

CHILI COOK TEAM REGISTRATION PACKET



Saturday,
October 3, 2009
Municipal Stadium



Together, we can save a life



Hello!

Thank you for your interest in the **Hagerstown Suns 6th Annual Chili Cook-Off and Music Festival**. The Chili Cook-Off committee is once again hard at work to ensure that this year's event is yet another huge success.

Last year's event raised over \$10,000 for The Washington County MIHI - "Project Lifesaver" Program. In the event's five-year history, we've raised \$85,000 for charitable programs in Washington County. Your participation this year will help guarantee terrific results for the Hagerstown Suns Chili Cook-Off & Music Festival and for The American Red Cross, Washington County Chapter, who will benefit from this year's event.

The charitable funds generated through the Hagerstown Suns 2009 Chili Cook Off will aid The American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization led by volunteers and guided by its Congressional Charter and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross Movement. The American Red Cross provides relief to victims of disaster and helps people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. For nearly a century, the Washington County Chapter has worked diligently to fulfill that mission on behalf of residents of Washington County. The Chili Cook-Off has already raised \$85,000 for charity in the past five years. Approximately 2,000 people attend the event annually along with close to 30 Chili Cook teams from the public and corporate community. The Suns Chili Cook-off & Music Festival has fast become a substantive regional tourist attraction for our community.

A team of local judges will once again be used in 2009. There are three award categories: Best Overall Chili, The People's Choice Award and Best Booth Display. The top three teams in the "Best Overall Chili" category will receive cash prizes of **\$1,000, \$500 and \$250** for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, respectively.

Teams will again be required to provide samples beginning at 12:00 p.m. Awards will be presented at approximately 5:00 p.m. The Music Festival portion of the event will also begin at 12:00 p.m. and continue until approximately 5:00 p.m.

The following pages provide information, including dates to remember, award details, and the 2009 registration form.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Hagerstown Suns at **(301) 791-6266** or **info@hagerstownsuns.com**.

Visit **www.sunschilicookoff.com** for more information as the event gets closer.

Thanks for your participation!

The Hagerstown Suns



The Chili Details...

Who?

Teams of cooks who love chili! Individual teams can have up to four people; corporate teams can have up to six. All cooks must be 18 and older.

What?

The Hagerstown Suns 6th Annual Chili Cook-Off and Music Festival at Municipal Stadium. Whatever you call chili, we call chili. Official chili rules are included in this registration packet.

Awards will be given in three categories: Best Overall Chili, the “People’s Choice” Chili and Best Booth Display. The “Best Overall Chili” winner will receive \$1,000 cash, with the 2nd and 3rd place winners also receiving \$500 and \$250, respectively!

Where?

Municipal Stadium
274 East Memorial Blvd.
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

When?

Saturday, October 3, 2009. Cook Team set-up and chili preparation may begin as early as “5 a.m.”. Gates are opened to patrons beginning at 12:00 p.m. Chili is served until 4 p.m. Music kicks off at 12 Noon and continues until 5 p.m. Chili awards will be presented at 5 p.m. at the conclusion of the Festival.

Why?

The Hagerstown Suns 2009 Chili Cook-off & Music Festival will benefit The American Red Cross, Washington County Chapter. This is a non-profit charitable organization.

DATES-TO-REMEMBER

Hagerstown Suns 6th Annual Chili Cook-off and Music Festival

Saturday, October 3, 2009
Municipal Stadium

Registration Deadline: Monday, Sept. 21, 2009
Based on availability, register soon!!!

Mandatory Cooks Meeting: Monday, Sept. 21, 2009
6:00p.m. – Municipal Stadium
Free admission tickets and free t-shirts will be distributed.

**Booth Setup and
Chili Preparation:** Saturday, October 3, 2009
Starting at 5:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Spaces will be assigned upon arriving at Municipal Stadium the morning of October 3rd. Pre-sold admission ticket monies and unsold consigned tickets are due before entering the ballpark.

Cooks Meeting: Saturday, October 3, 2009
Music Stage at 10:00 a.m.
A Cook Team representative MUST attend this meeting!

Judging: Saturday, October 3, 2009
Chili Cook-off Committee members will be collecting a Chili sample from your booth anytime between 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Awards: Saturday, October 3, 2009
Awards will be announced at approximately 5 p.m.

The best overall Chili winner will receive \$1,000 in cash with \$500 going to the 2nd place winner and \$250 to 3rd place!

Booth Cleanup: Saturday, October 3, 2009
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Cook Teams' vehicles will leave the ballpark immediately after the Award announcements at 5 p.m.

TEAM INFORMATION

Chili teams are responsible for all of their own equipment and supplies. The Suns will supply sampling cups and spoons. Don't forget to bring all appropriate booth supplies including a table, chairs, serving utensils, tent, wipe cloths, etc. All Chili Cook teams **MUST** also have a metal stem meat thermometer and **MUST** follow Health Department rules and regulations as provided at the Mandatory Cooks Meeting on Monday, Sept. 21st. All teams are encouraged to be creative with their booth displays. Awards will be given for booth presentation.

The costs and chili requirements are outlined below for Chili Cook Teams:

	<u>Business/Organization</u>	<u>Individual</u>
Chili Registration Cost	\$75	\$50
Space Allotted	35' x 15'	35' x 15'
Chili Required	15 Gallons	6 Gallons
<i>Cost of Registration Includes 2 Free Event T-shirts</i>		

Each team is encouraged to pre-sell admission tickets. Individuals pre-selling 25 admission tickets, or Business/Organization Teams pre-selling 50 tickets, will have their entry fee refunded.

TICKET SALES

- Pre-Sold Adult Admission Tickets**\$10.00
- Pre-Sold Children (12 and under*) Admission Tickets**\$5.00
- Gate Adult Admission Tickets**\$12.00
- Gate Children (12 and under*) Admission Tickets**\$6.00

- Chili Sample Tickets (at the event).....\$1.00

* Children 3 and under are free

** Adult Admission tickets receive 4 FREE chili sample tickets with their paid admission; Children Admission tickets receive 2 FREE chili sample tickets with their paid admission.

Individuals pre-selling 25 admission tickets or Corporate/Non-Profit Teams pre-selling 50 tickets will have their entry fee refunded.

AWARDS

Awards will be given in the following categories:

Best Overall Chili

The "People's Choice" Chili

Best Booth Display

The best overall Chili winner will receive \$1,000 cash with cash prizes of \$500 and \$250 going to the 2nd and 3rd place winners respectively! Prizes will also be awarded to other category winners and runners-up.

Chili Rules

General

1. Various categories are established as guidelines to ensure fair competition between teams.
2. While teams are encouraged to market their company product and/or services, under NO circumstances may anyone offer any items or services for sale. Any items found for sale will be confiscated by the Hagerstown Suns and will be returned after the event. Promotional items may be given away with advance permission. You must contact the Hagerstown Suns at 301-791-6266 before the cooks' meeting on September 21st, 2009.
3. Six individuals per Business/Organization team and four individuals per Individual team will be admitted for free. All other personnel helping at your booth will need to purchase admission tickets. The free admission tickets will be distributed to the teams at the Cooks' Meeting on September 9th.
4. Teams are responsible for supplying all ingredients, cooking devices, tables, coolers, tents, serving utensils, etc. All vendors must be self-supporting. No electricity will be provided. All cook teams MUST also bring a metal stem meat thermometer. Generators are not permitted.
5. Municipal Stadium is a non-smoking facility, except for inside the Suns Beer Garden and Picnic Patio ONLY. Cook teams will be provided with "No Smoking" signs to hang on their booth display at the Cooks Meeting on October 3rd at 10:00 a.m.

Setup / Teardown

1. Each team will be allocated a space of approximately 35'x15'. Chili teams are responsible for all of their own equipment and supplies. Don't forget to bring all appropriate booth supplies including a table, chairs and tent.
2. Sampling cups, spoons and napkins will be provided by the Hagerstown Suns for patrons.
3. Vehicles will only be allowed into Municipal Stadium after 5:00 a.m. on October 3rd. All chili teams and their vehicles must be inside the Stadium by no later than 9:00 a.m. One personal vehicle per team will be allowed. All other personal vehicles must be parked outside the stadium. Vehicle passes will be distributed at the Cooks' Meeting on September 9th and will need to be displayed during the event.
4. Booths must be completely torn down and your area must be completely free from garbage by 5:00 p.m. All vehicles will be escorted out of the stadium immediately following the awards presentation at approximately 5:00 p.m. Chili volunteers will remove your bagged trash.

Chili

1. Chili cannot be defined. Whatever you call CHILI, we will call chili. Chili may or may not contain meat. Chili may or may not contain beans. Chili may be red, white or any other color. Only one recipe will be judged per team. Teams can make more than one recipe for public sampling, however.

2. No ingredients may be pre-cooked or treated prior to the preparation period. Commercially canned and bottled ingredients are allowed. Pre-cut raw ingredients are allowed.
3. The preparation period will begin immediately once the Cook Team enters Municipal Stadium, up to as early as 5:00 a.m. on October 3rd but no later than 9:00 a.m.
4. Spectator sampling will begin promptly at noon. Pint-size samples for judging will be collected from each booth anytime between 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Please be patient – a Chili Cook-off committee member will visit your booth to collect the chili sample during that time period.
5. Businesses and organizations must prepare at least 15 gallons of Chili and Individual teams are required to prepare at least 6 gallons. There is no maximum quantity each Team or Individual may prepare. One (1) pint of Chili must be reserved for judging.
6. Spectator chili sampling will be controlled by tickets. All chili teams MUST take a ticket for each sample given and samples MUST be given in stated proportions allowed. ANYONE FOUND NOT TAKING TICKETS OR PROVIDING LARGER THAN STATED PROPORTIONS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM ALL JUDGING CATEGORIES. All sample tickets will be collected from each cook team at the conclusion of the event in addition to remaining bowls. Sample tickets collected from cook teams should match the number of bowls used.

Judging / Awards

1. Chili will be judged by the following criteria: Aroma, Appearance, Consistency and Taste. The winning Chili must rate well in each of these criteria. All criteria will be weighted equally for each category.
2. To ensure confidentiality and impartiality during the judging process, each team will be randomly assigned a team. The Hagerstown Suns Chili Cook-Off Judging Committee will control cup numbers and sample collections to ensure anonymity.
3. Team theme, visual display, and showmanship will be evaluated in determining the Booth prize winners. We encourage each team to maximize their judging points as well as market their company products and/or services. Teams will only be judged on presentation within their assigned area (35'x15'). Additional space may not be rented.
4. Chili Cook-off patrons may cast votes to select the "people's choice" award winning chili. All votes will be tallied at 4:00 p.m. and the winner announced during the chili awards ceremony. Chili teams are encouraged to engage the cook-off patrons and encourage them to place a "people's choice" vote. Extra "People's Choice" votes may be purchased for \$1 each at the T-Shirt Tent until 4:00 p.m.
5. The decisions of the judges are final. All entrants participate at their own risk. The Hagerstown Suns are not liable for losses or damages resulting from team participation in this event. The Suns reserve the right to change or modify these rules at any time. Any changes will be communicated to all entrants. The committee also reserves the right to disqualify any team for violation of these rules.



Registration Form

Team Name: _____

Business/Organization Name (if applicable): _____

Category (circle one): Business/Organization Individual

Entry Fee: Business/Organization - \$75 Individual - \$50

Head Chef (one name only): _____

Head Chef Email: _____

Head Chef Mailing Address: _____

_____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number: Day: _____ Evening: _____

Fax: _____

Your team registration fee includes two FREE Hagerstown Suns Chili Cookoff & Music Festival

T-shirts! Please circle the sizes of the two FREE t-shirts below:

FREE T-Shirt #1 L XL XXL

FREE T-Shirt #2 L XL XXL

In addition, I wish to purchase additional T-shirts:

Size Large Quantity _____ x \$15 each = \$ _____

Size Extra Large Quantity _____ x \$15 each = \$ _____

Size XX Large Quantity _____ x \$18 each = \$ _____

TOTAL = \$ _____

**** All t-shirts can be picked up at the Cooks Meeting on Monday September 21st. T-shirts will not be available until that date.**



Registration Form

Page 2

Our Team will pre-sell admission tickets as noted below:

_____ Admission Tickets (Tickets will be sent to Chili Cook Teams at a later date.)

Un-used tickets may be returned with no penalty.)

I have read and understand the rules and regulations of the Hagerstown Suns Chili Cook-Off and Music Festival, and I hereby agree to abide by such rules and regulations.

Entry Fee Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ (Business - \$75, Individual - \$50)

Additional T-Shirts Amount Enclosed \$ _____ (from page 1)

TOTAL \$ _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Make checks payable to: Hagerstown Suns

**Return your registration form to:
Hagerstown Suns
Attn: CHILI COOKOFF
274 E. Memorial Blvd.,
Hagerstown, MD 21740**