

CHILI COOKOFF KIT



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* Also available for separate download:

Credit Union Chili Challenge Scoresheet - Excel format with score totals

Chili Cookoff Poster - Word format with editable text

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Pre-Event Check List

1. Download all of the documents available on the website.
2. Update the PROMOTIONAL FLYER with your credit union's logo, name and date.
3. To foster internal department teamwork, send an email to your employees along with the PROMOTIONAL FLYER announcing your credit union's chili cookoff. Refer to the EMAIL TEMPLATE and customize it to fit your needs. Encourage each department to organize a team (Lending, Operations/facilities, IT, Marketing, Call Center, Senior Management, and teams for Local Branches that are able to participate).
4. Provide each department with the CHILI COOKOFF RULES.
5. Host a cook's meeting before your event to answer any questions about the event or the rules.
6. Determine who will judge your event.
7. Print out a JUDGES BALLOT for each judge.

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Suggested Supplies

1. Spoons – You will want enough spoons so that judges can taste each chili and discard the spoon after each taste (this prevents “double dipping” into the judges bowls).
Be sure to account for multiple tastes as well as spoons for employees/members to try the chili!
2. Tablecloths
3. Decorations
4. Pens or pencils for judges
5. Sharpie to mark the bottom of each JUDGING CUP
6. Extension cord/s and plug strip/s so that each crockpot can be plugged in

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Day Of Event Checklist

1. Cover 2 tables with table cloths. One table will be for the Crock pots, the other table will be the official JUDGE'S TABLE.
2. Decorations
3. Set up the extension cords and plug strips
4. Judging - refer to the JUDGING document
5. Scorekeeping – refer to the SCOREKEEPING document
6. Announce Winners
7. Go to www.xdi.com/chilichallenge and sign up your winning team/s to represent your credit union at XDI's 2017 Credit Union Chili Challenge for their chance to win part of the \$14,000 in prize money to go to the charity of their choice!

CHILI COOKOFF KIT



Suggested Rules For Your Cookoff

Definition Of Homestyle Chili

Homestyle chili is what people eat anytime – any place. Homestyle chili is defined by the International Chili Society as the cook's favorite combination of ingredients resulting in a stew-like dish, made with or without meat and seasoned with chili peppers, spices and other ingredients.

1. Host a cook's meeting before your event to answer any questions.
2. Ingredients - no restrictions or requirements, but the entry must be entirely homemade and have chili pepper flavor.
3. Garnish is not allowed in the bowls turned in for judging.
4. Determine how much chili each team should prepare depending on the number of judges and the number of people that may want to taste it! One to two gallons is common.
5. An official 32 ounce judging cup will be provided to each team. Each contestant will be responsible for verifying that their team name is on the bottom of their JUDGING CUP.
6. At the end of the cooking period, each contestant will fill their JUDGING CUP (1" from the top of the cup) and deliver it to the judging area. The remaining chili is for non-judges/attendees and can be tasted directly from the crockpots using a new spoon for each taste. Or you may choose to provide each person with their own small sample bowl.

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Scorekeeping

1. Assign a SCOREKEEPER to tabulate the results. You may want to have someone help the SCOREKEEPER.
2. Using the SCORESHEET, the SCOREKEEPER will write in the judge's names at the top as the JUDGES BALLOTS are turned in.
3. Under each judge's name, the SCOREKEEPER will allocate points to each JUDGING CUP based on the JUDGES BALLOTS. Each 1st place vote is worth 3 points; each 2nd place vote is worth 2 points; and, each 3rd place vote is worth 1 point. Be careful to verify that the point values are entered for scoring (3 points) not the place ranking (1st place).
4. At the bottom, be sure that total points allocated from each judge equals 6 points.
5. Once all votes have been entered, calculate the total points for each JUDGING CUP and write that score in the POINTS column.
6. Based on the total points, write the ranking under the PLACE column – the most points equals 1st place, 2nd most points equals 2nd place, etc.
7. Now look at the bottom of each JUDGING CUP and write the team name/number next to the corresponding JUDGING CUP to determine the winners!
8. Gather everyone for the ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Scoresheet

Scorekeepers Master Tally Sheet

The scorekeepers award 3 points for each 1st Place vote, 2 points for each 2nd Place vote and 1 point for each 3rd Place vote.

Official Judges

Team Captain	Team Name	Team #	Cup	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	Points	Place	People's Choice Points	Place	
		1																												
		2																												
		3																												
		4																												
		5																												
		6																												
		7																												
		8																												
		9																												
		10																												
		11																												
		12																												
		13																												
		14																												
		15																												
		16																												
		17																												
		18																												
		19																												
			Points																											



CHILI COOKOFF KIT



Judging Guidelines

1. Determine WHO will judge your event – options include:
 - a. Executive Team
 - b. Senior Management
 - c. All employees
 - d. Credit Union Members

A good rule of thumb is a minimum of one judge per bowl of chili or a max of two per bowl.

2. Referencing the CONTESTANT SIGN-UP LIST, write each TEAM NUMBER on the bottom of the large, styrofoam JUDGING CUPS (provided by XDI). It is recommended to assign team numbers beginning with 101, so that cup numbers and team numbers are not confused during judging.
3. Have the head cooks fill their judge's cup one inch from the top (no garnish)
4. Randomly line the bowls up on a long table or counter.
5. Write a number on the side of each in consecutive order (1 through 10 or however many teams are participating). Judges will use the numbers on the side of each JUDGING CUP to keep track of their favorite. This process ensures "blind judging" – judges only know the number on the side of the JUDGING CUP but not the team/department name on the bottom.
6. Distribute the judges ballots
7. Remind the judges to use a fresh spoon for each taste
8. Judges should taste each chili and determine their top 3 favorites.
9. Using the JUDGE'S BALLOTS, each judge will record their three favorites in order (For example: 1st place bowl #8; 2nd place bowl #7; 3rd place bowl #5).
10. Judges will submit their completed ballot to your SCOREKEEPER when they are done.

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Official Judge's Ballot

ATTENTION JUDGES: Judging is a process of elimination. You must taste a small amount from each bowl making notes/comments to help you determine your favorites. Re-taste your favorites and pick your top three choices, entering these numbers in the table below.

IMPORTANT: Clear your palate between tastes and **USE A CLEAN SPOON PER TASTE.**

Cup #	Comments
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	

Your Selections	Cup Number
1st Place	
2nd Place	
3rd Place	

Signature

Print Name

PEOPLE'S CHOICE

TEAM #	COMMENTS	TEAM #	COMMENTS
101	_____	111	_____
102	_____	112	_____
103	_____	113	_____
104	_____	114	_____
105	_____	115	_____
106	_____	116	_____
107	_____	117	_____
108	_____	118	_____
109	_____	119	_____
110	_____		

MY FAVORITE CHILI: TEAM# _____

PEOPLE'S CHOICE

TEAM #	COMMENTS	TEAM #	COMMENTS
101	_____	111	_____
102	_____	112	_____
103	_____	113	_____
104	_____	114	_____
105	_____	115	_____
106	_____	116	_____
107	_____	117	_____
108	_____	118	_____
109	_____	119	_____
110	_____		

MY FAVORITE CHILI: TEAM# _____

PEOPLE'S CHOICE

TEAM #	COMMENTS	TEAM #	COMMENTS
101	_____	111	_____
102	_____	112	_____
103	_____	113	_____
104	_____	114	_____
105	_____	115	_____
106	_____	116	_____
107	_____	117	_____
108	_____	118	_____
109	_____	119	_____
110	_____		

MY FAVORITE CHILI: TEAM# _____

PEOPLE'S CHOICE

TEAM #	COMMENTS	TEAM #	COMMENTS
101	_____	111	_____
102	_____	112	_____
103	_____	113	_____
104	_____	114	_____
105	_____	115	_____
106	_____	116	_____
107	_____	117	_____
108	_____	118	_____
109	_____	119	_____
110	_____		

MY FAVORITE CHILI: TEAM# _____

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Sample Email Invitation Text

Subject: Crock Pot Chili Cookoff!

Time to cook up your best batch of chili and join us for a friendly chili cookoff at <Credit Union>.

Who's going to claim bragging rights for the best Homestyle Chili? Does your department have the winning recipe?

Bring a crockpot with your award-winning chili to <the lunchroom at 10 a.m. on May 5, 2017>.

We will have blind judging, following the International Chili Society Rules provided by Xpress Data Inc.

The winning Homestyle Chili Team will qualify for Xpress Data, Inc's 5th Annual Credit Union Chili Challenge at the beautiful Del Mar Racetrack in San Diego, CA on August 12, 2017. Teams from across the country will compete for \$14,000 in prize money, to be donated to the winning teams' charities on behalf of their Credit Unions.

If you would like to participate, please contact <Jane Smith>.

Xpress Data Inc's FIFTH ANNUAL CREDIT UNION CHILI CHALLENGE



Official Credit Union Entry Form

Credit Union Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Primary Contact _____

Title _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

All correspondence will be directed to the Primary Contact

The Entry Fee for your CU Chili Team is \$500.

100% of all Entry Fees will be donated to charities selected by the cookoff winners:

50% to 1st Place, 35% to 2nd Place, 15% to 3rd Place.

Please make your check payable to Xpress Data, Inc. and mail it to:

Becky Hatzenbuhler
Xpress Data, Inc.
10983 Via Frontera
San Diego, CA 92127

Xpress Data Inc's FIFTH ANNUAL CREDIT UNION CHILI CHALLENGE



Official Contestant Entry Form

Credit Union Name _____
Address _____
Address _____
City/State/ZIP _____

Team Contact _____
Title _____
Phone _____ **Email** _____

All correspondence will be directed to the Team Contact.

Chili Team Name _____

If we are one of the winning Chili Teams, we would like to donate our cash winnings to the following charity:

Team Charity _____

Chief Cook Name _____

Each Chili Team must have a Chief Cook and may have up to three additional Team Members. The Chief Cook will become a "card carrying" member of the International Chili Society and, as such, agrees to comply with its rules, regulations and by-laws. The ICS Homestyle Division membership fee will be paid for by Xpress Data, Inc.

Home Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Home Phone _____ **Cell Phone** _____

Home Email _____ **Work Email** _____

1. Team Member Name _____

2. Team Member Name _____

3. Team Member Name _____

The Entry Fee for your CU Chili Team is \$500.

100% of all Entry Fees will be donated to charities selected by the cookoff winners:
50% to 1st Place, 35% to 2nd Place, 15% to 3rd Place.

Please make your check payable to Xpress Data, Inc. and mail it to:

Becky Hatzenbuhler
Xpress Data, Inc.
10983 Via Frontera
San Diego, CA 92127

Xpress Data Inc's FIFTH ANNUAL CREDIT UNION CHILI CHALLENGE



Official Rules and Regulations

DEFINITION

HOMESTYLE CHILI is defined by the International Chili Society as a stew-like, chili pepper flavored dish made with or without meat and any combination of spices and other ingredients.

COOKING

- Competition Homestyle chili must be made from scratch on site.
- Meat may be treated, pre-cut or ground but **MAY NOT BE PRE-COOKED** in any manner.
- Each contestant must prepare a minimum of two gallons of chili including 32 ounces for judging.
- A Cook's Meeting will be held at the cookoff prior to the actual cooking period.
- The cooking period will be 3 hours. The exact starting and ending times of the cooking period will be announced prior to the event. Cooking during the entire cooking period is at the discretion of the contestant.
- Each contestant will be assigned a contestant's number by the Chief Scorekeeper. An official 32 ounce ICS judging cup will be provided to each contestant. Each contestant will be responsible for verifying that the number on the bottom of their judging cup matches their assigned contestant number.
- At the end of the cooking period, each contestant will fill their judging cup to 1" from the top of the cup and deliver it to the judging area.
- After the judging cup has been turned in, the contestants will serve their Homestyle chili to the public in 2 oz. sampling cups furnished by XDI.

MEMBERSHIP

- XDI will purchase an ICS Homestyle Membership for the Chief Cook of each credit union chili team.
- ICS Homestyle members are not permitted to cook in any other category of ICS sanctioned events.
- The Chief Cook for each credit union chili team must be 18 or older.

JUDGING

- The Xpress Data, Inc. / Credit Union Chili Challenge will be judged by chili lovers invited by XDI.
- Judges will be told that they should vote for their favorite chili based on taste (good chili flavor, not too hot or too mild), texture of the meat (not too tough or too mushy), consistency (not too thick or too thin), and appearance (does it look appetizing).
- Blind judging procedures will be used in determining the winners, however, true blind judging of Homestyle chili can sometimes be problematic because the uniqueness of some ingredients could make a particular chili recognizable.
- General instructions regarding the mechanics of the judging process will be given at the Judge's Meeting, i.e. one spoon for each taste, cleanse the palate between each taste, no talking about the chili during the judging, etc.
- No known relative of a participating cook will be allowed to judge or keep score at this cookoff.

AWARDS

- Trophies will be awarded for first, second and third place chili, best booth decoration and best chili team showmanship. Prize money for first, second and third place chili will be donated to charities selected by the winners.
- The first place winner of the Xpress Data, Inc. / Credit Union Chili Challenge will be qualified to participate in the 2017 ICS World's Championship Homestyle Chili Cookoff. For more information on this event, visit www.chilicookoff.com. Once qualified, an ICS Homestyle Division member cannot participate in any other ICS sanctioned Homestyle event prior to the ICS 2017 World's Championship Homestyle Chili Cookoff.