

VHA Annual Cowboy Stew Competition Rules and Regulations and Hold Harmless Agreement

VHA/VHA-CF Country & Western Hoedown Cowboy Stew Cook-Off Agreement to Participate & Competition Rules for 2/9/2019

- 1. Each contestant will be preassigned a minimum of one (1) 10x10ft. cooking space, or larger if requested. The spaces may be used at the discretion of participants to erect tents or other facilities to be used in the preparation/presentation of Cowboy Stew and for the distribution of informational material.**
- 2. All contestants are responsible for their own tent, tables, chairs, cooking source and whisper generator (if needed).**
- 3. Contestants are asked to decorate their tent/area in a Country & Western theme and participants are asked to dress in a similar fashion.**
- 4. Each Contestant is responsible to provide their own fire extinguisher available for use if the need should arise. In addition, they shall provide a mat, a cooler for the storage of ingredients and a trash can with liners. Mats must be provided to fit under and at least 2 feet beyond grill and generator. No staining, grease or heat will permeate the mat. No pits can be dug in the ground.**
- 5. Contestants should arrive and be setup no later than 8:00AM the day of the event to begin the cooking process. Setup may begin on Friday the 8th between 10:00AM-5:00PM, before the event or 7:00AM - 9:00AM on Saturday the 9th.**
- 6. Contestants may provide information/advertising/gifts etc. relating to their respective businesses to passersby from their tent areas, if so desired.**
- 7. Fresh ingredients may be prepared in advance and along with canned goods should be brought to the event and added during the cooking process. All raw meat products must be kept chilled until added to the recipe. Spices and other ingredients should be added at the event.**
- 8. A list of all ingredients must be available at the cooking site to allow persons with food allergies to avoid unwanted ingredients.**
- 9. Contestants are recommended to make a “minimum” of 5 (five) gallons or more of Cowboy Stew for the event keeping in mind that attendees who purchase a Taster’s Wristband will be coming after the judging to taste the various stew offerings.**

10. Competitors are encouraged to have tip/donation jars at their stations to help raise money during the event to be contributed to the funds being raised for the Foundations being supported.

11. Judging will be held at 11:30AM. Contestants will provide Cowboy Stew samples to the judges in containers provided by the event organizers for judging.

12. Judging will be conducted by a panel of five (5) Judges and will be accomplished by submitting blind samples to them for tasting/grading. Winners will be announced directly after the judging with awards being presented at that time. Prizes will be as follows:

1st Place: \$250 and the Cowboy Stew Trophy for 2019
2nd Place: \$200
3rd Place: \$150

13. Cowboy Stew wristbands will be available for purchase by event attendees @ \$3.00 each to anyone who wants to taste the Contestants Cowboy Stew. Sampling by attendees will not begin until after the Judging is complete. Participants may sell soft drinks and/or water, but may not undersell event food vendors.

14. The “Peoples Choice Best Decorated Booth Award” will be presented to the selected winner as judged by the accumulation of Wooden Nickels that will be provided to each Cowboy Stew wristband holder.

15. Contestants are responsible to remove all equipment and for cleaning the area where they were assigned prior to vacating the premises. Breakdown of booths may not start earlier than 4:00 PM the day of the event. This process must be completed by 7:00 PM the day of the event. Each party is responsible for disposal of their own trash, dumpsters will be provided at the site.

16. By signing this document and the attached release and hold harmless agreement, contestants agree to abide by all rules of the event and hold harmless the organizers, the facility and facility owners. Failure to comply with the rules will exclude participation in the event.

Contestant Representative (Signature and Date)

VHA/VHA-CF Event Representative (Signature and Date)

**Cowboy Stew Cook-Off Participant
Release and Hold Harmless Agreement**

I, _____ understand that my participation and/or involvement in the 2019 VHA/VHA Community Foundation Country and Western Hoedown Cowboy Stew Cook-Off carries with it the potential for certain risks, some of which may not reasonably be foreseeable.

I further acknowledge that these risks could cause me, or others around me, harm, including, but not limited to, bodily injury, damage to property, emotional distress, or death.

I am a willing participant in the events Country and Western Hoedown Cowboy Stew Cook-off.

By signing this agreement, I agree to release, indemnify, and hold harmless The VHA, The VHA/CF, The Villages, The Villages POLO Fields Facility, as well as their volunteers, employees, agents, representatives, successors, etc. from all losses, claims, theft, demands, liabilities, causes of action, or expenses known or unknown, arising out of my participation in The VHA/VHACF Country and Western Hoedown, Cowboy Stew Cook-Off.

Printed Name of Participating Organization

Printed Name of Contestant Representative

Signature/Date of Contestant Representative

Signature/Date of VHA/VHA-CF Event Representative

