

**21<sup>th</sup> Annual Buzz-B-Q presented by Doublebee's**  
**Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**NLR RV Park**  
**Buzz-B-Q Judging Procedures for:**

Selected judges will be notified by email. Judges must enter through the gate through the sea wall and will have their name on a list there and be given a wristband. Additionally, staff will send judges an electronic ticket to show to enter.

Judges will be notified prior to the event if judging Pro or Average and will need to be able to judge all three categories of that division: Chicken, Pork and Ribs. Pro Judges will need to arrive at the judging tents by 2:15pm and Average Judges will need to be at the location by 12:15pm

Entries will be submitted in an approved prenumbered Buzz-B-Q container provided by the Buzz-B-Q Staff. The container will be re-numbered by the Buzz-B-Q Contest Rep or authorized personnel before being presented to the judges.

1. Judges may not fraternize with teams on turn-in day until conclusion of judging. Please turn off cell phones during judging.
2. Drinks will be provided.
3. Judging will be done by a group of judges selected by the Buzz-B-Q Staff. All judges must be at least 18 years of age unless approved by staff. Only judges, contest reps and necessary support staff are allowed in judging area during the judging process. No other activities are permitted in the judging area during the judging process.
4. Average Joe Judges will be judging Side Dishes and Pro Judges will be judging Brisket. BuzzBQ staff can switch judges out as necessary.
5. Judging will be completed by a team of 6 persons. The table captain will be assigned to a specific table(s) of judges. You will be contacted prior to the event if you are a table captain. The captain will bring the sample to the table one container at a time. The top of the container will feature a letter followed by a number which is a specific entry number. That arrangement of letters and numbers will be placed in the square on the judging sheet which is provided. Once judges have the correct container on the sheet the judging process will begin. Do not remove any labels from containers. Also do not remove the container itself from the area. Leftover instructions will be given on site.
6. For the three main meat categories, each judge may wear a fresh pair of gloves provided by BuzzBQ staff. The judge will first score the samples for appearance of the meat. The turn-in containers will then be passed around the table by the table captain with the judge not physically touching the container itself and **the table captain** will place a sample from each of the containers on the plate. The judge will then score each entry for taste and tenderness/texture, before moving on to the next entry.
7. For the Side Dish, Sauce and Brisket category, each judge may wear a fresh pair of gloves provided by BuzzBQ staff. The judge will first score the sample for appearance of the meat. The turn in container will then be passed around the table by the table captain with the judge not physically touching the container itself and **the table captain** will place a sample from the container on the plate. The judge will then score each entry for taste and originality, before moving on to the next entry. The judges must be able to recognize through appearance and taste the original mystery meat.
8. A. The scoring system is from 9 to 1:
  - a. 9 – excellent
  - b. 8 – very good
  - c. 7 – above average
  - d. 6 – average
  - e. 5 – below average
  - f. 4 – poor
  - g. 3 – bad
  - h. 2 – inedible
  - i. 1 – Disqualified - requires approval by a contest rep.

\*\*\*If less than 6 pieces of meat are provided then 5 judges will continue to judge the container with the 6th judge giving the box a score of 1.

- B. Buzz-B-Q will use a **weighted** scoring system for the three main categories in addition to Brisket where Taste accounts for twice the value of Tenderness and Tenderness accounts for twice the value of Appearance. Mathematically, the scores above will be weighted using the following numbers: Appearance - 0.5714, Taste - 2.2858, Tenderness - 1.1428.
- C. The scoring system for Side Dish and BBQ Sauce is ranked 5 to 1 and will not be weighted:
  - a. 5 – excellent
  - b. 4 – good
  - c. 3 – average
  - d. 2 – poor
  - e. 1 – disqualified

The BBQ Sauce judging will be based on three (3) criteria: Overall Flavor, Originality, & Aroma.

The Side Dish judging will be based on three (3) criteria: Overall Flavor, Originality, & Appearance.

**Grounds for disqualifications: Unapproved garnish, sculptured meat, marked turn-in container, foreign object in container. A disqualification can only be determined by a BuzzBQ Contest representative. If you feel there is a reason to DQ an entry, please notify your table captain.**

- 9. Please score carefully. You may not go back and change your scores. Any marked through scores will retain the original score.
- 10. Results will be tallied to determine the winner of each classification. If there is a tie in one of the categories it will be broken as follows: The scores will be compared for the highest cumulative scores in taste, then tenderness then appearance. If there is still a tie, the prize/prize money will be equally divided, and the trophy will be awarded by a coin flip.

**AWARDS WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE STAGE ON OR AROUND 6:00PM.**

**SCORES MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL THE FOLLOWING WEEK. THESE SCORES WILL BE POSTED ON [www.1037thebuzz.com](http://www.1037thebuzz.com) and [www.buzzbq.com](http://www.buzzbq.com).**