

RULES TO THE MOBILE GRILLED CHEESE MELTDOWN

Teams will be competing to create the yummiest grilled cheese sandwich in the 2nd Annual Mobile Grilled Cheese Meltdown.

Two categories, twenty teams, - 40 delicious sandwiches to sample.....

- \$50 to enter a team;
- \$8 to attend/\$10 at the gate

The following explains the official rules and regulations for competing in the Mobile Grilled Cheese Meltdown (MGCM). The MGCM retains the right to amend, modify, or terminate the rules at any time and at our sole discretion. Any questions regarding the rules may be sent to chunter@downtownmobile.org.

It is the responsibility of the competitor to be familiar with the rules. A copy of the rules will be made available to any competitor on the day of the event, should you have any questions regarding the rules.

REGISTRATION

For Competitors

All competitors must [register on-line in advance of the competition](#). There will be **NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION**.

There will be a maximum of 20 teams for this event. Once we have reached capacity for competitors, we will start a waiting list. There will be no guarantee of competition implied with the waiting list.

Before registration, all competitors **MUST** familiarize themselves with the rules as well as educate themselves as to safe and sanitary cooking and handling of food.

For the purposes of fairness, each team will only be allowed to enter ONE (1) sandwich per category.

There is a NON-REFUNDABLE competition fee of \$50 per entry. Your competition fee gets free admission for you and up to **THREE (3)** assistants to the event.

COMPETITOR RULES

What Will Be Provided to You

Each competitor will be provided the following:

A tent, three tables, two electric griddles to cook your sandwiches, plates to serve samples to the public, and hand washing stations with soap and paper towels. You may provide your own cooking surface.

For the **"MYSTERY INGREDIENT"** grilled cheese:

- You will receive your Mystery Ingredient Monday October 8th to allow time to plan how you will use the ingredient in your sandwich.
- You will need to supply and use bread, cheese, and butter of your choice for this sandwich.

For the **"CHEF'S CHOICE"** grilled cheese:

- You decide, and bring your own ingredients!!!
- NO raw meat allowed.

What You Need to Bring

Please be sure to bring any and all supplies, including two sets of utensils (in case one is dropped) and ingredients necessary to make judging samples of your Chef's Choice **and** Mystery Ingredient entry. A **judging sample** consists of one sandwich cut into quarters. Please be prepared to submit a second sandwich in the case of a tie. Also, bring a printed list of the ingredients used in your sandwiches to post at your tent. (Or use a cute chalkboard – you might get more People's Choice votes!)

You will also need to prepare samples of either or both sandwiches for about 500 attendees (Remember, samples are sandwiches cut into quarters or something similar so about 150 sandwiches total). That means bread, butter, and cheese at the very minimum. See the Sandwich Categories above for more details on what is allowed for each category. Do not take anyone else's supplies to complete your sandwich. You will be shunned for stealing, disqualified from competition, plus, it just ain't nice.

PLEASE NOTE: Any perishable items **MUST** be wrapped and kept in containers so as not to come in contact with the ice in your cooler, and be stored at safe temperatures (below 41F). All food and food related items must be stored off of the ground, at least 6". Please be sure to label your ingredients, bags and coolers with your name.

All competitors must wear grilling hats with hair properly restrained, aprons, and food grade gloves. Additionally, at least one team member should possess a food handler card or ServSafe card. When handling food items, all competitors **WILL** wear sanitary, disposable gloves. If you are grilling in costume, make sure your costume provides an appropriate hat and an apron, and make sure to wear food grade gloves.

Each chef should have two to three assistants who will help with cooking/serving. The assistants will also be required to wear food grade gloves and maintain a safe food environment.

Time Limits

You will begin serving attendees when the gates open at 5:30 p.m. The judging samples (one sandwich in each category cut into quarters) will be collected from each team at 6:00 p.m.

When It's Time For You to Grill

When you check-in at the event, you will be assigned a numbered cooking station. All supplies should be stored at your cooking station. All stations will be numbered and officially assigned.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Each sandwich will be able to score a maximum of 35 points. Points are awarded as follows:

- Presentation: How does the sandwich look? (Scale of 1 – 10, 10 being highest)
- Taste: How does it taste? (Scale of 1 – 20, 20 being highest)
- Personality: Is this sandwich special? Deliver Style points here (Scale of 1- 5, 5 being highest)

Additionally, attendees will be given a token to vote for their favorite sandwich to determine the **People's Choice** award.

DEFINITIONS

Bread – Any leavened or unleavened, flour-based and baked thing that looks like and is considered to be "bread" by any cultural or ethnic interpretation.

Butter – For the purposes of simplicity, all sandwich-grilling lubricants will be hereafter referred to as "Butter." You can use oils or margarines if you prefer, but make sure it fits within the sandwich category you've chosen.

Cheese – Made from milk, be it mother's, goat, cow, cat, rabbit, soy, or nut-derived.

CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION

There will be two categories of sandwiches in this competition. Each is outlined as follows:

"MYSTERY INGREDIENT" – White bread, butter, cheese and your interpretation of the mystery ingredient.

"CHEF'S CHOICE" – You decide, but at a minimum, bread, butter & cheese.

"PEOPLE'S CHOICE" – The most votes wins. (You may be able to enhance your chances with a well-decorated tent.)

Note: MGCM management reserves the right to re-assign a sandwich to its rightful category or DISQUALIFY the entry completely if there is an obvious attempt at cheating.

AWARDS

Once the scores have been received and tallied, the teams with the top scores in each sandwich category will take home the Golden Spatula trophy. Second and third place teams will be announced, and will go home with bragging rights!

RULES THESE ARE THE RULES. IF YOU DON'T LIKE 'EM, TOUGH!