

**San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo
Western Heritage Parade & Cattle Drive Committee**

Vaquero Cook-Off

**January 31, 2020 – February 1, 2020
Downtown San Antonio – La Villita Historic Arts Village
418 Villita Street
San Antonio, TX 78205**

TEAM INFORMATION AND RULES

**Team Information Hotline
(210) 823-8173**

**San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo Mission Statement:
“A volunteer organization that emphasizes agriculture and education to
develop the youth of Texas.”**

**Mailing address:
San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Inc.
P.O. Box 200230
San Antonio, TX, 78220
Phone (210) 225-5851
www.sarodeo.com/attractions/vaquero-cook-off**

Let's Rodeo San Antonio!

INFORMATION, RULES AND REGULATIONS

The San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Inc. and the Western Heritage Parade & Cattle Drive Committee retain the right to modify these rules and regulations at any time with or without notice to participants. The Western Heritage Parade & Cattle Drive Committee encourages a family friendly atmosphere. Please be considerate of the event's family environment when choosing your team name. The team leader/head cook is responsible for the conduct of their team members & guests.

The team leader listed at the time of registration is considered the main point of contact for a team. The team leader will be responsible for ensuring the team adheres to these rules. Please note additional regulations may be added as necessary.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION, REQUIREMENTS AND TEAM PLACEMENT

Registration Information and Requirements

- ALL registrations must be completed online at www.sarodeo.com/attractions/vaquero-cook-off. All teams must register through the online registration system.
- Online registration will close when capacity is reached or on January 6, 2020, whichever comes first. Late entries will be allowed until January 24, 2020, if space is available. Placement requests will not be honored for late entries. A late fee of \$30.00 will be added to any late entries.
- The entry fee for each space is \$370.00. This fee includes registration fee and health & fire permits. Payment must be made at the time of registration. There will be **NO** refunds issued once a team has registered and paid.
- Cook-Off teams may have up to four (4) members, consisting of a team leader and head cook.
- The team leader listed at the time of registration is considered the main point of contact for a team. The team leader and the head cook may be the same person.
- The team leader may be the same person for multiple teams.
- The head cook must be different for each team and teams may not share propane and/or cookers.
- The location of the Vaquero Cook-Off will be at La Villita in San Antonio, TX. Map of the area will be included in the team packet.
- Teams will be allowed an area of approximate size of 10' x 10'.
- Each registration may only consist of ONE TEAM, regardless of the number of spaces you purchase.
- If you plan to enter multiple teams, you must complete an individual registration for each team, not space. Example: if you purchase two (2) spaces and enter as two (2) teams, Team A in space 1 must register separately from Team B in space 2.
- Additional team sites may be granted if additional entries are submitted together and full entry fee is paid for each site.
- All hard copy mailings and packet will be sent to the team leader.
- To be eligible for Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion, a team **MUST ENTER** all four (4) official judging categories (Chili con Carne, Borracho/Charro Beans, Carne Guisada & Menudo).
- It is the responsibility of the team leader/head cook to keep cook area clean, policed and to ensure team members comply with all Vaquero Cook-Off Rules & Regulations.
- **ALL TEAM MEMBERS** must sign an Indemnification and Release Form. All signed forms will be picked up at the team meeting prior to the Vaquero Cook-Off.

Team Placement

- Requests must be made in the appropriate section at the time of online registration.
- **All requests will be based on availability and no guarantees will be made that your request will be fulfilled.**

TEAM SPACE GUIDELINES, REGULATIONS AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

General Information

2020 Western Heritage Parade & Cattle Drive Committee and San Antonio Livestock

Exposition, Inc. management and security shall always have access to a contestant's space.

- Teams must check in and pick up their team packet. Each team will receive a laminated space number with their packet. Packets may be picked up beginning on Friday, January 31, 2020 at 9:00 am at the team check-in table.
- **Each team must always prominently display their space numbers and team name.**
- Teams must keep all activities and exhibits within their designated space and must not be in the main walkways for any reason.
- **Each team is responsible for tables, water, trash containers, fire retardant 10 x 10 covered canopy, fire retardant ground protectant/covering and fire extinguisher.**
- Failure to comply with all safety requirements and regulations may result in disqualification and removal from the Vaquero Cook-Off.

Parking and Entry

Each team that has submitted all necessary paperwork will receive a team packet approximately two (2) weeks prior to the cook-off and will include:

- 4 wristbands per team (to designate team members)
- 1 loading zone pass

*Currently, there is **NOT** a designated parking area for teams. In the event this changes, team leader will be notified and parking passes will be issued.

Load In and Load Out

- Team, personal items and equipment load in begins on Friday, January 31, 2020 at 9:00 am and ends on Friday, January 31, 2020 at 1:00 pm.
- All permitted loading passes must be visible from the front windshield. There will be a person stationed in the loading areas to direct you to the appropriate load in/out areas.
- **Only vehicles with the permitted loading pass will be allowed on South Presa Street to load in/out on Friday, January 31, 2020.**
- **On Saturday, February 1, 2020 Cook-Off teams will enter and load in any showmanship items, ice chests, etc from South Presa Street beginning at 9:00 am.**
- Load out of equipment and personal items is not permitted until Saturday, February 1, 2020 at 8:00 pm and must be completed by 10:00 pm. All team areas must be cleaned and moved off the grounds by 10:00 pm on Saturday, February 1, 2020.
- Team leader/head cook accepts all responsibility for the condition the Cook-Off site is left in. Sites will be inspected. Any damages or if the site is left dirty will result in a bill being sent to the team leader/head cook.

- Violations may face disqualification from the Vaquero Cook-Off and participation in any future Vaquero Cook-Off.

Vehicles, Trailers & RV's

- No vehicles are allowed in the Cook-Off areas.
- No vehicles are permitted to stay in the load in/out area longer than necessary to load in/out your equipment, etc.
- **Vehicles not in compliance in the load in/out area will be towed. The cost of towing and/or impoundment fees to retrieve the vehicle will be at the vehicle owner(s) sole expense.**
- No trailers or RV's are allowed in the Cook-Off area. No overnight camping is allowed in the Cook-Off areas or La Villita.
- Golf carts, ATV's, scooters and other motorized vehicles are prohibited except for official use by Western Heritage Parade & Cattle Drive and San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Inc. personnel.
- Bicycles, motorized scooters, skateboards, hoverboards and Segways area also prohibited.
- La Villita will be closed on Friday, January 31, 2020 at 10:00 pm. Security will remain on-site.
- La Villita will be opened on Saturday, February 1, 2020 at 9:00 am.

Canopies, Floor Covering, Space Layout and Decorations

- Canopies will be anchored and set up as per manufacturer's instructions whether done by a company or individual. Certain locations may require alternative methods. No ground stakes are permitted.
- **All canopies must be flame retardant.**
- **All teams are required to provide their own canopy, tables and flame retardant floor covering for their cook-off site.**
- All canopies must be erected with appropriate fittings, fasteners, etc.
- Combustible materials such as hay, heaters, etc. shall not be located inside canopies.
- General setup will take place on Friday, January 31, 2020. There will be no setting up of cook-off area on Saturday, February 1, 2020 other than Showmanship items.
- Advertisement of teams and/or sponsors will be limited to your cook-off site only.
- Cook-off areas will be inspected by the Western Heritage Parade & Cattle Drive Committee safety team.

Electrical & Generators

- **Generators are NOT allowed in the cook-off areas.**
- There will be a limited amount of electricity available in cook-off areas.
- **All entries must be cooked using propane burners and stoves. No electrical appliances will be allowed.**

Fire Extinguishers

- All teams are required to have a portable, identified and readily available fire extinguisher.
 - Minimum fire extinguisher requirements:
 - One 2A-10 BC fire extinguisher.
 - One "K" type extinguisher will be required for any team that will be deep frying or using oils in their cooking. A 2A-10BC fire extinguisher is required in addition to the "K" type extinguisher.

- All fire extinguishers shall have current (within a year) inspection sticker from licensed extinguisher company or provide proof that the extinguisher is new (store receipt).
- Western Heritage Parade & Cattle Drive safety team and City of San Antonio Fire Prevention Division will be inspecting cook-off areas throughout the cook-off.

Open Flames, Cooking Equipment and Heaters

- NO ground fires, BBQ pits or open flames will be allowed at this cook-off.
- Teams will be required to cook ALL entries with propane burners/cookers/stoves.
- Gas cylinders/propane containers must always be properly secured to prevent tipping or falling.
- Umbrella and canopy heaters are not allowed inside the canopies.

Video Recording and Camera Crews

- Film, video, audio or other recording of the event for commercial purposes is not permitted without the prior written consent of the San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Inc.
- **All media, video production companies, etc must obtain written permission and media credentials from the San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Inc. Marketing Department 30 days prior to the event. Please contact the marketing department at (210) 225-0612 or marketing@sarodeo.com.**

Clean Up and Trash Disposal

- Each team is responsible for the cleanup of their area(s) by Saturday, February 1, 2020 at 10:00 pm. All equipment and personal items must be moved out of the area(s) and off of the grounds by this time.
- All team spaces must be cleaned and left in the condition in which they were found when teams arrived on the grounds.
- Grey water, grease, food waste and trash shall be placed in proper containers for disposal. These containers will be located throughout the cook-off areas.

ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT AND REGULATIONS

Each team must comply with all current laws and ordinances, including, but not limited to, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code and any additional rules of the San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Inc.

Individual Responsibility

- The team leader will be held responsible for the code of team members, guests and any persons who are or have been in their team space. Any behavior deemed inappropriate by the Western Heritage Parade & Cattle Drive Committee may result in immediate expulsion from the event and forfeiture of future participation.

Prohibited Behaviors and Activities

- Certain activities related to alcoholic beverages are strictly prohibited.
- At no time may a person under the age of 21 be served alcohol of any nature.
- NO outside alcohol is allowed. There will be beer and wine sales available during the event.
- No glass bottles allowed.

CONTEST RULES AND INFORMATION

General Public – Health Department Regulations

- The health department will issue temporary permits for teams to be able to serve samples to the general public. Fees are included in your entry fee.
- Health inspections for the following items will be performed:
 - Health Department suggests a beverage cooler with a spout to wash your hands under and a bucket to catch the water.
 - 3 buckets, bleach and liquid soap – one for soap and water to wash utensils, one for bleach to rinse utensils and as a water basin to wash your hands.
 - Covering your food – Health Department Rules state that your food must be under cover when you are cutting meat or doing any other preparation.

Vaquero Cook-Off Rules

- **ALL cook-off entries must be prepared and cooked on-site (La Villita). NO pre-cooked entries will be allowed. Cook-Off sites can be inspected at any time.**
- All cook-off entries must be cooked using a propane burner, cooker or stove.
- All cook-off entries will be turned in the container(s) that will be provided by the Western Heritage Parade & Cattle Drive Committee. Teams will receive these containers at check-in/registration.
- **A mandatory team meeting will be held on Friday, January 31, 2020 at 2:00 pm.** Trays, numbering and procedures will be discussed at the meeting. All teams must check-in that they are present at the meeting. No turn-in trays/containers will be given out during the meeting.
- All entries must be turned in with the ticket attached. Non-compliance or any tickets that have been tampered with will result in disqualification of the entry.
- Turn-in times for judging will be posted at cook-off for all designated entries. Cook-Off entries may be turned in up to 10 minutes prior to the designated time or up to 10 minutes after the designated time.
- The designated place for turn-ins will be noted on the site map.
- Once door to entry turn-in is closed, NO entries will be admitted for judging in that category.
- Three (3) places will be awarded in each category:
 - Friday:
 - Cook's Choice – any traditional Mexican food entry
 - Chili con Carne
 - Saturday:
 - Borracho/Charro Beans
 - Carne Guisada
 - Menudo
- To be eligible for Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion, a team **MUST** enter all 4 categories (Chili con Carne, Borracho/Charro Beans, Carne Guisada and Menudo). Cook's Choice is optional.
- All entries will be judged on flavor, texture and appearance.
- The awards ceremony will be held on Friday, January 31, 2020 and Saturday, February 1, 2020 in Plaza Juarez at 7:30 pm.
- Showmanship will be awarded to the top cook-off team that displays authentic and traditional dress and overall decorated look of their cook-off site to best represent the days of the Vaquero. Additional information will be sent out in the team packets pertaining to guidelines for showmanship decorating. Showmanship judging will be held on Saturday, February 1, 2020 at 3:00 pm.

AWARDS AND PRIZES

Overall Grand Champion

- Grand Champion Belt Buckle for each team member
- Team Championship Banner
- Team Championship Plaque
- Free space at the 3rd annual Vaquero Cook-Off (2021)

Overall Reserve Grand Champion

- Reserve Grand Champion Belt Buckle for each team member
- Reserve Champion Banner
- Reserve Champion Plaque

1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category

- Team Banner
- Team Plaque

Cook's Choice

- TBA

Showmanship

- Team Banner
- Team Plaque

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, January 31, 2020, 9:00 am – 9:00 pm

9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Team check-in, load in TBA, La Villita
2:00 pm	Team meeting
3:45 pm	Judges report for check-in, Cook's Choice
4:00 pm	Team entry turn-in, judging area, Cook's Choice
4:15 pm	Cook's Choice judging to commence
5:00 pm	Judges report for check-in, Committee Salsa
5:15 pm	Committee entry turn-in, Committee Salsa *Judging to commence after Cook's Choice judging
5:45 pm	Judges report for check-in, Chili con Carne
6:00 pm	Team entry turn-in, judging area, Chili con Carne
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	VIP & Kickoff Party
6:15 pm	Chili con Carne judging to commence
7:30 pm	Awards Ceremony – Cook's Choice and Committee Salsa
10:00 pm	Cook-Off sites & La Villita closed

Saturday, February 1, 2020, 9:00 am – 9:00 pm

9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Western Heritage Parade & Cattle Drive events
	9:00 am Wrangler Breakfast
	9:45 am Stampede 5K
	10:45 am Western Heritage Parade & Cattle Drive
9:00 am	Team check-in, load in TBA, La Villita
1:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Music festival in Plaza Juarez
1:45 pm	Judges report for check-in, Beans
2:00 pm	Team entry turn-in, judging area, Beans
2:15 pm	Bean judging to commence
3:00 pm	Showmanship judging to commence
3:45 pm	Judges report for check-in, Carne Guisada
4:00 pm	Team entry turn-in, Carne Guisada
4:15 pm	Carne Guisada judging to commence
5:45 pm	Judges report for check-in, Menudo
6:00 pm	Team entry turn-in, Menudo
6:15 pm	Menudo judging to commence
7:30 pm	Awards Ceremony
10:00 pm	Cook-Off sites & La Villita closed

***All times are subject to change.**