



# OFFICIAL RULES

## "Best Margarita 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 must have their prep area decorated and ready by 2:45am and be available to create and serve their margaritas between the hours of 5:00pm and 7:00pm on Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Each team will have their own designated preparation area to decorate, mix, serve and enjoy for the day. Margaritas will be presented to judges and free samples served after judging. A plaque will be awarded to the "Best of Show" area.

### **Contest guidelines:**

Each team will start with 4 bottles of Tequila, supplied by the Best Margarita in Paradise and Southern Wine and Spirits. There is not any minimum or maximum number of ingredients; however each team must supply all of the other ingredients to make margaritas with the 4 liters provided, including fruit\*, other liquor, etc. Please bring your own shakers and blenders if needed. Sample cups will be provided. Any leftover tequila must be returned to the contest organizers if not used in the margarita samples.

Each recipe must be submitted no later than June 3<sup>rd</sup> with a picture of the team/individual. Please include the name of the recipe and ingredients. Originality in recipe names is encouraged. Please mark in registration form if electricity is needed during margarita preparation.

\* fresh fruit must be cut directly before mixing per health department rules.

## To enter:

Please submit your application and \$50 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 margarita. 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 Margarita in Paradise" will receive **\$250!** Awards will also be given for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, 3<sup>rd</sup> place, "Best of Show" and "People's Choice". 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.

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

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

## 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/margarita contest 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. Please check website for any changes in these rules.