



July 16th, 2013

Dear Past Hushpuppy Championships Entrant,

We have lost the support we have had in past years that allowed us to have the cash and cruises as prizes for the Annual Hushpuppy Championships.

So, we cannot continue this 40+ year tradition, without the following two criteria happening:

- 1) We provide ONLY trophies to the winning teams (no cash, no cruises), and
- 2) We must have at least 20 teams to enter.

We have attached an application for your consideration. If you are okay with the above criteria and want us to continue this event – *return your application immediately!!*

If we can get twenty teams entered by August 15th, we will keep this great event as part of the Texas State Forest Festival!

We are looking forward to an outstanding competition this year, and thank you for considering to participate. If you have any questions about this year's event, please contact me by phone 936-634-6644.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerry Huffman".

Jerry Huffman, President/CEO
Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce



The Southern Hushpuppy Championships is an event of the Annual Texas State Forest Festival and both are projects of the Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce.



43rd ANNUAL SOUTHERN HUSHPUPPY CHAMPIONSHIP OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

GEORGE H. HENDERSON JR. EXPOSITION CENTER



Team Name: _____

Organization/Co.: _____ Contact Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Contact Email: _____

ENTRY FEE: The entry fee to compete in the Southern Hushpuppy Championships is \$60. The Texas State Forest Festival provides passes for FOUR (4) team members. *Additional passes required are \$5 each.*

List team members' names:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Each team is provided one bottle of cooking oil, one roll of paper towels, one bag of yellow cornmeal, and 4 pairs of gloves that must be worn during the competition. It is not required that you use these products; however, additional oil, paper towels, cornmeal or other supplies and/or ingredients must be provided by your team.

Will cook with:

Electricity: _____ Gas: _____ (MUST CHECK ONE)

If you are using electricity, an electrical hookup is provided to you at least ten (10) feet away from your table. If needed, **you are responsible for bringing an extension cord.** If you are cooking with gas, a butane tank and burner is provided to you.

Rules and Regulation

Continued on back

SHOWMANSHIP: Participants **MUST** have a team name and coordinating theme. The theme should be carried throughout the competition with music and outfits, along with capturing and enhancing the fun and spirit of the Southern Hushpuppy Championships. Your team is responsible for transporting props, decorations, etc. into and out of the arena. You are not able to drive into the arena for any reason. Hushpuppy Championship Coordinators and/or Texas State Forest Festival staff will not assist in transportation or setup of showmanship equipment and/or decorations. **All team equipment and decorations must be brought in through the front gate by team members.** No exceptions.

JUDGING: There is a minimum of three (3) official judges for the competition. All hushpuppies are tasted and judged on a point system based on **taste, uniqueness, and appearance**. Your organization will be recognized to the judges by your **TEAM NAME ONLY.**

Lufkin/ Angelina Chamber of Commerce | 1615 South Chestnut, Lufkin, Texas 75901 | Phone: 936-634-6644 | www.lufkintexas.org



OFFICIAL RULES & REGULATIONS

Hushpuppy: A small, round or slightly oblong cake of cornmeal fried in deep fat.

Garnish: To enhance in appearance by adding decorative touches.

Pre-mixing: To combine, add, join, blend, create, or form ingredients into one mass or mixture.

1. Contestants compete in only one of the assigned 30-minute preliminary heats.
2. First, second, and third place is awarded in each preliminary heat. **The top eight (8) overall scores in all heats combined advance to the Championship heat to compete.**
3. Each contestant cooks a **minimum of twelve (12) hushpuppies. Six (6) samples** must be sent to the judges' stand upon signal.
4. A time limit of 30 minutes per heat is allowed. A signal begins and ends each heat. You may not heat your oil or begin mixing ingredients until the signal is given.
5. Contestants are provided cornmeal, oil, and paper towels, but are not required to use them.
6. Only **four (4) team members are allowed to cook.** Anyone who is not competing will not be allowed in the cooking area. If you have more than four team members, they must stay in the audience or you will be disqualified.
7. Each contestant has a special nametag displaying his/her team number that the judges use to identify your hushpuppy. Your organization or company name will not be given to the judges.
8. Contestants are allowed to chop, cook, grate, etc., any ingredient needed for preparation of hushpuppies prior to their heat. No premixing (see definitions to know) of any type is allowed.
9. Contestants are responsible for placing their hushpuppy samples on a tray provided by an official Hushpuppy Hostess. The hostess will take the hushpuppy samples to the judges...

NOT THE CONTESTANT!

10. Contestants may occupy designated cooking areas 5 minutes prior to beginning of heat and must remove their ingredients, utensils, etc., immediately following their heat.
11. Teams are allowed to receive a copy of their score sheets, upon the request of the contact person, after the Texas State Forest Festival.
12. In the event of a tie, the team with the most points in the uniqueness category breaks the tie. If still a tie two teams will be declared co-winners of the category in which they are tied.

All decisions of the judges are final.

Any questions regarding the rules & regulations you may contact: **Southern Hushpuppy Championship Coordinator • (936) 634-6644**

I have read and understand the Southern Hushpuppy Championship rules and regulations

Entry Signature _____ Date _____

PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM AND MAIL OR FAX ORIGINAL TO:

Southern Hushpuppy Championships • 1615 S. Chestnut • Lufkin, Texas 75901 • **FAX** (936) 634-8726 • **PHONE** (936) 634-6644

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