



Frequently Asked Questions

WPI Firefighters' Fund

6th Annual Stop-Drop-n-Roll Chili Cook-Off

October 16, 2010 | 10 am – 5 pm | Bass Pro Shop in Grapevine, TX

- 1** What is the Stop-Drop-n-Roll Chili Cook-Off?
- 2** Why does the WPI Firefighters' Fund (WPIFF) hold this cook-off every year?
- 3** When is it?
- 4** Where is it?
- 5** Where do I park?
- 6** How much does it cost to get in?
- 7** Is the chili competition open to everyone?
- 8** How much does it cost to participate as a chili team?
- 9** What are the competition categories?
- 10** What is "throw-down" chili?
- 11** How much chili should my team cook?
- 12** What does my chili team's registration fee cover?
- 13** What will I win if my chili is selected as the best?
- 14** What do I need to bring?
- 15** Are there ways to participate in the event besides cooking chili?
- 16** I would like to be a vendor and display my products or business information—can I do this?
- 17** Are there any restrictions, rules, or general guidelines I need to be aware of?
- 18** I'm coming from out of town. Where should I stay?

Frequently Asked Questions

1 What is the Stop-Drop-n-Roll Chili Cook-Off?

It is a chili competition for prizes, featuring live music, vendor booths, a silent auction, and fun for all ages.

2 Why does the WPI Firefighters' Fund (WPIFF) hold this cook-off every year?

The Stop-Drop-n-Roll Chili Cook-Off is the WPIFF's biggest fundraiser: it benefits injured firefighters, families of injured or fallen firefighters, and fire departments.

3 When is it?

While the date changes from year to year, this year it is on Saturday, October 16, 2010, from 10 am until 5 pm.

4 Where is it?

It is in the main parking lot of Bass Pro Shops in Grapevine, Texas (the parking lot next to Fuddruckers). The address is 2501 Bass Pro Drive, Grapevine, Texas 76051.

5 Where do I park?

You may park in the Bass Pro parking lot, anywhere outside of the fenced-off area.

6 How much does it cost to get in?

It is **free**. The purchase of a \$5 chili sample cup allows you to get a taste from each of the chili teams. But keep in mind, chili teams turn in their chili for judging at 2 pm and 3 pm. We cannot guarantee there will be enough chili for the crowd after these times.

7 Is the chili competition open to everyone?

Yes! There is space for approximately 100 chili teams, and it is first come, first reserved. Reserve your chili team space by completing the registration form available on www.wpiff.org. Complete and return your form with a \$20 check to

WPI Firefighters' Fund
200 Greenleaf Street
Fort Worth, TX 76107

8 How much does it cost to participate as a chili team?

It costs \$20 per team (a team is one to four people) per category of competition. In other words, if you are only competing in the CASI (Chili Appreciation Society International) category, you pay \$20. If you want to compete in the CASI and Novice (any team that is not CASI) categories, for example, you pay \$40. For a list of competition categories, read the explanations below.

Frequently Asked Questions

9 What are the competition categories?

People's Choice is the chili team that is chosen as the crowd favorite. The People's Choice voting ballots are passed out when a sample cup is purchased (one ballot per sample cup). When you register your chili team you are automatically entered into the running for the People's Choice award.

Show is a chili team that not only cooks chili, but also has some skit or theme. Show teams that have placed include "Star Spangled Bandit Chili," "Yo Ho Pirate Chili Chicks," and "Parrothead Chili." You must tell the registration booth at the time you arrive, set up, and register if you want to be considered for Show.

Junior is a chili team of cooks 17 years old and under that is not affiliated with CASI. This category of competition has no restrictions on ingredients, type of meat, etc. Junior teams must have adult supervision (someone 21 and older must be in the booth at all times).

Novice is every team of adults that is not a member of CASI. This category of competition has no restrictions on ingredients, type of meat, etc.

CASI stands for Chili Appreciation Society International. These are the folks that hold the biggest cook-off in the U.S. every year in Terlingua, Texas. Anyone who would like to become a member of CASI should go to www.chili.org. If you are competing in the CASI category, you are subject to the CASI cooking rules; go to www.chili.org to check those out. CASI competitors must use grind only. And don't forget your "throw-down" chili (Read the explanation below for clarification.).

10 What is "throw-down" chili?

This is the chili used for the sampling cups for the public; you will be eligible to compete in the People's Choice category if you provide throw-down chili. This is also the biggest way to help the WPIFF raise funds at the cook-off, so no matter your category of competition, bring plenty of throw-down! Just be sure to reserve enough for the judging cup (a large Styrofoam cup is approximately fourteen to sixteen ounces).

11 How much chili should my team cook?

We encourage all teams to bring at least ten pounds of meat for their chili. You want to have plenty of throw-down chili so you can provide samples to the public. (We will provide the sample cups.) The chili served to the public is how our chili teams make the cook-off such a success, so you'll want to make enough to give them a taste, but remember to save some for the judges.

12 What does my chili team's registration fee cover?

Your chili team's registration fee covers the following:

- » One 10' x 10' space in which to set up your covered cooking area. We can provide you with electricity if needed. Just contact us. You must supply your own pop-up tent, tables, and chairs.
- » Admission to the Cooks' Party the night before the cook-off. The Cooks' Party is from 7 pm until 10 pm, held in the same parking lot as the chili cook-off. The party is catered by Fuddruckers, with music and discounted prices on beer and

Frequently Asked Questions

margaritas. Chili teams are defined as one to four people, so if you need extra tickets to the Cooks' Party for your buddies, they are \$10 each. More details about the Cooks' Party are available at www.wpiff.org.

13 What will I win if my chili is selected as the best?

You will win a *really* cool trophy and prizes yet to be determined. (Last year we gave two round-trip airline tickets to our winner, plus some *very* generous gift cards for runners-up.)

14 What do I need to bring?

The WPIFF will not provide any equipment or supplies other than judging cups. You are responsible for bringing tables, chairs, a pop-up tent, and all cooking supplies needed.

15 Are there ways to participate in the event besides cooking chili?

Yes! There are many...

- » Be a chili judge
- » Volunteer your time helping out at the cook-off
- » Donate an auction item or shop the auction at the cook-off
- » Spend the day tasting chili and enjoying the cold beverages being sold; bring your family and friends
- » Shop the vendor booths or have one of your own
- » Donate to the WPIFF
- » Tell everyone you know about the WPIFF and the cook-off; everyone is invited

16 I would like to be a vendor and display my products or business information—can I do this?

Yes, there are a limited number of vendor spaces available. Contact Kelli Edwards at kelli.edwards@williams-pyro.com or 817.870.8043 for details.

17 Are there any restrictions, rules, or general guidelines I need to be aware of?

Yes. They include, but are not limited to

- » No glass
- » No pets
- » No outside alcoholic beverages
- » No firearms
- » Event will take place come rain or shine
- » All teams and exhibitors are responsible for cleaning up their area
- » You must be 21 to consume alcohol
- » There is space for roughly 100 chili teams; we had 96 last year, so sign up early

Frequently Asked Questions

18 I'm coming from out of town. Where should I stay?

We recommend the Residence Inn DFW Airport North/Grapevine located steps away from Bass Pro. Check www.wpiff.org for the reduced rate discount code. If you have an RV, The Vineyards Campground and Cabins on Lake Grapevine can accommodate you.

If your questions were not answered here or on our website, contact us. You may email wpiff@williams-pyro.com or call 817.872.1500. Please know how much we appreciate you.