

IOWA STATE CHILI COOK-OFF CHAMPIONSHIP

Elwell Family Food Center

Saturday, August 22

7:00 a.m.	Set Up Begins
8:30 a.m.	Cooks Meeting
9:00 a.m. - Noon	Homestyle Chili Cooking Time
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Traditional Red Chili Cooking Time
12:15 p.m.	Homestyle Chili Judging
1:15 p.m.	Traditional Red Chili Judging

Awards

1st place in each class - \$250 plus a trophy

2nd place in each class - \$150 plus a trophy

3rd place in each class- \$75 plus a trophy

The winner of each class will be eligible to compete at the 2026 World Championship Chili Cook-Off.

RULES

1. For questions about entering, contact Marci Vinsand at 515-890-7162 or mvinsand23@gmail.com.
2. For questions about contest rules, visit www.chilicookoff.com.
3. Entrant must be a member of the International Chili Society. You can sign up for a one time \$10 membership fee (1-Cook Pass) at www.chilicookoff.com. Membership fee is paid online. Register on the ICS website prior to submitting payment for class entry fee(s) to the Fair.
4. Entry fee for each class is \$35. Send payment and form to: Iowa State Fair, Entry Coordinator, PO Box 57130, Des Moines IA 50317. Include contact information - contestant name, address, phone number and email. Payment in the form of cash, money order, debit or credit card is due at the time of entry.
5. Entries are limited to the first 20 contestants in each class.
6. One admission ticket is included with your entry fee(s). The cut-off date for admission ticket to be mailed is August 1. If entry is received after August 1, you will need to pay regular admission at the gate.
7. You will be provided a vehicle pass to bring your chili supplies to the cooking location. Setup can begin at 7:00 a.m. Cooks meeting will be at 8:30 a.m.
8. All cooking must be done on-site on August 22 in front of the Elwell Family Food Center (west side of the Fairgrounds). Entrant needs to furnish the equipment for cooking; no electricity will be provided.
9. Entries for **Homestyle Chili** can be any combination of meats, cooked with chili peppers, various other spices and other ingredients. Must contain beans.
 - Homestyle Chili - Cooking time will be will be from 9:00 a.m. - Noon. Judging will begin at 12:15 p.m.
10. Entries for **Traditional Red Chili** (no beans or pasta) can be any combination of meats, cooked with chili peppers, various other spices and other ingredients.
 - Traditional Red Chili - Cooking time will be from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Judging will begin at 1:15 p.m.
11. Entries must follow the International Chili Society Chili rules.
12. Entrants will cook a minimum of two quarts of chili.
13. Entries will be judged on Good Chili Flavor, Texture of the Meat, Consistency/Blend of Spices, Aroma and Color.

CLASSES

Homestyle Chili

Traditional Red Chili