



**30th Annual
LAKELAND PIGFEST**

January 22 & 23, 2027

PRO DIVISION



Dear Barbeque Professional:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Lakeland Pigfest, we would like to thank you for your interest in participating in the annual Lakeland Pigfest. We are excited to be celebrating our 30th Anniversary and anticipate this year to be bigger and better than ever.

OVERVIEW OF EVENTS

Thursday, January 21st

Team check-in begins at: 8:00 a.m.
Thursday evening Judging School: 6:00 p.m.

Friday, January 22nd

All vehicles must be in yellow parking lot: 2:00 p.m. — NO Exceptions!
Publix Backyard Contest - Cooks Meeting: 3:00 p.m.
Kinder's Professional Contest - Cooks Meeting: 3:00 p.m.
Gates open to the public: 5:00 p.m.
Fun-Food Competitions
Sauce turn-in: 5:30 p.m.
Steak turn-in: 6:00 p.m.
Anything Butt Appetizer turn-in: 6:30 p.m.
Anything Butt entree turn-in: 7:00 p.m.
Dessert turn-in: 7:30 p.m.
Cocktail turn-in: 8:00 p.m.
Event Closed to Public: 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 23rd

All vehicles must be in yellow parking lot: 8:00 a.m. — NO Exceptions!
Gates open to the public: 10:00 a.m.
Saturday - Professional Contest judging
Chicken turn-in: 12:00 p.m.
Pork Ribs turn-in: 12:30 p.m.
Pork turn-in: 1:00 p.m.
Beef Brisket turn-in: 1:30 p.m.
Lamb turn-in: 2:00 p.m.

(Times are subject to change. You will be notified at the Cook's meeting of any changes)

Best Regards,

Donovan Tinsley
Board President, Lakeland Pigfest



2027 AWARDS

Kinder's Professional Contest \$25,000 Prize Purse

GRAND CHAMPION - \$6,500

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION - \$3,000

Third Overall \$1,000 - Fourth Overall \$650 - Fifth Overall \$550

CATEGORY WINNERS

Chicken, Pork Ribs, Pork & Beef Brisket

1st Place - \$850

6th Place - \$175

2nd Place - \$650

7th Place - \$150

3rd Place - \$550

8th Place - \$125

4th Place - \$350

9th Place - \$115

5th Place - \$250

10th Place - \$100

Trophies will be awarded for 1st - 5th place in all four meat categories.

Ribbons will be awarded for 6th - 10th place in all four meat categories.

Governor's Award: Trophy to the highest overall scoring team from Florida.

- + Grand Champion:
1. Entry fee for following year waived
 2. Qualification to American Royal Invitational
 3. Lottery entry for the Jack Daniel's World of Barbeque



FUN-FOOD CONTESTS

**Sauce, Steak, Anything Butt Appetizer,
Anything Butt Entree, Anything Butt Dessert
& Cocktail**

1st Place - \$500

2nd Place - \$300

3rd Place - \$200

***NOTE: Fun-Food will be judged on Friday evening, January 22nd, 2027.*

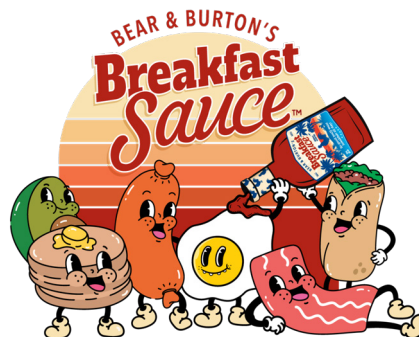


SAUCE COMPETITION

Sponsored by Bear & Burton's W Sauce

- ENTRY FEE:** \$25.00 PER ENTRY. Teams may submit multiple paid entries.
- SAUCE:** Must prepare enough for six (6) Judges. You will be provided with a 16 oz. Container.
- GARNISH:** No Garnish will be allowed.
- CONTAINER:** You are REQUIRED to present your entry in the standard Styrofoam 16 oz. pre-numbered container.
- TURN IN:** Entries must be submitted in its container at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, January 22nd.
- PRIZES:** Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three (3) entries. This amount will be a flat rate:

1st Place - \$500
2nd Place - \$300
3rd Place - \$200





STEAK COMPETITION

Sponsored by Kinder's

- ENTRY FEE:** \$25.00 PER ENTRY. Teams may submit multiple paid entries.
- STEAK:** USDA Choice Grade Strip Steaks only, cut into 6 identifiable pieces between 1 1/8"-1 5/8" thick, weighing between 10-16 oz. For appearance, you may submit a second steak, uncut.
- GARNISH:** Garnish is allowed, but it cannot identify the source of the entry.
- CONTAINER:** You are required to present your entry in the provided plastic clamshell container. You may use clear food film to cover the meat.
- TURN IN:** Entries must be submitted in its container at 6:00 pm on Friday, January 22nd.
- PRIZES:** Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three (3) entries. This amount will be a flat rate:

1st Place - \$500
2nd Place - \$300
3rd Place - \$200



Please review the KCBS Steak Contest rules and information in this packet



ANYTHING BUTT APPETIZER COMPETITION

Sponsored by Pero Family Farms

ENTRY FEE: \$25.00 PER ENTRY. Teams may submit multiple paid entries.

ANYTHING BUTT APPETIZER: Any type of pre-meal food is allowed. Food must be prepared on site. All forms of cooking are permitted.

GARNISH: Garnish rules are waived. ANYTHING GOES. However, any obvious effort to identify the source of the entry will be considered marking and will receive a score of "1".

CONTAINER: You are NOT REQUIRED to present your entry in the standard Styrofoam container; however, we are NOT responsible for returning any trays, bowls, decorations, etc. They will be available outside the hangar after the contests are complete. Be sure to affix the number on top of the turn-in presentation, not underneath. Be sure to affix securely. We are not responsible if it falls off. The container cannot be larger than one person can carry.

DESCRIPTION: A brief description of the entry must be submitted with your entry.

TURN IN: Entries must be submitted in its container at 6:30 pm on Friday, January 22nd.

JUDGING: Appearance and taste will be judged in the usual KCBS format. Instead of judging tenderness, the Judges will be instructed to judge CREATIVITY of the entries presented.

PRIZES: Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three (3) entries. This amount will be a flat rate:

1st Place - \$500

2nd Place - \$300

3rd Place - \$200





ANYTHING BUTT ENTREE COMPETITION

Sponsored by Bush's Best

- ENTRY FEE:** \$25.00 PER ENTRY. Teams may submit multiple paid entries.
- ANYTHING BUTT:** Any type of food is permitted. Food must be prepared on-site. All forms of cooking are permitted.
- GARNISH:** Garnish rules are waived. ANYTHING GOES. However, any obvious effort to identify the source of the entry will be considered marking and will receive a score of "1".
- CONTAINER:** You are NOT REQUIRED to present your entry in the standard Styrofoam container; however, we are NOT responsible for returning any trays, bowls, decorations, etc. They will be available outside the hangar after the contests are complete. Be sure to affix the number on top of the turn-in presentation, not underneath. Be sure to affix securely. We are not responsible if it falls off. The container cannot be larger than one person can carry.
- DESCRIPTION:** A brief description of the entry must be submitted with your entry.
- TURN IN:** Entries must be submitted in its container at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, January 22nd.
- JUDGING:** Appearance and taste will be judged in the usual KCBS format. Instead of judging tenderness, the Judges will be instructed to judge CREATIVITY of the entries presented.
- PRIZES:** Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three (3) entries. This amount will be a flat rate:

1st Place - \$500
2nd Place - \$300
3rd Place - \$200





DESSERT COMPETITION

Sponsored by Mayfield Dairy Farms

- ENTRY FEE:** \$25.00 PER ENTRY. Teams may submit multiple paid entries.
- DESSERT:** Dessert entries may be prepared off-site, BUT cannot be purchased from a store. Must prepare enough for six (6) Judges. Portions should be in adequate quantity, BUT not necessarily cut into individual serving sizes (for instance, pies and cakes may be presented whole, etc.).
- GARNISH:** Garnish rules are waived. ANYTHING GOES. However, any obvious effort to identify the source of the entry will be considered marking and will receive a score of "1".
- CONTAINER:** You are NOT REQUIRED to present your entry in the standard Styrofoam container; however, we are NOT responsible for returning any trays, bowls, decorations, etc. Be sure to affix the number on top of the turn-in presentation, not underneath. Be sure to affix securely. We are not responsible if it falls off. The container cannot be larger than one person can carry.
- DESCRIPTION:** A brief description of the entry must be submitted with your entry.
- TURN IN:** Entries must be submitted in its container at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, January 22nd.
- JUDGING:** Appearance and taste will be judged in the usual KCBS format. Instead of judging tenderness, the Judges will be instructed to judge CREATIVITY of the entries presented.
- PRIZES:** Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three (3) entries. This amount will be a flat rate: his amount will be a flat rate:

1st Place - \$500
2nd Place - \$300
3rd Place - \$200





COCKTAIL COMPETITION

Sponsored by Bacardi and Angel's Envy

ENTRY FEE: \$25.00 PER ENTRY. Teams may submit multiple paid entries.

COCKTAIL: Put your own spin on any of the following approved cocktail types:
Margarita using Patrone Tequila
Martini using Grey Goose Vodka
Old Fashioned using Angel's Envy Bourbon Whiskey
OR
Rum Punch using Bacardi White OR Spiced Rum

The alcohol will be provided for you. Cocktails must be prepared on site.

GARNISH: Garnish is allowed, but it cannot identify the source of the entry.

CONTAINER: You should present your entry in appropriate vessels; however, we are NOT responsible for returning any glasses, trays, decorations, etc. They will be available outside the hanger after the contests are complete. Be sure to affix the number on top of the turn-in presentation, not underneath. Be sure to affix securely. We are not responsible if it falls off. The container cannot be larger than one person can carry. Turn-ins should be enough for 6 Judges.

DESCRIPTION: A brief description of the entry must be included in your presentation.

TURN IN: Entries must be submitted in its container at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, January 22nd.

JUDGING: Appearance and taste will be judged in the usual KCBS format. Instead of judging tenderness, the Judges will be instructed to judge CREATIVITY of the entries presented.

PRIZES: Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three (3) entries. This amount will be a flat rate:

1st Place - \$500
2nd Place - \$300
3rd Place - \$200





LAMB COMPETITION

- ENTRY FEE:** \$25.00 PER ENTRY. Teams may submit multiple paid entries.
- LAMB:** Any cut of lamb is allowed. The lamb will be a part of the meat inspection. The turn-in must be prepared on-site and per KCBS guidelines. You will be provided with a container.
- GARNISH:** Garnish is allowed, but it cannot identify the source of the entry.
- CONTAINER:** You ARE REQUIRED to present your entry in the standard Styrofoam pre-numbered container.
- TURN IN:** The turn-in quantities should be a minimum of 6 (six) portions. Entries must be submitted in its container at 2:00 pm on Saturday, January 23rd.
- JUDGING:** This is now a 5th **Saturday turn-in**. It will be judged per KCBS guidelines, but not a part of your overall KCBS score.
- PRIZES:** Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three (3) entries. This amount will be a flat rate:
- 1st Place - \$500
 - 2nd Place - \$300
 - 3rd Place - \$200



KC STRIP STEAK

KCBS National Steak Championship Series Category Rules

The KC Strip Steak is the exclusive protein of KCBS National Steak Championship Series. This is a competitive series where cooks can showcase their skills presenting judges with a Kansas City Strip Steak that stands above all others.

STEAK RULES

The Official Specifications of the Kansas City Strip Steak have been created in order to allow each steak cook the flexibility to choose their preferred size/weight of cut to fit their particular style of cooking within the following specifications.

All Official steaks shall be designated as Choice Grade. This official Choice Grade standard which was developed, maintained, and interpreted by the United States Department of Agriculture's, Agricultural Marketing Service. Each Steak must meet a thickness tolerance ranging from 1 and 1/8th Inch thickness (2.857 cm) minimum thickness and 1 and 5/8th Inch (4.127 cm) maximum thickness. Each Steak Must also be a minimum weight of 10 ounces (0.283 kg) and a maximum weight of 16 ounces (0.453 kg) in weight. Two steaks per entry will be provided by Lakeland Pigfest.

COOKING RULES FOR THE KCBS NATIONAL STEAK CHAMPIONSHIPS SERIES CONTEST

1. All KCBS Master Series Rules and Regulations shall apply with the following exceptions:
 - a. Strip Steak Ancillary permits the use of any heat source (gas, electric, charcoal, Souse Vide, wood, Solar, Cast Iron skillet over direct heat, directly over open coals, Searzall Torch, etc.).
 - b. In addition to garnish being optional, contest organizers will provide each entry a numbered plastic clamshell container. Aluminum foil is not allowed in the container. Clear food film is allowed to cover slices in the turn in box and will not be considered a foreign object.
2. Cooks are allowed to share the same cooking device however; each team must cook their own entry in its entirety. Sharing of duties during the preparation, cook or turn in is prohibited.
3. Cooks are allowed to enter as many qualifying events as they choose however they may only submit one entry per event.
4. Each entry must contain at least six (6) slices of the entry in the approved container. An entry may contain as many slices as the cook chooses; including submission of one whole uncut steak to accentuate the skill for appearance, in addition to the minimum of six slices or may just present slices. No chopped, ground, shredded, portions will be acceptable in the entry and will be considered as a foreign object.
5. Garnish is optional; if Garnish is used, it must comply with the official garnish rules of the KCBS Master Series events. A hot steak entry may present a potential risk to melt through or damage a turn in box. Cooks may choose from the following:
 - a. KCBS garnish as provided in the Master Series Rules.
6. The contest organizer will provide the approved container. Sear or grills marks are optional.
7. The use of clear food service film directly covering the presentation placed in the approved provided turn in container will be considered legal and may be used at the option of the cook. The Cook may build their box and cover it with a food service film (i.e., Saran Wrap, Glad Wrap, etc.). If clear plastic wrap is used, it will be removed by the Table Captain at the time of presentation to the judges for Appearance scoring and not before, to maintain the integrity of the entry as long as possible. This is to reduce the browning or discoloration effect from oxidation of the cooked beef slices.



RULES & PROCEDURES

THE OFFICIAL LAKELAND PIGFEST PIG (BBQ) BUCKS

All participants will be encouraged to sell their barbecue at the event. All vending teams selling BBQ or any other item at the Lakeland Pigfest will use PIG (BBQ) Bucks only. No cash sales will be permitted. The contestant retains 80%, and the Festival receives 20% for charities.

NON-BBQ COMPETITION CONCESSIONS

Any food, drinks, or other items to be sold or dispensed at the Lakeland Pigfest must be approved by the Executive Committee prior to the event. The Lakeland Pigfest organization reserves the right to refuse vending privileges. Carbonated beverages, alcoholic beverages and water are sold exclusively by the Festival. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES ARE CARBONATED BEVERAGES, WATER OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES TO BE DISTRIBUTED (GIVEN AWAY OR SOLD) TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC BY CONTESTANTS.**

VEHICLES

All team member vehicles that do not fit in the team space must be off the grounds or in cook team parking on Friday by 2:00 p.m. No vehicles will be allowed back onto the event grounds until 6:00 p.m. on Saturday evening. No Exceptions!

SIGNAGE

In consideration of our event sponsors, we require that teams display only one sign of corporate logo identification, no larger than 2' X 5' and no higher than **eight** feet off the ground. Teams not identifying corporate sponsorship may have larger signs than specified, but no inflatable bottles or large balloons are allowed on cook team sites. The Lakeland Pigfest, Inc. reserves the right to make the final determination of what is acceptable on all signage.

ARRIVAL AND CHECK-IN

Visit lakelandpigfest.org for arrival and check-in details and directions. Space assignments will be provided at check-in. **Each team will receive two parking passes. Additional parking passes may be purchased for \$5 per person.** You may begin setting up after 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 21, 2027. **Check-ins before 8:00 a.m. or after 6:00 p.m. are not guaranteed. Please contact your division captain prior to arrival and all reasonable accommodations will be made.** If you need to make other arrangements, contact the Professional Division Committee at prodivision@lakelandpigfest.org or at **863-245-8078**.

COOKS' MEETING

3:00 p.m., Friday, January 22, 2027 (It is mandatory that you attend this meeting to pick up food containers). FINAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING ENTRIES FOR JUDGING AND TIME SCHEDULES WILL BE GIVEN AT THIS MANDATORY COOKS' MEETING.



RULES & PROCEDURES

COMPETITION MEAT INSPECTION

Meat inspection will be available starting at 9:00 a.m. on Friday. Uncooked meat must be kept below 40 degrees. A cooler with ice is acceptable. Cooked food must be kept above 140 degrees. It is the responsibility of each cook team captain to follow these guidelines and all teams are subject to random verification.

SUPPLIES

Each contestant shall supply all of his/her own meat, cooking ingredients, individual cooking devices, utensils, preparation tables, fire extinguishers, etc. Please note: provided for you is a regulation cooking area, electricity and water (on-site, but not to every space). All contestants **MUST** adhere to all electrical, fire, food safety, and other codes and rules set forth by the Lakeland Pigfest or other legal entities.

TEAM NAME & CONDUCT

Each team must submit an official team name that cannot be changed. In the case of duplicate names, the earliest postmarked shall prevail. A cook team shall consist of a chief cook and as many assistants as desired as long as they will fit inside your cooking area. The committee expects that good taste will be used - not only in your cooking, but in your area as well. We want each team to have a good time, and we want a good family atmosphere for those who attend.

THE CHIEF COOK IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF HIS/HER TEAM AND GUESTS.

CAUSES FOR DISQUALIFICATION/DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- A. Excessive use of alcoholic beverages
- B. Use of controlled substances
- C. Foul, abusive or unacceptable language
- D. Excessive noise generated from speakers or public address systems
- E. The use of motorized vehicles is prohibited. Prohibited vehicles include golf carts, scooters, ATVs, four-wheelers, e-bikes, motorized coolers, etc.
- F. Failure to adhere to instruction or direction from the Lakeland Pigfest, Inc.

SPACE REQUIREMENTS

Due to limited space, the size of each cooking area will be 20' x 20'. Contestants **must** stay within the boundaries of their allocated area. (For example, do not erect a 20' x 20' tent if the tent ropes would not be within your area.) The Fire Marshall and The Lakeland Pigfest will have strict control.

Please keep in mind that equipment (including RV's, pull behinds, cook trailers, trailer tongues, tables, etc.) **must** fit inside your 20' x 20' space. To help us accurately plan space assignments, please provide a complete description of everything you intend to bring on your application. If your entire setup requires more than 20' x 20', you **must** purchase an additional space. The Lakeland Pigfest will not be able to accommodate you if you exceed your space allotment. Early arrival is encouraged for large RV's or large pieces of cooking equipment. Please make a note on your application if you will need RV parking in the RV lot. **Please be advised, tents exceeding 120 sq. ft. in size require a tent permit from the City of Lakeland Fire Dept.**



RULES & PROCEDURES

TEAR DOWN

You **may not** tear down prior to the Awards Ceremony at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 23, 2027. Teams **must** vacate the event venue by 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 23, 2027.

ELECTRIC

Each team will be provided one outlet with 20 amp service. Teams requiring more than 20 amp service **must select and pay for the additional electrical service on the contest application**. It is **your responsibility to notify** the Professional Division Committee at **863-245-8078** or **prodivision@lakelandpigfest.org** when you submit your application. If you arrive at the event with electric needs greater than 20 amps the event organizer will not be able to accommodate your electric needs. **Teams are responsible for bringing their own outdoor-rated extension cords and any other cords or connections needed for their setup.**

OTHER RULES AND REGULATIONS

Teams must attempt to enter all four (4) food categories. Any team vending without legitimately attempting to turn entries in all four categories will be asked to immediately cease vending operations. This will also automatically prohibit future consideration for your team at The Lakeland Pigfest. The Lakeland Pigfest is a bbq competition first and foremost and only teams serious about the competition will be given application to the event. We are registered with the State of Florida as a BBQ competition, thank you for aiding us in maintaining the integrity of the event.

Teams must enter all four (4) food categories to be eligible for the Grand Championship.

The Lakeland Pigfest reserves the right to make additional rules as the situation warrants. All decisions of the Lakeland Pigfest are final. **Violations of Lakeland Pigfest rules and regulations of the festival may result in disqualification and expulsion from the grounds and/or disqualification from future participation in the event.**