



Welcome to the 22nd Annual Smokin' on the Beaver BBQ

Friday & Saturday, September 25 - 26 in Atwood, Kansas

(Revised 8/24/2026)

Salsa Contest Rules

1. Salsa contest is open to anyone. Salsa contest participants do NOT have to participate in the BBQ Contest.
2. No pre-registration will be required.
3. All salsa must be homemade with a fruit or vegetable base. Awards will be given for both Fresh Salsa and Cooked Salsa.
4. Only ONE entry per participant will be allowed for each salsa category.
5. Contest participants must supply a minimum of 1 pint of salsa.
6. Upon registration, a numbered carton will be issued for each contest sample to be judged.
7. Chips and other garnishes will not be allowed for presentation purposes.
8. Entries can be turned in from Friday, September 25 from 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM and Saturday, September 26 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Judging will begin at 12:00 PM on Saturday.
9. All salsa not used for the judging will be served at the evening BBQ meal.

Judging Guidelines

Entries for the Smokin' on the Beaver contest will be scored using the process outlined below. Scores will range from 9 to 2 with 9 being the highest and 2 the lowest. The score of 1 is assigned for disqualification only. Each entry will be judged on its own merit; judges will not rank entries – therefore two or more teams may get the same score from the same judge.

Judging criteria for Salsa will be as follows:

Appearance: Does the entry have eye appeal?

Texture: How does the entry feel in your mouth?

Taste: This is a personal preference, but should consider things as spice, blend of flavors, and the overall palate appeal. Overall: The final criteria. What is the overall effect of the entry, your total impression?

In the case of a tie, the winner will be determined by the highest score in the "Taste" category; if a tie still exists, Judges 1 and 5 will determine the winner.

Judge 2 in each category will score the Appearance/Presentation of the entries. The same designated judge is to score ALL the entries in their assigned category; however, group discussion/consensus may occur.

If one had to describe the 9 to 2 rating scale, the descriptions might use the following words:

- 9 = So outstanding, it is among the best
- 8 = Close to but not quite among the best
- 7 = Much better than average, but not nearly among the best
- 6 = Slightly better than average
- 5 = Average
- 4 = Slightly below average
- 3 = Quite a bit below average, but not among the worst
- 2 = Among the worst
- 1 = Disqualified per rule violation