

Iowa Rabbit Festival Cook-off Rules and Info

Friday - March 20th 2026

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Early Set Up Available

***Spot numbers will be emailed out for setup locations

Saturday - March 21st 2026

8:00 AM

Cook Off Teams Arrive for Check-in

8:30 AM

Cooking begins

12:30 PM

First Wave of Dishes Turned in for Judging

2:00 PM

Winners Announced During Announcements

Entertainment Lineup

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Cook Off Stage: Jud and Bella

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Cook Off Stage: Kevin Barton

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

Cook Off Stage: Mike Broussard

Contact: Ricky Vincent

337-304-3397

iowarabbitfestivalcookoff@yahoo.com

Prize Money:

- All prize money will also be accompanied with a plaque.

Main Dish

1st place - \$500.00

2nd place - \$100.00

3rd place - \$50.00

Appetizer

1st place - \$500.00

2nd place - \$100.00

3rd place \$50.00

People's Choice - \$100.00

- People's Choice Award will be determined by who the public votes on as the best dish.
- After trying the cook off teams' dishes, they will put the ticket in the bucket of the team they feel has the best dish.
- Public can purchase as many tickets as they want.
- Teams may choose not to participate in the people's choice.

Best Decorated Cook off Spot - \$100.00

- A winner will be picked for having the best team spirit and the best decorated team spot.

Dish Turn In:

- Covered dishes will be provided at check in to put your dish in.
- Place enough food in the covered dish for 3 judges to **sample** your dish.
- One dish will be provided for each category entered. (Appetizer and Main Dish)
- Each team will be given a time to turn in their dishes. Your time will be marked on your covered dish that is provided.
- Turn in times will be staged 4 dishes per category every 15 minutes.
- If cooking an appetizer and a main dish, your turn in times may be different

Judging Criteria:

- Originality** - The more original...The better.

- **Seasoning** - Not too much...Not too little.
- **Texture** - Don't want your dish to be burnt...don't want it undercooked.
- **Presentation** - Display your dish like it's the best.
- **Rabbit Usage** - 40% of dish must be rabbit.

Cook Off Spots:

- Cook off spots will be available to set up Friday night.
- Cooking spots will be a 10'x20' area and will be numbered with your team number on it and will be provided when you arrive to set up.
- Electricity will be provided.
- If you have a preference for the location of your cooking spot please include it with your entry form.

Unloading:

- From Gulf Highway, enter on HG Chalkley Road (Next to LSU Ag Center). Entry into the barn will be done from the south side.
- **No vehicle access will be allowed after 8:30 A.M. on Saturday morning.**
- Only one vehicle per team is allowed into the barn to unload.
- It will be very important to unload as quickly as possible and pull your vehicle out of the barn so that we can get everyone in and unloaded without creating a cluster with the vehicles.
- There will be a rabbit show going on Saturday morning on the south end of the barn so it will be very busy in the barn.

What to Bring

- Supplies for cooking (anything you need to create your dish)
- Chairs and Tables
- Extension Cords
- Grill, Burners, Pots ...and don't forget your rabbit