



## OFFICIAL RULES

### "Best Cheeseburger in Paradise"



**These are the 2011 rules. The 2012 rules are not yet finalized.**

#### **Eligibility:**

The contest is open to U.S. Residents. Contest is governed by the laws of the United States and void where prohibited by law. All federal, state and local rules and regulations apply.

Teams of up to four people must have preparation area decorated and ready by 2:45pm and be available to cook between the hours of 3:30pm and 6:00pm on Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Each team will have their own designated preparation area to decorate, cook and enjoy for the day. A plaque will be awarded to the "Best of Show" area.

#### **Contest guidelines:**

All burgers must be composed of grilled patties served on buns or other bread products. Each team will start with meat supplied by the Best In Paradise. (2 lbs) Each team must supply all of the rest of the ingredients to make 2 to 4 burgers.

- a. 1 burger for the judges to look at which will then go into the display case.
- b. For the other burger(s), cut into portions and present them to the judges to taste.

Burgers may include any combination of condiments (such as ketchup, mayonnaise and mustard), spreads (such as tapenade and pesto), sauces (such as barbecue), cheeses, and toppings (such as bacon, onions, tomatoes and lettuce). A maximum of 16 ingredients will be allowed for each recipe. Oil for greasing the grill rack should be listed in the proper place in the ingredients list and must not be counted as an ingredient.

Please bring your choice of serving plates, garnishes, etc. for the burger that will be presented to the judges as a whole which will be put in a display case.

#### **Participants supply their own grill.**

Each recipe must be submitted no later than June 3<sup>rd</sup> with a picture of the individual/team. The recipe must be original and include the name of the recipe, readily available ingredients (found in most supermarkets), standard U.S. measurement and be written to make 2-4 burgers. Each ingredient must be listed in order of use, followed by complete step-by-step cooking instructions including cooking times. All burgers will be grilled then presented at the team's designated judging/presentation time (Each team will have their time prior to the day of the event). The use of small preparation appliances such as food processors and blenders is acceptable. Please let us know if you will need electricity for your area when registering. Recipes cannot contain the use of conventional or microwave ovens. (Grilled burgers on your grill only) Originality in recipe/name is encouraged, as this is part of the judging criteria.

**To enter:**

Please submit your application and \$100 entrance fee, with recipe and picture of team, to secure your spot, with checks made payable to "The Best In Paradise" by June 3<sup>rd</sup> to:

"The Best In Paradise"  
P.O. Box 8834  
Rockford, IL 61125-9300

***\*\*Due to limited amount of spots available, participants will be entered as application and entrance fee is received.(First come basis)\*\****

Recipe and picture of team can be emailed to [info@thebestinparadise.com](mailto:info@thebestinparadise.com) or sent by mail to the above address at a later date, after the application and entrance fee has been sent but will need to be received by June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Proceeds from this event will directly benefit Northern Illinois Food Bank and the hungry neighbors it serves throughout our area.

**Judging:**

A pre-selected panel of judges will judge the recipe and burger. Criteria for judging will be available to the teams upon registration. Decisions of the judges are final and binding. The winning team for the "Best Cheeseburger in Paradise" will receive **\$500!** Awards will also be given for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, 3<sup>rd</sup> place and "Best of Show".

No substitutions or transfer of prizes is permitted. Any taxes are the sole responsibility of the winners.

The Teams must also make 6 more burgers that will be given to the "V.I.P.'s" in the V.I.P. tent. Volunteers will be handing out samples of the team's 6 burgers in the V.I.P. tent, therefore, we are asking each team to bring enough ingredients and buns for the 6 extra burgers.(some ingredients and preparation can be reduced for these 6 extra burgers since they will not be judged.

**New This Year:**

**The Best Cheeseburger In Paradise People's Choice Award!**

Each team will have the option to enter their burger samples for the People's Choice Award in addition to those being judged.

The People's Choice winner will have their picture featured on a billboard in the Rockford area.

For each team who is entered into the People's Choice contest will be given 80-100 mini buns and approximately 20 pounds of meat. The team is responsible for bringing the rest of the burger fixing's for 80-100 mini burgers.

Each team will be given 20 lbs. of meat to pre-patty according to their recipes. Teams will need to pre-patty their burgers either the night before in a commercial kitchen, appropriately wrapping the meat and labeling it with your team's name. If a team does not have access to a commercial kitchen, the teams may come Friday evening at a designated time to the Lombardi Club to pre-patty their burgers. Committee members will be available to assist.

After the team burger is presented to the judges, grills will be available to cook the burgers, with an area at the grill designated to assemble the burgers and hand right out to the public. The "People's Choice" will be awarded to the team with the most money in the fishbowl during public sampling. This money will also benefit the Northern Illinois Food Bank.

### **General Conditions:**

Entrants are bound by the terms and conditions of contest rules. All recipes and pictures submitted cannot be returned and may be used for publicity purposes. By entering the contest, participants are agreeing to the use of their names, pictures and recipes without further compensation. By entering the contest, participants release and hold harmless sponsors, their respective subsidiaries, affiliates, directors, officers, employees and agents, the judging panel, and cook-off organizers from any and all liability or injuries, loss or damage of any kind arising from or in connection with this contest or any prize won. Sponsors and their agents are not responsible for unauthorized human intervention or any malfunctions of any kind. Rules are subject to change. Please check website for any changes in these rules.