



Eastern Carolina BBQ Throw Down 2025 People's Choice Competition

This competition is the general public's opportunity to participate in the Eastern Carolina BBQ Throw Down, and is intended to create excitement, enthusiasm, and support for the BBQ Throw Down. This is also an opportunity for the cook teams to have their barbecue judged by the attending public.

1. **People's Choice application** must be turned in with KCBS cook team application. (Application at end of this document.)
2. People's Choice is an optional category in addition to the KCBS sanctioned portion of the Eastern Carolina BBQ Throw Down. Entrants must also be competing in the KCBS sanctioned categories (chicken, pork ribs, pork & beef brisket) to compete in People's Choice.
3. **People Choice Awards** will be presented at the KCBS awards ceremony, which begins at 5:00pm.
 - a. 1st place - \$750 (Trophy)
 - b. 2nd place - \$250 (Plaque)
 - c. 3rd place - \$100 (Plaque)
4. **BBQ Bucks** – purchased for \$1 each on site to buy sample sized portions from each participating competition BBQ cook team. Each sample will be \$1 or one BBQ Buck. Patrons must purchase (10) ten BBQ Bucks to start. Then after that, they may purchase as many as they wish. For every (10) ten BBQ Bucks a patron purchases, they will receive a ballot.
5. **People's Choice Ballot** - Patrons will be provided with a People's Choice Ballot with the purchase of (10) ten BBQ bucks and will vote for their favorite team. Completed ballots will be turned in at a designated area by 3:30pm on Saturday.
6. **People's Choice Tent** – All BBQ Bucks will be sold at a centrally located tent. Ballots will also be given out at this tent and returned to this tent. Cook teams will not handle BBQ Bucks (except for receiving them in return for a sample), cash or ballots. Cook teams will only be handing out sample sized portions of pork when presented with a BBQ Buck.
7. **Contest Time** - Patrons will need to make sure that they arrive early. Samples from participating teams are limited and are available from **1:30pm to 3:30pm** or while supplies last at participating cook team sites.

8. **Sales Time** – A predetermined number of BBQ Bucks will be sold starting at 12:30pm on Saturday, October 12th. Patrons will not be allowed to use them until 1:30pm to 3:30pm. Cook teams are not allowed to give them a sample until that time. The number of BBQ Bucks will be determined by this formula: adding up the samples that the participating teams agreed to do (200 samples).
9. **Signage** – Brightly colored visible signs will be placed at each participating team site to indicate that they are participating in People’s Choice. This will be provided by the event organizer.
10. **Funds** - At the conclusion of the event, participating teams may turn in any BBQ Bucks they have collected for reimbursement of \$.50 per BBQ Buck (50/50 split). BBQ Buck reimbursement will start at 4:00pm and not before that time, and end at 5:00pm. This will take place at the Senior Center Lobby. **Please DO NOT be late or we will not be able to reimburse you on site.**
11. **Participating Cook Team Information** –
 - a. Teams participating will supply their own meat. All teams will be giving out sample sized portions of **chopped/pulled pork only**. No other meat can be used including pork ribs. **Each team must supply 200 samples minimum.**
 - b. Teams will be provided with 2 ounce cups for samples by event organizer. Teams will have a number beside their name on the ballot, and that number will be on the bottom of the cup for identification by the patron when voting. Event organizer will put number on cups.
 - c. No barbecue can be sold to public unless applied and accepted as a food vendor.
 - d. Competing teams including all team members can not judge in contest. Any violation of this rule will forfeit this team’s future participation in the Eastern Carolina BBQ Throw Down.
 - e. If cook team family members and friends wish to participate, we ask that they only receive one ballot per family member/friend and vote one time for their favorite. If the event organizers determine that this is being abused, this will disqualify a team from future participation in People’s Choice and up to forfeiting participation in future Eastern Carolina BBQ Throw Down events. (Please help us to make this fair and fun for everyone.)
 - f. **The winning teams will be picked by having the most number of votes.**

Note to cook teams: The event organizers will do everything within their power to keep this a fair competition for all participating. As well as, we are committed to making this operate as smoothly as possible, and not at any hardship for the cook teams participating or not participating.



**Eastern Carolina BBQ Throw Down
2025 People's Choice Competition**

APPLICATION

October 24-25, 2025

Team Name

Chief Cook Name

Participating teams will supply their own meat. All teams will be giving out sample sized portions of pork. Each team must supply 200 samples minimum.

Please check the amount of samples your team will be providing:

_____ 200 samples