



**Carriage Crossing Cookout**  
**Saturday, September 19**  
**Carriage Crossing**  
**4674 Merchants Park Cir**  
**Collierville, TN 38017**

**LOAD-IN AND SET UP**

Load-in and set up can begin at 9:00 am. All vehicles must be cleared of the competition event site by 10:00 am. Your space will be assigned upon arrival.

**CLEAN UP AND LOAD OUT**

Cooks are responsible for cleanup of their booth space and proper removal of ash. Load-out will begin at 4:00 pm. All items must be cleared of your team space by 6:00 pm.

**COOK'S MEETING**

All Head Cooks are required to attend the Cook's meeting at 11:00 am in Judging HQ.

**BASIC RULES**

- The contest will start at 11:30 am, immediately following the Cooks' Meeting.

- Each cook will have a 10'x10' space to compete within.
- Cooks must provide all items for their team space, including protein, grills, fuel, supplies, pop-up tent, etc.
- Entry may be any type of protein.
- Entry must be prepared with wood, charcoal or pellets. Electrical devices may be used within the cooker if they do not directly generate heat. Electric smokers, holding ovens or other devices with heat producing electrical coils are not allowed.
- Propane and Gas grills are not allowed.
- Cooks will receive turn in containers for their entry.
- Containers will have a label on the top with Cook name and turn-in time.
- Containers for Proteins should only include entry. No garnish is allowed in containers.
- All judging will be Blind Judging by qualified MIM Judges.
- Blind Judging criteria for Proteins will include Appearance, Tenderness, Flavor and Overall Impression.

## **TURN-IN TIME**

Entry must be turned in between 1:45-2:00 pm to the Judges HQ.

## **JUDGING**

All entries will be judged blindly by trained MIM judges. Each judge will sample entries without knowing which cook cooked them. Each cook will receive one container and two cups (for optional sauce and/or rub) for their entry at the Cook's Meeting.

Containers will be pre-labeled with the cook's name and site number. DO NOT remove the label. Each cook will need to bring their entries to the Judge's check-in station at the time listed above. Once the entry is turned in and checked, the sticker will be replaced with a code known only by the Judging Committee.

## **JUDGING CRITERIA**

**Appearance of Entry:** The criterion refers to aesthetics, does the entry look appetizing within the container. This is the visual appeal of the entry.

**Tenderness of Entry (Proteins Only):** The criterion refers to tenderness, is the entry moist and easy to chew. There should be firmness, but not too tough or mushy.

**Flavor of Entry:** The criterion refers to the flavor of the entry (sauce if included with a protein). A sauce can be added before, during or after the cooking process. Dry rubs and marinades may cook with the meat juices to make a sauce. If a team offers no table sauce, the judges are instructed to score the flavor of the entry based on the sauce made by the rubs/spices added before or during the cook. If a team serves more than one table sauce,

the judges are instructed to choose the sauce that, in their opinion, best compliments the entry and base the score on that combination.

Overall Impression: The criterion is a subjective score based on the judge's opinion of the total experience of judging the entry. It is not an average of the other Judging Criteria scores. Judges will reflect on their general overall feeling of their judging experience once they have finished judging all entries at the blind table.

### **SCORING**

Judges will score each criterion on a scale ranging from 8-10, with 10 being the highest. A score of 10 is not a perfect score, it's just the best a judge had that day. Scores will include two decimal points. Scores will be sent to each team approximately two weeks after the contest.

### **AWARDS CEREMONY**

The Awards Ceremony for the Carriage Crossing Cookout will begin at 3:30pm.

### **PRIZES**

First Place: Choice of \$500 cash or paid entry fee to the 2027 World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest Patio Porker Division (\$650 value) or a \$500 cash prize. The winner will also receive a guaranteed spot on the Heartland Network "Barbecue Country" TV show.

Second Place: \$250 cash

Third Place: 100 cash