



Desert of Virginia

Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine of North and South America and its Jurisdictions, Inc.
Organized June 10, 1893; Incorporated November 10, 1901, Washington, D.C.

“Commitment To Service: Today, Tomorrow, Forever!”

Noble John L. Covin, Jr., PP (7)
Imperial Deputy of the Desert of Virginia
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7th Day of Shawwal, Hegira 1445
Corresponding to April 16, 2024

To: All Temples
All Courts
All Imperial Council Officers, Elected and Appointed
All Imperial Court Officers, Elected and Appointed

Re: 2024 Virginia Desert Family Cookout and Competition

Greetings,

Greetings! The Desert of Virginia is hosting its 5th Annual BBQ Competition and Family Cookout. We need your support to make this event a success again this year. Some of the activities for the weekend are:

- BBQ Contest,
- Car Show,
- Musical Entertainment,
- KIDS Zone,
- Daughters- Bake Sale,
- Vendors, and more

We have invited Nobles and Daughters from across the domain to attend. It's going to be a BIG OLD FASHIONED BBQ THROWDOWN. If you're interested or know of someone who wants to compete or be a vendor, please contact the committee at DESERTVABBQ@GMAIL.COM for the competition rules and vendor package forms.

The BBQ Competition is Saturday, August 3, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m. and will be held at 400 White Bank Rd, Colonial Heights, VA 23834. For additional information and individual tickets please call PP. Terence D. Bynoe 804-855-9392 or PP. Anthony Harris 757-771-8403.

Bulk tickets can be purchased by Temple or Court checks. (All checks made payable to Desert of Virginia)

General admission; \$10.00 adults; -\$5.00 kids 10 thru 17 and free for kids 9 and under (includes free hamburger and hotdogs from Desert of Virginia tent).

Tickets available at DESERTVABBQ.EVENTBRITE.COM

Yours in the service,

John L. Covin, Jr.

Noble John L. Covin, Jr., PP (7)
Imperial Deputy of the Desert of Virginia



2024 Desert of Virginia – BBQ Competition RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **CONTESTANT** - A contestant is any individual or group that will prepare and cook an entry or entries for the purpose of being judged. Contestant and all team members must be amateur competitors. The contest organizer may not cook in any category in this contest. Contestant will be referred to as “Griller.”
2. **INTERPRETATION of RULES** - The interpretation of the rules and regulations are those of the contest organizer and his or her decisions are final.
3. **REFUND OF ENTRY FEES** – There will be no refund of entry fees unless approved by the organizing committee.
4. **EQUIPMENT** – Each Griller will supply all the equipment necessary for the preparation and cooking of their entry including a cooker. **COOKER** can ONLY be one of the following: Charcoal or wood (NO open/pit fires). The health and safety of contestants and event goers should be a primary consideration when selecting appropriate cooking fuels.
5. **MEAT INSPECTION** – All meats must be USDA or state DA inspected and passed. All meat must be maintained at a maximum temperature of 40 degrees F prior to inspection. Prior to cooking, all meat that is resting in preparation for cooking must be always covered. All meats must be cooked to a minimum internal temperature of 145 degrees F. After cooking, all meat must be maintained at a minimum temperature of 140 degrees F in a covered container until turned in for judging. All contest meat, once inspected, may not leave the Griller’s site until turned in for judging. After inspection the meat may be marinated, salted, seasoned, or cooked by the Griller.
6. **CONTESTANT’S SITE** – Each Griller is required to keep all equipment including cooker, canopy, etc. contained within the assigned space.
7. **CLEANLINESS AND SANITATION** – All Grillers are expected to maintain their cook sites in an orderly and clean manner and to use good sanitary practices during the preparation, cooking, and judging process. The use of sanitary gloves is always required while handling food. Failure to use sanitary gloves may result in disqualification. Grillers are responsible for cleanup of their site once the competition has ended. All food safety rules and regulations must always be adhered to. A sanitation/water supply will be provided for all teams use during this event.
8. **MEAT CATEGORIES** – The following categories are included in the competition: a. Boston Butt – weighing a minimum of 5 lbs. or more must be cooked as a single piece of meat. b. Chicken – may cook chicken whole or halved (with enough for 4 judges’ plates) c. Pork Ribs – minimum of four (4) ribs d. Beef Brisket – must be sliced.
 - a. **BONUS POINT CHALLENGE!** Grillers will be invited to participate in a One-Point Challenge, with meat that will be provided to them during the competition cooking period. The Griller who wins the challenge round will be awarded one (1) bonus point toward their overall score for the competition.
9. **JUDGING** – Entries will be submitted in the containers supplied by event organizer at check-in by the Griller. **NO GARNISH.** Only the entry to be judged is allowed in the container. Each entry will be judged on **APPEARANCE, TASTE/FLAVOR, TENDERNESS** and **TEXTURE.** Meat may be sauced or un-sauced. A minimum of six (6) separate and identifiable portions per category in containers supplied to Griller at check-in must be submitted for judging.
10. **SCORING** – Each entry will be scored by six (6) judges in the areas of **APPEARANCE, TASTE/FLAVOR, TENDERNESS** and **TEXTURE.** Scoring ranges from a low of 2 to a high of 9 in increments of 1 point for

each category. Any entry that is disqualified as per SECTION 11 will receive a score of zero for all four categories from all judges at the table.

11. DISQUALIFICATION – An entry can be disqualified by the event organizer only. An entry can be disqualified for any of the following reasons:
- a. There is anything foreign other than meat/sauce in container submitted for judging.
 - b. The entry is turned in after the officially designated time.
 - c. Gloves are not used while handling food products.
 - d. Not cooking the meat that was inspected.
 - e. There is not a minimum of six (6) separate and identifiable containers for each category entered.
 - f. There is evidence of blood such that the meat is uncooked.

12. TURN-IN TIMES – per competition item as follows:

- Beef Brisket – 4:30 PM EST
- Chicken – 2:00 PM EST
- Pork Ribs – 3:00 PM EST
- Boston Butt (Pulled Pork) – 3:30 PM EST

13. JUDGING PROCEDURE – The event organizer brings all approved containers to the table. He/She announces the number of containers to be judged, opens each container and checks for rule violations as stated above. The containers will be passed around to the judges for sampling. The judge will then score each entry for APPEARANCE, TASTE/FLAVOR/TENDERNESS and TEXTURE. The event organizer makes sure that all scores for the containers are recorded in the proper place. This procedure is repeated for all containers. After each container has been scored the event organizer will return the container(s) to the designated area. The event organizer will then collect the judging slips.

14. WINNERS – Grillers in each of the four (4) categories will have the opportunity to win First (1st), Second (2nd), or Third (3rd) Place. The winners in each category will be determined by adding all the scores together for the following divisions – (A) BOSTON BUTT (Pulled Pork), (B) PORK RIBS (C) CHICKEN, (D) Beef Brisket.

THE GRAND CHAMPION Title will be the Griller with the most total points and be declared the 1st Place Trophy Winner.



2024 Desert of Virginia – BBQ Competition Team

Application Form

Please Print:

Team Name _____

Chief Cook _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____

Team Members (Max 3 members)

Team Entry Fee \$100.00 *Please make payment to: Desert of Virginia

Deadline for entry: July 31, 2024 – after deadline entry fee \$125.00

Please Check Categories Competing:

____ Ribs ____ Chicken ____ Pork ____ Brisket ____ BBQ Sauce (optional – not part of
the Grand Champion Award).

Must compete in ALL Categories to compete for the overall

Awards are as follows:

Grand Champion Award. (Must compete in all meat categories)

Grand Prize – Cash award, Pit Boss Grill and Grand Champion Trophy

Individuals Awards will be given for each meat category.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place trophies will be given for each category.

BBQ Team Entry includes:

- 1 BBQ Team Registration – 20x20 site for grill and food tent. (Grill and Tent supplied by competitor)
- 3 Wrist Bands

Waiver of Liability: In consideration of accepting this entry, I the undersigned, intending to be legally bound, hereby for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the Desert of Virginia or A.E.A.O.N.M.S. Inc or any individual or group responsible for the organization of the BBQ Competition.

I hereby grant permission to the Desert of Virginia BBQ Competition Committee and/or agents authorized by them, to use any photographs, videotapes, motion pictures, recordings and any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose. I agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Desert of Virginia BBQ Competition Committee.

Signature of Chief Cook _____

/Date _____



2024 Desert of Virginia Family Cookout and BBQ Competition

**** VENDOR SHEET ****

Purpose: To secure various vendors that will sell products of interest to the participants of the conference.

Dear Vendor(s),

The Prince Hall Affiliated Shrines of Virginia will hold its 5th Annual BBQ Competition on Saturday, August 3, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at 400 White Bank Rd, Colonial Heights, VA 23834. The event is to raise funds for the Desert of Virginia HBCU Initiative and Scholarships.

The mission is to provide positive role models for the purpose of building strong and committed relationships, and improving academic success, self-esteem and social competency.

Competitors will come from all over the East Coast to participate in the BBQ Competition; expected guest attendance is 200 plus. This is a family event which will include a Car Club showcasing some of the finest cars in Virginia; KIDS Zone Activities, Musical Entertainment; Bake-Sale and Gift Basket Auction.

You are cordially invited to participate in our event as a vendor. The vendor fee is \$60.00 (one space) and \$100.00 (two spaces). If you would like to participate, please fill out the attached vendor contract and submit with payment no later than July 25, 2024. There will be a limited number of vendors allowed and items for sale will be at the discretion of the committee. All checks and/or money orders must be made to: Desert of Virginia.

Vendor hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and spaces will be reserved in your name. All vendors are responsible for their own merchandise. For your convenience, food wristbands will be provided at a reduced cost of \$5.00 (Limit 2 Per Vendor).

Cancellations must be received in writing and forwarded to Bigwalk357@gmail.com not later than July 27, 2024 or you will forfeit 50% of the Vendor Fee.

Payment: Make checks payable to: Desert of Virginia

If you have any questions, please contact Noble Deson Walker at Bigwalk357@gmail.com. Thank you in advance for your support.

Respectfully,
Noble Deson Walker, PP (260)

Vendor Coordinator



2024 Desert of Virginia Family Cookout and BBQ Competition

VENDOR CONTRACT

Business Name and/or Contact Person _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

This agreement between the Desert of Virginia BBQ Competition Committee and the Vendor do hereby agree to the follow:

- Scheduled time and location are 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at 400 White Bank Rd, Colonial Heights, VA 23834.
- The vendor fee is \$60.00 (one space) and \$100.00 (two spaces). Vendor is responsible for their own merchandise, electrical requirements, business licenses, permits, sales taxes and fees. Any special needs will be coordinated prior to the event.
- Vendors are responsible for Liability/Damages Insurance Coverage that may be necessary to protect the Vendor, Desert of Virginia, and A.E.A.O.N.M.S. Inc.
- This Committee nor its organization will be liable for any extenuating circumstances (Acts of God) that may cause this event to cancel.
 - If rescheduled, Vendors will be informed, and this contract will remain in force by both parties.
- Desert of VA, nor its affiliates will be held liable for any damages.
- Payment: Make checks payable to: Desert of Virginia
- **Cancellations must be received in writing and forwarded to Bigwalk357@gmail.com not later than July 27, 2024, or you will forfeit 50% of the Vender Fee.**

Please describe the type of business or exhibit: _____

The signature below indicates mutual acceptance of the conditions of this agreement. A copy of the signed contract will be returned to you upon acceptance.

Vendor Name (Print) _____/Date _____

Vendor Name (Sign) _____/Date _____

Vendor Coordinator Name (Print) _____/Date _____

Vendor Coordinator Name (Sign) _____/Date _____

Contract enforced once signed and copy is received back from Vendor Coordinator