**Smokin’ Bacon at Knightdale Station, Oct 4-5, 2024**

Date:         October 4-5,2024

To:             Pig Cooking Team Members

From:         Neil Barnhill, Cook Team Organizer

Subject:      Smokin’ Bacon at Knightdale Station

Thank you for your interest in the Smokin’ Bacon at Knightdale Station Whole Hog Cooking Competition, **Friday, October 4 and Saturday, October 5, 2024,** in Knightdale, NC We are pleased to announce that again this year’s event will support the Interfaith Food Shuttle, serving 17 counties in central NC. BSA Troop 347 of Knightdale, will also be selling plates and sandwiches to event attendees.

We will be at Knightdale Station Park, same location as last year. Please use the entrance at 403 Knightdale Station Run, Knightdale, NC. The BBQ competition will be in the parking lots on the right, just east of the main pavilion, near the flag poles and amphitheater.

You may arrive **after 2:00 pm on Friday** to begin setting up your area. Each team will be allotted two normal parking spaces, approximately 20’x 20’ space for each team. Additional vehicle parking will be nearby, in an adjacent parking row. There will be an on- site source for water. However, there is no electricity on site, and generators are encouraged. We are trying to get a couple of portable light tower/generators delivered, but these are not yet confirmed. If you have special needs with regards to your space, such as physical limitations, tent size, burn barrels, etc. please let me know. We will make every effort to accommodate your needs. We need all teams in place with sites set up by 6:30 pm. Please see onsite staff for set up locations, prior to setting up your tents.

Please see attached a listing of the current NC Pork Council Rules, as well as the scorer’s sheet. Our judges are sanctioned by the NC Pork Council and will be judging this year in the culinary category. **Judging times will be announced ahead of time.**

**PROCESSING OF MEAT AFTER JUDGING:** Again, for this year’s event, we have asked members of the **Gold Leaf Detachment, Marine Corps League of NC**, to help collect and process the BBQ. Currently, we ask that the cook teams debone the pork in preparation for processing.

When you arrive, please see our event staff for space assignments. The Chief Cook’s Meeting and meal for all participants will be held Friday evening at approximately 6:30 pm at the cooking site. An evening meal is planned by BSA Troop 347 for all contestants. The pigs will be distributed immediately after the dinner/ meeting (approximately 8:00 PM) and cooking may start at your discretion. Judging will start at (**tbd) AM** on Saturday morning, with the on-site culinary. After your site has been judged, please de-bone and prepare the pork for processing. We ask that the meat not be seasoned. Staff will provide pans and collect the de-boned meat for packaging and serving by staff volunteers. Receptacles will be made available to dispose of any grease/trash after the cook-off. Please make arrangements to collect any grease during your cooking. After the judging is completed, please feel free to enjoy the festivities and live bands. Per Knightdale Parks & Rec, Awards will be announced this year at (**tbd) PM**. You then are free to leave as needed.

If, for any reason, you are unable to participate, please contact me immediately. You are not allowed to ask another team to participate in your place, without prior consent of event staff!

I look forward to seeing you there. If you have any questions please call or text my cell phone, **(919) 868-1155.** You may also email me at [b.neilbarnhill@gmail.com](mailto:b.neilbarnhill@gmail.com)

We thank you again for your interest and commitment to this year’s event.

Regards,

*Neil Barnhill*

-CoPitmaster, Black Iron Smokin’ BBQ

-BBQ Team Organizer and Event Host, Smokin’ Bacon at Knightdale Station