



# 2023 ANNUAL CRAWFISH COOK-OFF

## GENERAL RULES, GUIDELINES, AND EVENT INFORMATION

Teams are made up of four team members (1 captain and 3 members). Registration forms contained in Competitor's Packet must be completed and turned in no later than Saturday, May 13th at 5 pm. All team members must be 21 years or older. For safety reasons NO children are allowed in the boiling area. There will be no refunds issued for team entry fees.

Team entry fees- we have two options this year.

Option 1: **\$750** 15x20' cooking space

- o 3 sacks of crawfish included (each sack is roughly 34 lbs)
- o 6 cases of beer (30 pack)
- o 4 guest passes
- o 2 bags of ice (20lb each)
- o Access to light tower generators

Option 2: **\$1,000** 20x30' cooking space

- o 4 sacks of crawfish included (each sack is roughly 34 lbs)
- o 8 cases of beer (30 pack)
- o 8 guest passes
- o 4 bags of ice (20lb each)
- o Access to light tower generators

For beer orders, please fill out the form attached and return to Ariel at [ariel@thetailgatemidland.com](mailto:ariel@thetailgatemidland.com)

We will have 3 load in times- 7am, 7:45am & 8:30am

- o Load-in times will be assigned to you on Thursday, May 18.
- o There will be no electricity provided by the venue, so quiet inverters are welcome. If your generator is not a quiet one, please have a 100' extension cord with it. You will have access to one outlet on a light tower generator.
- o Water stations will be provided

Teams must provide any tables, workspaces, breakdancing mats, cooking tools, and groceries needed to compete including hand sanitizers, disinfecting wipes, and food service gloves. High quality H2O will be provided to fill pots for boiling. Sampling trays will be provided to you.

- o Teams are not permitted to have microphones or sound systems at their cook spaces
- o No pets allowed in any cook areas
- o No unsupported portable stripper poles (safety first)
- o No personal vehicles are permitted within cook off spaces
- o No motorized vehicles or golf carts are permitted in the cook off area

Access to the cook off area will be strictly enforced beginning at 10am on Saturday, May 20th. Only team members wearing proper lanyards will be granted access to the cook off area

Teams are responsible to contain and remove all trash within their cook site. There will be dumpsters on site to put your trash in.

Judges' rulings and selections are final.

Rules are subject to change. Written notification of changes will be provided to team captains as the event becomes closer. Rules will be reviewed at the team captain's meeting on Saturday, May 20 at 10am.

## **TEAM CHECK-IN**

Check-in starts at 7am on May 20.

At check-in, each team will receive:

- o 4 lanyards, each with team number and member's name (must be worn for access into cooking area.
- o Schedule of events
- o Team designated parking spaces
- o Ballot box for fan favorite tickets
- o Guest passes
- o Sample trays

Team captains must attend the captains' meeting on Saturday morning, (10am) where they will receive assigned judging time.

**PARKING: All team vehicles must be parked in the parking area provided on the west side of the venue.**

# **COMPETITION, JUDGING, AND SAMPLING**

## **COMPETITION**

Each team will receive three or four (depending on which package you pick) sacks of washed, live crawfish. Extra sacks will be available for \$150 each.

Teams must have their crawfish samples ready at their booth no later than 2 minutes after their assigned time slot. A member of my team will pick up your sample from your cook area. If no sample after 2 minutes, said team will receive 0 points, and continuous heckling throughout the remainder of the event.

Contestants must supply everything needed to create their finished product. High quality H<sub>2</sub>O will be available for filling your boiling pot. Each team will be given a stack of small containers for samples to be distributed. It is in each team's best interest to give out small samples (2 or 3 crawfish) just enough for patrons to taste, because we are limited on the amount of extra sacks.

All teams are required to maintain sanitary conditions, including refrigerating ingredients that need refrigeration, and all-around proper food handling.

- Sanitize hands and surfaces often. There are no restrictions regarding cooking methods or equipment. Electricity is not provided. Fires must be contained, not on the ground. Propane is allowed.
- Crawfish sacks will be given out after the captain's meeting. Teams may start cooking at any time after they receive their crawfish.
- Teams can serve samples to guests from noon until 6:00 pm on Saturday, May, 20th.

# **WINNERS:**

## **Most Entertaining Award**

Each team will have a container at their cooking area for patrons to drop their voting ticket. The team with the most patron tickets turned in by 5:30 pm May 20<sup>th</sup> will take the prize as this year's Crowd Pleaser

## **Crawfish Eating Contests**

There will be 2 separate crawfish eating contests. Entries will be accepted now through 8:00 pm on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

The crawfish eating competitions are open to all amateur eaters 18 years or older who are in good health. Any person with a serious ailment or health concerns may not compete in either of the contests. Competitors will acknowledge that organizers are not liable or responsible for underlying health conditions, overlying health conditions, lying health conditions, standing health conditions, or any health conditions period.

The 1st Crawfish Eating Contest is a race to consume 3 pounds of MILD crawfish, provided by Down South Seafood. A nonrefundable entry fee of \$35 must be paid and submitted with the entry form to compete. Each contestant will receive 3 pounds of crawfish, measured to the hundredth of a pound, and recorded as their start weight. Once the race begins, each contestant will consume the entire tray until finished. The race will end when the first person who consumes all 3lbs raises their hand. All contestants will stop eating, trays will be weighed again, and recorded as ending weight. The ending weight will be subtracted from the start weight, and the contestant who consumes the most weight is announced the winner. Only raise your hand if, you're sure!

Winner of the 3lb crawfish eating contest will receive a plaque, and other non-cash prizes.

The 2<sup>ND</sup> eating contest will be the same rules, but will be a race to finish 3 pounds of SPICY crawfish provided by Down South Seafood.

Contestants of either crawfish eating contest must:

- Purchase a general admission ticket in addition to the contest entry fee
- Sign in at the judges tent 1 hour prior to their contest time Contestants may not leave the designated area during the eating contest, or they will be disqualified.

# JUDGING

A team of 4 judges will be set up in the judge's tent as shown in the attached diagram. Judging will be based on the following categories: spice, flavor, peel ability, juiciness, texture using the following score card sample:

Team # \_\_\_\_\_ Judge # \_\_\_\_\_

1 being the worst

5 being the best

**SPICE 1 2 3 4 5    FLAVOR 1 2 3 4 5    PEEL-ABILITY 1 2 3 4 5**

**JUICINESS 1 2 3 4 5    TEXTURE 1 2 3 4 5**

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Teams must have 1 sample of their crawfish entry plated at their booth, and ready for a member of my team to pick it up at their designated time.

Teams have until 5:30 pm to turn in tickets from patrons, **INTO THE JUDGES TENT!**

There will be no more tickets turned in or accepted after 5:30 pm.

Winners (top 3 teams) of the cook-off competition will be awarded cash prizes as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> place \$750

2<sup>nd</sup> place \$500

3<sup>rd</sup> place \$250

All winners will be announced at 7pm on stage.

# **ENTRY FORM, GENERAL RELEASE, & WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

Team entry fee is either \$750 or \$100 depending on which package you select. Teams are made up of up to four team members (1 captain and 1-3 members). Completed entry forms are due back to me no later than May 13, 2023 at 5pm. Entry fees will be submitted with completed packet. Payments accepted: Cash, Check, Credit Card (added 3.99% charge), Venmo (@thetailgate)

**Please reach out to Ariel Herrera at (512) 507-5018 for payment.**

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Captain Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Captain Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Captain E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Set-up Type: Tent Y/N Size: \_\_\_\_\_ / Trailer Y/N Size (incl. tongue): \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Payment Type \_\_\_\_\_ (Payment info will be completed by Down South Seafood once its received)

I individually, we collectively, hereby acknowledge voluntary participation in Down South Seafood's Annual Crawfish Cookoff on Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> 2023 held at The Tailgate of Midland, address. I hereby assume full responsibility for all liability and all risk of injury or loss, including death, which may result from my participation in this Event. I hereby hold harmless, release, waive, forever discharge and covenant not to bring legal action or claim against The Tailgate of Midland or Down South Seafood from any and all claims or demands I may have by reason of any accident, illness, injury or death, or damage to or loss or destruction of any property, arising or resulting directly or indirectly from my participation in this Event and occurring during such participation or any time subsequent thereto. I hereby acknowledge that my participation in the Event does not in any manner establish an employer employee or agency-employee relationship with the Event organizers. This General Release and Waiver of Liability of all claims is binding on my heirs, executors, administrators and family members and all persons pursuing a claim on my behalf, on behalf of my estate or against me or my estate. By signing below I acknowledge that I understand and agree to all terms contained herein.

Executed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

Printed Name/Signature:

Captain: \_\_\_\_\_

Member #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Member #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Member #4: \_\_\_\_\_

## **IMPORTANT NOTES:**

- o Tickets to this event will be on etix.com or [www.thetailgatemidland.com](http://www.thetailgatemidland.com)
- o All day passes- \$35, Concert only pass- \$25 (Concert only passes will be allowed to enter at 7pm)
- o VIP tables- \$850 (includes 8 VIP passes all day + concert)
- o Every all day pass ticket will be entered in a raffle to win a helicopter hog hunt sponsored by Tall City Meat Market
- o This is an event to raise money for the Lone Star Warriors Outdoors
- o No pets allowed to this event. Service animals only.
- o Kids 5 years old and under are free entry to this event.
- o Picnic tables under the shade are available to be reserved during the day (not concert) for \$500
- o VIP tables are for sale for the entire day (including concert) for \$850
- o Questions? Please text Ryan LeJeune 337-580-4602

Send completed form, or any other correspondence to [ryan.lejeune01@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.lejeune01@gmail.com) and [ariel@thetailgatemidland.com](mailto:ariel@thetailgatemidland.com)

## **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Wristband sponsor- \$2,000
- Hydration sponsor- \$2,000
- Stage sponsor- \$3,000

## **TIMELINE OF EVENTS**

### **Saturday, May 13, 2023**

5pm -Deadline for submitting COMPLETE team entry packets, and payments.

### **Saturday, May 20, 2023**

7am - Check in for teams begin

10am - Captain's meeting at Judges tent, live crawfish handout to teams  
immediately after 11am – Competition area is cleared of all motor vehicle traffic.

12pm - Gates open to the public, be ready to give out samples.

12:15pm – First sample turned in

2pm – Crawfish eating contest 3lb mild

4:30pm – Crawfish eating contest 3lb Spicy

5:30 pm Patron tickets are due at judges' tent

6:00pm - Shut down of competition area/Team cleanup begins

7pm - Winners and raffle winners announced on stage

8pm- Opener

9:30pm- Adam Doleac

12am – The Tailgate closes. All cooking equipment, tents, etc. must be removed  
and your area must be cleaned, free of trash.

**\*\*The Tailgate Midland TX and Down South Seafood are not responsible for any items left overnight in your cooking area.**



# Crawfish Eating Contest Entry Form

Please Check appropriate box     3 pound contest mild    3 pound contest spicy

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any serious medical conditions or injury that may be affected by this contest?

Please circle: YES/NO if yes, please explain in detail \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any allergies? Please circle: YES/NO If yes, please explain in detail:

Did you play marbles when you were a kid? Please circle: YES/NO If no, please explain

Contestants will acknowledge there are risks associated with this event, which include, but are not limited to personal injury, risk of illness and possibly death, risk of loss or damage to personal property, and risk of the Hot Fwa. Contestant voluntarily enters The Crawfish Eating Contest and in doing so assumes all these risks. Contestant upon entry of this contest and upon signing this form hereby agrees to waive and release Down South Seafood, and The Tailgate of Midland from any liabilities of any kind arising from this event. Contestant agrees that to the best of their knowledge they are physically fit to compete in either of these contests.

**Signature of Contestant, Parent Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bulk Order Menu - Crawfish Cook-Off 2023****\*15x20' Spot - 6 Cases total / \*20x30' Spot 8 Cases total**

<b>Beer / Seltzers / Canned Cocktails</b>	<b>Qty Each</b>
Michelob Ultra (30 Pack)	
Miller Lite (30 Pack)	
Coor Light (30 Pack)	
Bud Light (30 Pack)	
Dos Equis (24 Pack)	
Corona Premier (24 Pack)	
White Claw (24 Pack)	
Long Drink Blue (12 Pack)	
Long Drink Black (12 Pack)	
Long Drink White (12 Pack)	
<b>Total Cases</b>	