

**KENTUCKY'S FORT HARROD  
BEEF FESTIVAL**

**P.O. Box 627**

**Harrodsburg, KY 40330**

**[www.fortharrodbeefestival.org](http://www.fortharrodbeefestival.org)**

**June 5-6, 2009**



**Kentucky's  
Fort Harrod  
BEEF  
FESTIVAL**

**CELEBRATING CENTRAL KENTUCKY'S BEEF INDUSTRY & COMMUNITY SPIRIT**

**GRILL-OFF DESCRIPTION & REGISTRATION FORM**

**Competitor Descriptions:**

**Professional** - applies if you are a food professional, such as a chef, food writer, family consumer economist, food educator, caterer, dietitian or if you prepare food on a professional basis.

**Adult** - Anyone 18 years and older as of June 1, 2009, not professional

**Youth** - Anyone between 9 -17 years of age as of June 1, 2009 (parental permission and grill-off accompaniment required).

**Categories for the 2009 Fort Harrod Beef Festival Grill-off are as follows:**

Adult & Professional Division - Steak, Backyard Burger, Beef Brisket

Youth Category - Backyard Burger & Steak.

People's Choice Award - All adult and professional competitors will automatically be entered into The "People's Choice Award" contest. The general public will be given the opportunity to purchase tickets from the Fort Harrod Beef Festival to sample your cooking. Specific times are to be announced. Tickets collected by participating teams will be counted as "votes".

Best of Show Award - Adult, professional and youth team competitors are encouraged to bring props, costumes, decorations, gear, and anything else needed for a great presentation.

All beef for the contest categories and People's Choice Award samples will be provided by the Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival. Toothpicks will also be supplied. Competitors will be responsible for all other items.

**How to enter:** Mail registration form, check for all fees and Indemnity Form to:

**Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Grill-Off**

**P.O. Box 627, Harrodsburg, KY 40330 by May 1, 2009**

Entries & Fees must be postmarked no later than May 1, 2009. A confirmation letter will be mailed by May 20th (we will also provide set-up and other logistical information at that time).

All entries **must** include entry fee per category and health inspection fee for temporary food service permit. Fees are non-refundable unless event is cancelled.

Please make checks payable to the Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival.

# KENTUCKY'S FORT HARROD BEEF FESTIVAL GRILL-OFF

P.O. Box 627, Harrodsburg, KY 40330  
[www.fortharrodbeefestival.org](http://www.fortharrodbeefestival.org)



**Kentucky's  
Fort Harrod  
BEEF  
FESTIVAL**

**CELEBRATING CENTRAL KENTUCKY'S BEEF INDUSTRY & COMMUNITY SPIRIT**

## OFFICIAL RULES & GUIDELINES

**2009 GENERAL RULES:** (Applies to all competitors unless noted specifically)

1. A team consists of one chief cook and no more than four assistants. Contestants may check into the Grill-Off Grounds beginning at 8:00 A.M. Friday, June 5, 2009. All equipment, including grills, must be set up by 8:00 pm Friday, June 5.
2. Eligibility: Adult & Professional - anyone 18 years & older as of June 1, 2009  
Youth - 9-17 years of age as of June 1, 2009 (if younger, parental permission and cook-off accompaniment required and must be entered in youth categories).
3. Categories for the 2009 Fort Harrod Beef Festival Grill-off are as follows:

**Adult & Professional Division:** Following categories: Steak, Backyard Burger, Beef Brisket  
Grill-Off Prize money and banners will be awarded as follows:

1st Place Each Division: \$250.00 (cash) & Banner

2nd Place Each Division: \$150.00 (cash) & Trophy

3rd Place Each Division: \$100.00 (cash) & Trophy

**Youth Category:** Individual competition. Backyard Burger Category (one pound ground beef 30% fat or less) & Steak Category (Cut - 1" thick ribeye)

Grill-Off Prize money and banners will be awarded as follows:

1st Place Each Division: \$150.00 (cash) & Banner

2nd Place Each Division: \$100.00 (cash) & Trophy

3rd Place Each Division: \$ 75.00 (cash) & Trophy

**"People's Choice Award" contest:**

All adult & professional competitors will automatically be entered into The "People's Choice Award" contest. The general public will be given the opportunity to purchase tickets from the Fort Harrod Beef Festival to sample your cooking. Specific times are to be announced. Tickets collected by participating teams will be counted as "votes" and the winner will awards as follows:

1st Place: \$50.00 (cash) and banner

2nd Place: \$25.00 (cash) and plaque

3rd Place: \$10.00 (cash) and plaque

Participating teams must use meat provided by Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival. Tooth picks will be provided. Taste tickets (votes) will be collected in containers provided by the grill-off committee. Votes will be counted and will be announced during the awards program. **Saturday's Competitors will be disqualified if giving samples out to anyone who isn't wearing a Kentucky Fort Harrod Bracelet as proof of purchase.**

**Best of Show:** Prize - Banner

Adults & professionals competing for Best of Show should incorporate a theme and must adhere to the showmanship rules: (judged on theme, decoration, costumes, originality/creativity, presentation, and audience appeal).

- A. Showmanship must be limited so as not to interfere with other teams, or to cause hazardous or unsafe conditions to exist (guns, fireworks, etc.)
- B. Music may be used, with limited volume, so as not to interfere with surrounding cooks or teams.
- C. Show teams must not offer or dispense any alcoholic beverages to spectators.
- D. Disqualification will result for any team discharging firearms, or using any other explosives or noise-producing pyrotechnics. (No guns, capable of firing bullets/blanks, will be allowed for show.)
- E. Nudity, obscenity, and lewdness are banned from showmanship.

**TRAVELING TROPHIES:**

- A. Open to adult and professional divisions.
  - B. Four Traveling Trophies will be offered in the following divisions: Bank, Industry, Overall Professional/Adult Amateur.
  - C. Adult/Professional must participate in all categories (brisket, backyard burger & steak), highest total points from all categories will determine winner. In case of tie, audience will determine winner.
  - D. Traveling Trophy Winner must return with the trophy and compete to defend their title in 2009 at Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival. If not competing, trophy must be returned prior to 2009 event. Trophy is perpetual trophy.
- 4. The Fort Harrod Beef Festival Grill-off Committee reserves the right to combine categories based upon participation.
  - 5. Cooks are to prepare and cook in as sanitary a manner as possible. Cooking conditions are subject to inspection by the Fort Harrod Beef Festival Committee and/or Mercer County Health Inspectors. Must be in compliance with all Concessionaire Food Sanitation guidelines from Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources. Copy of this will be mailed with confirmation letter. Conditions found to be unsanitary will be grounds for disqualification from this cook-off. Be prepared for random inspection(s) by the Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival Committee or County Health Inspector.
  - 6. Fire may be wood or wood substance, charcoal or propane. No holes, open fires, or dug pits will be allowed. However, a burn-down barrel will be allowed but MUST have some type of safety barrier placed across the top and around the sides of the barrel. Precautions MUST be made to prevent fire threat. You MUST have federally approved fire extinguisher with-in your cooking area. Failure to have a fire extinguisher will be subject to disqualification.

7. Contest spaces will be available for each team. All cooking facilities, rigs, props, or show articles must fit within your team's contest space. Size of space will be assigned with confirmation letter. Additional parking for vehicles will be available outside the contest area.
8. **JUDGING: Contest meats must be delivered to the designated turn-in point located in the grill-off area. Attend the Cook's Meeting at designated times listed below at the designated grill-off area for explanations of the rules, any additional instructions and confirmation of turn-in times to be announced.**  
**Steak, brisket & burger competition will be Saturday, June 7, 2008 - Cook Meeting - Saturday, June 7 @ 9:00 a.m.**
9. The OFFICIAL TIME will be the one as kept by the Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival Grill-Off Chairperson. Winners will be announced after all judging is completed.
10. DOUBLE BLIND JUDGING: You will receive a foam tray w/lid for each category entered. Each of these trays will have a team or exhibitor number; nothing should be attached to the exterior.
11. Music Bands, and/or sound equipment within your team area is allowed. HOWEVER, excessive loud music and/or sounds which interfere with announcements, schedules, live bands and entertainment on stage, or which intrude upon or interfere with the comfort of fellow contestants will NOT BE ALLOWED NOR TOLERATED. Offenders will receive no more than 3 warnings from the Grill -Off personnel and non-compliance will be grounds for disqualification from the Grill-off and expulsion from Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival Grill-off Grounds.
12. QUIET TIME is 1:00 A.M. and will be strictly enforced.
13. The Chief Cook for each team will be responsible for the conduct of his team, guests, or invitees. As well, the Chief Cook will be responsible for his team's compliance with the rules and regulations herein set forth. EXCESSIVE USE of alcoholic beverages will be grounds for disqualification. No public display of alcoholic beverage consumption is allowed. Contestants must not give, offer, sell, or donate alcoholic beverages to the general public. Any offensive conduct will be grounds for disqualification from the Grill-off and expulsion from the Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival Grill-off Grounds.
14. Any nudity, lewdness, or any form of vulgarity will NOT be allowed. NO pyrotechnics or explosives are allowed. Any intentional use of the above by a team will result in disqualification, removal from grounds and possible elimination from any future Fort Harrod Beef Grill-offs!
15. The Fort Harrod Beef Festival, its members, directors, or sponsors will not be held responsible for theft or damage to equipment, or bodily injury of any kind.
16. Animal(s) of any kind WILL NOT BE PERMITTED in any contestant's contest space, nor will any animal(s) be permitted on the Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival Grill-off Grounds, EXCEPT for seeing-eye dogs.
17. Under no conditions or circumstances will any contestant, or family of contestants, or guest, or public be allowed to bring golf carts, motor vehicles, motorcycles, three or four wheelers, bicycles, or any type of transportation into the grill-off area, except wheelchairs or apparatus for the handicapped. PLEASE NOTIFY IN ADVANCE IF YOU PLAN TO USE A HANDICAP APPARATUS.
18. Teams must not offer Grill-Off products or any food products for SALE.

19. By participating, entrants agree to these official rules and the decisions of Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival and the judges which shall be final in all matters relating to the Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival Grill-Off. THE KENTUCKY FORT HARROD BEEF FESTIVAL GRILL-OFF CHAIRMAN AND HEAD JUDGE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE ADDITIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS AS THE SITUATIONS WARRANT. Rules are subject to change without notice.
20. All participants will sign a consent and release to grant the Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival sponsors permission to use their names, likeness and personal information in any media relating to their participation for publicity, promotion, advertising and other purposes without further notice or additional compensation to promote the contest, their recipe and beef.
21. Additional Information: Any questions regarding the Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival Grill-Off should be directed to the cook-off chair-person Dana Anderson - 859-734-4378 or Kim King 859-734-2173. If you are interested in helping sponsor the event, contact LeMayne Ellis at 859. 734-5546. For additional copies of this information and rules please visit the web-site:  
<http://www.fortharrodbeeffestival.org>

#### **INDIVIDUAL YOUTH PARTICIPANTS:**

1. Youth must bring their own grill or may share with another youth. Please let us know the size. Cannot have gas grills, must use charcoal.
2. Confirmation will be mailed to each registered competitor. It will list the type and amount of meat provided.
3. Youth may have assistance for setting up grills ONLY.
4. Youth may not have any form of assistance from ANYONE during the event. Youth contestant must prepare and grill the meat entirely. **Competitors may be disqualified if anyone assists beyond grill set up. This will be strictly enforced.**

#### **GRILL -OFF Rules & Guidelines**

1. The Grill-Off judging criteria are as follows:
  - TASTE -10 points
    - A. Flavor is unique, but characteristic of its cut: Flavorful with no burned or bitter taste - 5 points
    - B. Spices and/or toppings compliment without overpowering the natural flavor of the meat - 5 points
  - TEXTURE -10 points
    - A. Firm, tender crust; May be crisp, but not tough; Cooked to desired doneness - 5 points
    - B. Meat is tender, firm: Not tough or dried out - 5 points
  - PRESENTATION/APPEARANCE -10 points
    - A. Exterior nicely browned; not charred - 5 points
    - B. Meat has eye appeal; Any sauces or toppings add to the desirable appearance - 5 points
2. The winning teams agree to allow their recipes to be available for publication on website, newspaper and other media outlets associated with Kentucky Fort Harrod Beef Festival.
3. Foam containers with lids will be provided when cook signs in for his/her tray. Use this container ONLY. Meat is to be placed in the container for turn-in. DO NOT mark the container in any manner.
4. **Meat is to be COOKED ON SITE (NO EXCEPTIONS):** All meat will be provided by the Fort Harrod Beef Festival to the competitors RAW - Fresh. No outside beef will be allowed. Beef products will be supplied in excess of what is needed for the judges. All beef, not turned in for judging, will be served to the public as samples from each competitor's contest area for the People's Choice Award.
5. Competitors will be disqualified if meat is taken off grounds- NO EXCEPTIONS.
6. ALL rules will be strictly enforced.



updated 10 March 2009