



of Central Alabama

Girls Inc. Cajun Cook-off  
**Event Rules & Information**  
[Bhamcajuncookoff.com](http://Bhamcajuncookoff.com)



**Thank you for sponsoring a team for Girls Inc.'s 9<sup>th</sup> annual Cajun Cook-off!**

**When and Where:** Saturday, April 6, 2019, Railroad Park, Birmingham, Alabama

**Time:** 6am for teams and scheduled volunteers; public and judging 11:00 am -2:00 pm

**Want to compete?** Event sponsors can field a cooking team until all available spaces are filled. Your team will be allowed four cooks to enter free-of-charge. Additional cooks will need to use one of your team's complimentary tickets (number of tickets varies based on sponsorship level) or purchase a ticket online at [www.bhamcajuncookoff.com](http://www.bhamcajuncookoff.com). Nonprofits or small businesses who want a team but are unable to sponsor the event may be placed on a waiting list and will be notified if any team slots are available after the sponsorship deadline.

**Want to win one of those famous trophies?** Plenty of chances:

#### Food Awards

Our team of judges will rate each submission on **Appearance** (20% of total score); **Consistency** - pleasant combination of ingredients (20% of total score); **Aroma** - should smell appetizing (20% of total score); and **Taste** (40% of total score). Ties will be broken by the best taste. Here are the categories:

#### ***Best Overall***

***Gumbo, 1<sup>st</sup> Place and Runner-up***

***Open Cajun, 1<sup>st</sup> Place and Runner-up***

***Dessert, 1<sup>st</sup> Place and Runner-up***

***People's Choice, 1<sup>st</sup> Place and Runner-up*** – Collect the most doubloons (colorful plastic coins) from event attendees. Each attendee will be given ONE doubloon for voting. Additional doubloons will not be sold.

#### Team Awards

***Team Spirit, 1<sup>st</sup> Place and Runner-up*** – Judges will rate each team's tent by Decorations (50%); Enthusiasm (25%); and Creativity (25%).

## Event Schedule

<b><u>April 2 (evening):</u></b>	Team Meeting (mandatory: must send at least one representative) Location TBD. We will go over the rules and answer your questions.
<b><u>Day before: 4-6:00 pm</u></b>	Pre-set up (staff and volunteers only – no teams)
<b><u>Day of:</u></b>	
<b>6:00 am</b>	Event opens to teams and volunteers to start set up. You will be assigned a table.
<b>7:00 am</b>	Gas inspections begin ( <b>no fires may be lit</b> before approved by fire marshal)
<b>8:00 am</b>	Complimentary beer to be distributed to teams, and bar opens
<b>11:00 am</b>	Event opens to public; judging samples begin
<b>1:45 pm</b>	People's Choice voting and food serving ends
<b>2:00 pm</b>	Winners announced
<b>2:15-3:00</b>	Break-down, load-out.

### **What to bring & know:**

- **NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL.** Due to strict ABC rules, Railroad Park has threatened to shut down our bar if teams bring their own alcohol. Girls Inc. will provide complimentary beer for teams and arrange to have an early morning bar with a limited number of complimentary drinks for teams. A cash bar will be available for additional beverages. Security guards will very likely ask violators to leave the park.
- The event opens to the public at 11:00 a.m. Please be prepared to share samples by this time. The sample cups provided for team use are 4 oz. in size. **Please be prepared to serve 750-1,000 2oz servings.** We request that 2 oz. samples be provided to attendees, so please fill your sample cups half full.
- Teams are responsible for the cost and purchase of ingredients and cooking supplies. These are not included in the sponsorship cost.
- Girls Inc. will provide sample cups/plates, napkins and utensils to your team as needed. If you run out, please locate a Girls Inc. representative in a **Cajun Cook-off shirt**, and they will bring you what you need. Girls Inc. will also provide Clorox wipes upon request.
- Please only serve samples to those wearing an **event armband**. Those without armbands have not paid to attend.
- We provide a tent, 2 tables and 2 folding chairs. You may use your own 10x10 tent, but please notify Girls Inc. at least three weeks in advance so we can adjust our tent order.
- Girls Inc. will provide a 3-bin commercial sink for teams to share.
- Bring your cooking devices, cooking and serving utensils, food, decorations, extra chairs, music, pets (leashes, please), children (leashes not required), family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors.

- No smoking in cooking areas, please. You will be assigned a hospitality representative to make sure you have everything you need, restock supplies, and to handle any issues at the event.
- Health Department rules and regulations apply. All food must be prepared on-site at the event. No store-bought, pre-cooked ingredients allowed. Food cannot be left unattended. A list of ingredients must be provided to Girls Inc. staff at least one week prior to event.
- Girl's Inc. reserves the right to disqualify any team for violating these rules.

**Want to use gas?** Great! Here are some important things to keep in mind:

- ALL gas connections must be inspected by a plumber and the fire marshal BEFORE you ignite any flames. Inspections will begin at 7:00 am the day of the event.
- Tanks and gas equipment must be secured so as to not fall over (tied to a fixed object or in a box, milk crate, or some other creative device).
- If you have changed your equipment after you bought it, or made it yourself, it must have a 10-foot hose. These may be purchased online at Amazon, Walmart, Lowe's, or Bass Pro Shops, among others.
- Cooking and gas equipment must be done within your cook-area, where the public cannot walk into, over, or around your kitchen or equipment.
- The fire marshal and plumber are there for our safety. They may ask that you make certain changes. We will work with you to try to accommodate their requirements. Failure to follow instructions or these rules may result in disqualification.

**Want to use electricity?** That's great, too! Here's some things to know:

- You'll need to supply your own extension cords, power strips, and small electrical equipment. Please, no commercial grade equipment unless you bring a generator.
- Power outlets at the event are limited. Tell Girls Inc. staff in advance if you need access to an outlet. You may bring your own generator if you choose.

**A note on adult beverages:**

The venue and bar vendor do not allow anyone to bring their own alcoholic beverages. Park rangers will be checking coolers and bags. Each team will be given a complimentary case of beer and offered other complimentary drinks before the event opens to the public. Additional drinks may be purchased.

**April showers bring May flowers...**

They also bring a soggy event. The event is all outdoors and will be cancelled in the event of inclement weather, and will not be rescheduled. We monitor the weather closely and will make plans to accommodate for inclement weather. Any event changes or cancellations will be announced via email and social media. We will attempt to contact each team captain by phone to notify of any event changes. We will attempt to go forward with the event if at all possible.

**Leftovers?**

We have made arrangements with a local homeless shelter to accept any leftover food you would like to donate. We will have a place at the park for you to leave your leftovers. We will then deliver to the shelter.



**Agreement Form**

**of Central Alabama**

*By entering the Girls Inc. Cajun Cook-off you are agreeing to follow all the rules and regulations and to have a representative attend the Team Meeting. Please sign on the line below stating that you have received, read and understand the Rules and Regulations.*

I \_\_\_\_\_ (team representative) of

\_\_\_\_\_ (company name) have read and agree to the Rules and Regulations for the Girls Inc. Cajun Cook-off. **I understand that failure to adhere to the Rules and Regulations may result in forfeiture of my competition team.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Thank you for supporting the Girls Inc. mission to inspire all girls to be strong, smart, and bold!*