed: firearms, pornography, controlled substances, drug -related paraphernalia, and items by the Hillsborough County Fairgrounds to be offensive and/or profane.**

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT – Food vendors will have additional qualifications to meet according to the laws of the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation – Division of Hotels and Restaurants. Please be prepared to be inspected.**

**The BackPorch Jam reserves the right to make additional rules as the situation arises. All decisions of the BackPorch Jam are final.**