



**Who's ready for a great time while supporting a meaningful cause?**

Get fired up for our **5th Annual Back the Blue BBQ Festival Cook-Off**—this is your moment to shine!

**Best Decorated Cook Space Contest!**

Secret judges will be scouting for the most creative and eye-catching cook spaces. Everyone is encouraged to participate—choose your own theme and let your creativity shine! The team with the most outstanding setup will win a **special trophy**.

**Submit your completed entry form to:**

Email: [backthebluebbqfest@gmail.com](mailto:backthebluebbqfest@gmail.com)

Fax: 281-471-5594

**Questions? Contact:**

Sheila Plovanich – 281-930-2118

Shaye Lister – 281-842-3172

Thank you for supporting this great cause—we're excited to enjoy mouthwatering BBQ, fun competition, and community spirit with YOU!





## Back the Blue BBQ Cook-Off Rules

**October 17–18, 2025**

**Location:** Jimmy Burke Activity Center  
500 West 13th Street, Deer Park, TX 77536

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### General Rules

- **Firearms Policy:** No firearms are allowed on the event grounds unless you are a law enforcement officer or employed by a police department.
- **Alcohol Policy:** Alcohol must not be displayed or distributed to the public during the event.
- **Fundraising:** BBQ teams are **not allowed** to host fundraising activities or charge the public to enter their cooking space.
- **No Refunds:** All entry fees are non-refundable, regardless of circumstances.
- **Back the Blue reserves the right to modify these rules at any time.**

### Move-In Schedule

**Wednesday, October 15, 2025**

- Large pits/trailers: 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM
- Contact Pam Farish (281-884-2340) or Karri Kopeck (832-709-4794) to confirm.

**Thursday, October 16, 2025**

- General move-in: 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM

**Friday, October 17, 2025**

- Final move-in: 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

### Move-Out

**Saturday, October 18, 2025**

- After the Awards Ceremony-**All teams must be fully moved out and their area cleaned by 10:00 AM on Sunday, October 19, 2025.**

*Back The Blue reserves the right to make changes to the rules at any time.*



## **Registration & Entry Fees**

**Register at:** [www.BacktheBlueBBQFest.org](http://www.BacktheBlueBBQFest.org)

**Deadline:** October 8, 2025

- **Cook Team Space (30' x 30'):** \$150
  - Includes: Brisket, Ribs, Chicken, and Best Decorated Booth contests
- **Specialty Categories (Additional Fees):**
  - Cooks Choice: \$50
  - Chili: \$50
  - Desserts: \$25

**Donation Request:** Each team is asked to donate **one uncooked, wrapped pork shoulder roast or brisket** for the event's fundraiser.

## **Cook Team Rules**

1. All competition meats must be cooked **on-site** using **wood or wood-substance grills**. Pellet grills are allowed; electric grills are not.
2. All spaces will be marked; each team will be assigned a designated area.
3. **Drip pans** must be used under grease drains. Do not leave coals behind.
4. Keep your area clean during and after the event.
5. Each team must have its own pit. Questionable pits will be reviewed by the Cook-Off Committee.
6. **No garnishes, foil, or identifying marks** are allowed in judging containers (except where noted).
7. Containers will be provided at check-in.
8. Turn-ins must be delivered by hand to the judging area inside the Jimmy Burke Center.
9. Teams are responsible for their members' behavior. This is a **family-friendly** event — lewd or inappropriate behavior or signage will not be tolerated.

*Back The Blue reserves the right to make changes to the rules at any time.*



## Turn-In Times & Guidelines

### **Friday, October 17, 2025**

- **Cooks Choice**
  - Garnish is allowed.
  - Provide enough for **8 judges**.
  - Turn in by **6:00 PM** at the Judging Area.
- **Desserts**
  - Garnish is allowed. Lid does not have to close.
  - Provide enough for **8 judges**.
  - Turn in by **7:45 PM** at the Judging Area.

### Saturday, October 18, 2025

- **Chicken**
  - Must include ½ jointed chicken + cut-up white and dark meat.
  - No garnish, sauces, or foil.
  - Cooked and marinated on site.
  - Turn in by **11:00 AM**.
- **Ribs**
  - Pork ribs only, knuckles off.
  - No garnish or foil.
  - Sauces allowed during cooking only — not after.
  - Turn in by **12:30 PM**.
- **Chili**
  - Judged at your team's space.
  - Provide enough for **4 judges**.
  - Judging begins at **2:00 PM**.
  - Judge time assigned during check-in.
- **Brisket**
  - Must be in original vacuum-sealed packaging at check-in.
  - One brisket per team.
  - No garnish or foil.
  - Sauces allowed during cooking only — not after.
  - Turn in by **2:00 PM**.



### *Awards Ceremony*

- Held at **4:00 PM**, Saturday, October 18, 2025
- Location: Stage inside Jimmy Burke Activity Center

### *Questions? Contact Us*

#### **Deer Park PD Community Liaison**

Sheila Plovanich – 281-930-2118

#### **La Porte PD Community Liaison**

Shaye Lister – 281-842-3172



## Entry Form

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Head Cook: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Assistant Cooks: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Entries:**

Chicken, Ribs, Brisket (donation of a  
brisket/wrapped pork shoulder roast) \$150.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Rookie Chili Cook-Off – (Optional) \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Cooks Choice – (Optional) \*Friday evening turn-in. \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Dessert – (Optional) \*Friday evening turn-in. \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Total entry amount:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS FORM & RETURN IT US!!!**

- **BY EMAIL:** [Backthebluebbqfest@gmail.com](mailto:Backthebluebbqfest@gmail.com)

- **BY FAX:** - 281-471-5594

For office use only

Amount paid: \_\_\_\_\_ CC/Cash      Accepted by: \_\_\_\_\_      Date paid: \_\_\_\_\_