

MINNEOTA BOXELDER BUG DAYS
SMOKIN' BBQ COOKOFF
September 6th, 2025

RULES:

Contest will be held across the street from City Hall Bar and Grill on Highway 68 in Veterans Park

Maximum of 16 teams

Entry Fee \$35.00 (Non-Refundable)

Teams **MUST** be responsible for observing prudent temperature and sanitary requirements.

Each team will have 1 Chief Cook and as many assistants as the Chief deems necessary. All contestants must be 18 years old or have a parent/guardian on the team. (Limit of 4 per team)

Each team will provide a grill or smoker, cooking equipment to be used exclusively by that team, within the cooking area assigned to that team. Teams will have disinfecting wipes, or buckets with water and disinfectant to clean their area. Also required: a thermometer to check the meat temp, gloves and a fire extinguisher. Teams will wear gloves at all times when touching the food - NO exceptions. Be prepared for rain or shine. Wheeled grills will be allowed

Each team will be given **5 racks** of ribs. Six rib samples will be needed for judging and the rest are for public tasting contest. Registration must be paid in full before the ribs can be picked up.

Entries must be cooked the day of the contest. No pre-cooking, pre-boiling or pre-grilling of ribs. Meat will be inspected at the check-in time. After check in time, ribs must stay in the cooking area.

Each team will be given a 10x20 area to cook in. This will be assigned at the check-in. Vehicles must be parked outside the cooking area. Small “easy up” style tents are permitted. Limited electricity is provided; generators are allowed. If you need electricity, please note that on your registration form.

Teams will bring their samples to the judging at the set time. NO late entries - no exceptions. The number of samples needed will be announced at the cooks' meeting. Turn in containers will also be given out at that time. See the judging section below for more information on requirements.

SMOKIN' & BBQ EVENT TIME LINE:

7:00 AM –Team check-in and setup

10:00 AM - Cooks' meeting. Cooking can start after the cooks' meeting

5:00 - Ribs turn-in - public tasting contest will start at 5:30

The winners will be announced after the contest is over.

PUBLIC TASTING CONTEST:

After the ribs are turned in, we will do a public tasting contest.

Each team will have been given **5 racks** of ribs. We will be using pork baby back ribs. After you have turned in your contest ribs to the judges, what is left over should be cut in single ribs to be used in the public tasting contest.

Pay Outs: 100% of Entry Fees PLUS a People's Choice BONUS

There will be pay outs to:

- 1st place payout for Ribs
- The 1st Place Overall team will receive a traveling trophy and a free pass to next year's cook-off
- Payouts will be based on how many contestants are registered
- 1st place in Public Tasting Contest - People's Choice will receive a cash prize.

Please remember we are only taking the first 16 teams who are fully registered by contest day. To be fully registered you need your filled-out entry sheet and entry fee. Please make your checks payable to Minneota Boxelder Bug Days.

Please send the registration to:

D.J. Prellwitz

865 120th Ave.

Pipestone, MN 56164

To register and save your spot, please call D.J. 507-530-5553 or Randy 507-530-4443

PUBLIC TASTE CONTEST

Vote for the Public Taste Contest:

Buy tickets packets from the ticket table - \$2 per ticket

(Cooks will get back \$1 of the ticket price at payout)

If there are 8 cooks, tickets will be sold in packets of 8

Each packet of 8 will receive 1 Voting Ballot

16 tickets (2 packets) will receive 2 Voting Ballots

Give 1 ticket to each cook to taste 1 rib

After you've tasted the ribs, fill out the voting ballot and return it to the ticket table.

JUDGING OVERVIEW

Judges may not fraternize with teams on the day of the contest until judging is over.

Blind judging containers will be handed out at the Cooks' Meeting

Teams will provide six (6) single cut ribs samples.

Ribs shall be turned in bone-in

Anything placed on or in the container that identifies your team will be cause for your entry to not be scored.

All turn-ins must be delivered to the judging location at the designated time. NO

EXCEPTIONS - late turn-ins will not be scored.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Ribs will be judged by a team of 5 judges.

Entries will be scored in the areas of appearance, tenderness, texture & taste.

The scoring system is 10 (excellent) to 1 (subpar). All whole numbers between 1 and 10 may be used to score any entry

Garnish will be allowed in the turn-in box

NO sauce containers will be allowed in the turn-in box

Product may be presented with or without sauce or seasonings

If you choose to use sauce with your entry it must be applied to the entry

Sauce must not be pooled in the container

NO toothpicks, skewers etc, are permitted in the turn-in box. Entries not complying with this rule will not be scored.

Turn-in boxes shall only contain garnish & turn in product

MINNEOTA BOXELDER BUG DAYS

SMOKIN' BBQ RIB COOK-OFF

SEPTEMBER 6th, 2025

REGISTRATION FORM

TEAM NAME: _____

CHIEF COOK: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

In consideration of my registration and permitting me/us to participate in this event, I/We hereby take action for myself, my team, my executors, administrators, heirs, next of kin, successors, and assigns as follows: (A) Waive, release, and discharge from any and all liability for my death, disability personal injury, property damage, property theft or actions of any kind, Minneota Boxelder Bug Days, the Minneota Boxelder Bug Committee, the City of Minneota and their directors, officers, employees, volunteers, representatives and agents, the event sponsors and event volunteers, (B) Indemnify and hold harmless all entities or persons mentioned in this paragraph from any and all liabilities or claims made by other individuals or entities as a result of my actions during this event.

I/We hereby consent to receive medical treatment that may be deemed advisable in the event of injury, accident, and/or illness during this event.

I/We understand that at this event or related activities I/We may be photographed. I/We agree to allow my/our photo, video, or film likeness to be used for any legitimate purpose by the event holders, producers, sponsors, organizers, and/or assigns.

SIGNATURE OF CHIEF COOK _____

(Chief Cook is signing as a representative of his/her entire team and on their behalf. The entire team consents to the agreement above.)

DATE: _____

Non-Refundable Registration and Entry fee of \$35

Mail to:

D.J. Prellwitz

865 120th Ave.

Pipestone, MN 56164

Checks may be made out to Minneota Boxelder Bug Days

Any questions: please call Randy (507)530-4443 or D.J. (507)530-5553