



COOK TEAM PACKET

CahabaQue | Saturday, April 12, 2025 | Cahaba Brewing Co.

4500 5th Ave South, Building C, Birmingham, AL 35222

Gates Open (VIP at 11:00 PM): 12:00 PM

www.cahabaque.com

Event Timeline

Emergency contact for Friday and Saturday: call or text John Fife (205) 532-6324

Friday, April 11

- **5:00pm - Cook Team Pick-Up Begins**
Teams will receive:
 - Butts
 - Beer
 - Cook team packets
 - Wristbands (be sure to get enough for your entire team)
 - Turn in time and details about Saturday judging
- **8:00pm - Cook Team Pick Up Ends**
- **11:00pm - Brewery Taproom Access Ends (Only Restrooms Will Remain Open)**

Saturday, April 12

- **9:30am - BCRFA Staff Arrives**
- **10:30am - Judging Begins**
- **12:00pm - Gates Open (Begin Serving Samples); Judging Ends**
- **3:00pm – Ticket sales end**
- **3:30pm - People's Choice Voting Ends**
- **4:00pm - Award Ceremony / Event Ends**

Information and Rules

Butts & Provided Supplies

Cook teams will be provided:

- **Butts.** The number of butts will be determined by your team's answers to the cook team questionnaire sent to all teams after registration ends.
- **2 oz. sample cups and cardboard "boats"** for CahaBUTT samples and People's Choice items.
- **Serving Tent**
- **Forks, napkins,** and special **boxes for judging**
- Access to **water** and **handwashing** station
- **Tent signage** featuring your team name.
- **Cahaba Beer** on Saturday night and Sunday. There can be no transferring beer to anyone outside the competition. Absolutely no customers should have your canned beer, beer tickets, etc. Beer tickets will only be able to be used at the bars on Sunday if you have a cook team wristband. In accordance with state laws, absolutely no outside alcohol is permitted.

People's Choice Side Item

In addition to the CahaBUTT, cook teams are responsible for providing a People's Choice side item. In the past teams have done anything from chicken wings, banana pudding, fried mac and cheese balls to tacos. Be creative! Plan for 1,000 guests, but have **at least 500 bites prepared.** If the provided 2oz sample cups (ramekins) don't work for serving your People's Choice item, you will need to provide your own serving vessels.

What is NOT Provided

Power is not provided. Cook teams are welcome to bring generators. We do not have enough power to supply all cook teams and don't believe it's fair to supply power to some teams and not others. Other than what is listed above under Provided Supplies, cook teams are responsible for supplying everything they need to safely cook, including additional tents, chairs, coolers, flashlights, and any other comforts of home you'd like to bring. **You may also want to bring signage with info on your People's Choice item.**

Beyond cooking equipment, cook teams will also need to provide their own tables and tablecloths. Cahaba can supply folding tables through the rental company we are using for serving tents for an extra fee if requested.

There will be no storage for teams and equipment in the brewery. There is plenty of space in the back of the complex for those wanting to bring RVs, Sleepers, Trailers, etc. Don't leave anything behind.

Other Rules

Do not leave your smoker unattended at any time. Plan ahead and make sure you always have someone from your team on grill duty.

Be respectful to other cook teams and guests and keep your space clean. All cook teams will be sharing an ASH ONLY metal can as well as trash cans. We'll have volunteers helping on Sunday to empty trash cans. Please have your cook team trash cans emptied by the start of the event on Sunday. There will be a roll off dumpster located at the back of the building.

Judging and Award Details

- Judges will vote on:
 - Best CahaBUTT
 - Best Sauce
- People's Choice voting will be for:
 - Butt
 - Side Item
 - Most Creative Team Name
- **Judging will occur between 10:30 am and 12:00pm on Saturday.**
- **Guests can cast their People's Choice vote by scanning the QR code at any team's tent. Teams who share the QR code with any non-guest will be DISQUALIFIED.**
- Each team will receive the appropriate amount of judging boxes to fill with BBQ samples. Teams will be given a turn in time and instructions including exactly how much meat to supply at check-in on Friday.
- Judging for CahaBUTT will be based only on **taste, flavor, texture, and tenderness of meat**. Appearance or presentation are not including in the judging criteria. As of Spring 2023, **teams will not be allowed to include garnishes** (e.g. pickles, bread, etc.) with their meat samples. Sauces should be served separately from the meat.

Awards *(Updated Fall 2023)*

- **Best CahaBUTT:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place – Based on judges' scoring
- **Best Sauce:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place – Based on judges' scoring
- **People's Choice Side Item:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place – Based on guest votes
- **People's Choice Butt:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place – Based on guest votes
- **Most Creative Team Name** – Best on guest votes

Cook teams will receive judges' comments, scores, and full team rankings via email in the weeks following the event. Please understand that judges are community leaders and business owners, not professional BBQ judges.



The Why: Funding Research, Saving Lives

All proceeds from CahabaQue support the **Breast Cancer Research Foundation of Alabama**.

Founded in 1996, the **Breast Cancer Research Foundation of Alabama (BCRFA)** is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to help find a cure for breast cancer by funding promising breast cancer research in Alabama and raising community awareness and funding for that research. BCRFA funds promote a comprehensive approach to battling breast cancer by promoting collaborative and innovative research to help diagnose, treat, prevent, and eradicate the disease.

With community support, **BCRFA has invested over \$16 million in life-saving breast cancer research** and treatments across Alabama since its founding in 1996. Most recently, in December 2024, the foundation announced its annual grant investment of \$1.125 million to research partners including the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), Alabama State University (Montgomery), Auburn University, HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology (Huntsville), Tuskegee University, the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa), and the Mitchell Cancer Institute at the University of South Alabama (Mobile). **All funding stays in Alabama, but the impact is worldwide.**

Learn more about our mission and breakthroughs at www.bcrfa.org.