



18th Annual Kids Que
American Royal World Series of Barbecue®
Saturday, November 8, 2025 at 2:00 pm

The American Royal Barbecue Contest welcomes you as a contestant in the 18th Annual Junior World Series of Barbecue – the largest youth BBQ contest in the world!

Below is information you will need to compete. Each contestant and parent/guardian should read this information carefully. Please go over each item together so that everyone knows and understands the rules. If you have any questions, you may email bbq@americanroyal.com. Also, specific questions will be answered at the cooks meeting on Saturday.

ENTRY INFORMATION

- All entries must be done online using the Kids Que Registration form. No email, phone or faxed entries will be accepted.
- Entry fee per contestant is \$35.00. Each entry will receive 1 parking pass and two (2) tickets for Saturday entry; one for the child and one for the parent or guardian who will be assisting the child during the contest. These are for entry into the American Royal World Series of Barbecue grounds at Kansas Speedway for Saturday only. Additionally, each entry will receive protein and supplies (see below for further detail)
- **Registrations are on a first come/first served basis. There are 80 spots available and will fill quickly. (The past few years we had a wait list – register early!)**
- All Kids Que Competitors must be sponsored by a registered 2025 American Royal Open Contest team.
- If you have a contestant that needs a sponsoring team, please contact us at bbq@americanroyal.com and we will assist with providing a sponsor team.

CONTEST RULES AND REGULATIONS

There are two age groups – contestant must be at the age noted at the time of the contest, not the time of registration. KCBS rules apply unless otherwise noted. Each entry submitted will consist of one cook only.

Categories:

Ages 6-10 will be provided hamburger meat.

Each entry will receive 1 ½ pounds of raw hamburger meat.

At least ¾ of a pound of the pre-cooked weight of the meat must be submitted in the box that was provided at check-in.

KCBS rules on garnish do **NOT** apply; there are no rules on garnish.

Ages 11-15 will be provided steak.

Each entry will receive one and only one steak.

The steak will need to be submitted in the box that was provided at check-in.

KCBS rules on garnish do **NOT** apply; there are no rules on garnish.

Rules/Regulations:

- All contestants will cook in a designated area on grills provided. Grills are property of the American Royal Association and need to be left at the cook-site once complete. (Weber Smokey Joes)
- Protein will be provided by the American Royal. All submissions for the competition **MUST** use the meat/protein provided by the American Royal.
- All Kids Que Competitors must be sponsored by a registered 2025 American Royal Open Contest team.
- A parent or guardian must be present for the child during the entire cooking competition. Our cooking space is limited and for safety reasons, we want to give the kids as much space between each other as possible.
- Each Contestant may have **ONLY ONE** adult at their space at any given time during the contest.
- Due to space limitations, parents and guardians **cannot** bring folding chairs or other seating into the Kids Que area. Parents who wish to stay within the cooking area must remain standing. Folding chairs must remain outside the cooking area.
- Each participant may bring one storage container for supplies. Containers will be stored underneath the participant's table.
- Entries will be submitted in the numbered containers/clam shells provided by the American Royal.
- Slicing meat for presentation is not required. If needed, judges will be equipped to slice the meat presented at the judging table.
- Judging will be based on appearance, tenderness/texture and taste. (KCBS Rules)
- Scoring will range from nine (highest) to one (lowest).
- All contestants and parents/guardians must wear closed-toed shoes.

PREPARATION

- The **child** must prepare, cook and present each entry. If a child is unable to do this, he/she is too young to cook. Children will place his/her meat on the grill, turn his/her meat on the grill, remove meat from the grill and garnish. If your child cannot do this, then the child should not participate in the contest.
- The **parent or guardian** may help with lighting the fire or slicing. Other than slicing, the adult should not be touching any food. This is a children's cooking contest, not an adult one. If an adult is caught handling the food and doing what the child is capable of doing, there will be a verbal warning. Second time caught, the child and adult will be disqualified and asked to leave. *Please don't get your child disqualified because you can't let the child do his/her own cooking.*
- Children who require ADA assistance are encouraged to compete. Each child will be assigned an assistant other than the supervising adult, if needed. The child must first attempt, multiple times on their own, to perform a task. Only if unable to perform that task will the assistant help. The assistant will help as little as possible and will encourage the child to complete as many task on their own as possible.

SUPPLIES

What To Bring:

- Garnish
- Utensils/Knives
- Seasoning/Marinades
- Gloves for Participant and Parent/Guardian
- Hot pads/Oven gloves
- Folding chair – **only** to be used outside the cooking area. May not be placed or used inside the cooking area.

What To Leave at Home/Prohibited Items:

- Protein – Must use protein provided by the American Royal
- Easy-Up/Pop-Up Tents
- Your Own Grill
- Flame Throwers/Torches
- Alcohol/Tobacco

What the American Royal Provides:

- Grills
- Charcoal (will be lit for you)
- Protein (Steak or Hamburger Meat)
- Clamshells for Turn-In

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, November 8, 2025

1:30pm – Check-in ----- Fan Walk/Center of Infield

All contestants, parents and/or sponsoring teams must be present at/before check-in time.

2:00pm – Cooks Meeting ----- Fan Walk/Center of Infield

Once checked in, children **MUST** stay within the sectioned off area.

Meat and boxes will be handed out at this time.

Grills and charcoal will be provided.

2:15pm – Start grills and begin cooking

3:15pm – Turn-in for ages 11-15 (Steak) ----- Judging Tent/Garage A

3:45pm – Turn-in for ages 6-10 (Hamburger Meat) ----- Judging Tent/Garage A

4:15pm – Judging completed

7:00pm – Awards Ceremony (part of Invitational Awards Ceremony) ----- Main Stage on Pit Road

ALL Kids Que participants will be invited on stage to receive a ribbon!

Schedule subject to change

Please note: a map with details will be sent to each participant prior to the contest date.

Kids Que Protein Provided by:



Kids Que Grills Provided by:



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Event Cancellation Policy

The American Royal reserves the right to cancel an event for reasons beyond Force Majeure. If the American Royal cancels an event, registrants will be notified and offered a full refund of the fees paid directly to the American Royal minus any non-refundable processing fees. The American Royal is not responsible for any refund between the registrant and a third party vendor or for travel expenses.

Force Majeure/Event Cancellation

In case of cancellation of the contest or unavailability of the event due to any causes that are beyond the American Royal's control, including, without limitation, such causes as war, governmental action or order, act of God, fire, flood, severe storm, strike, labor disputes, or other similar causes ("Force Majeure Event"), this Agreement shall terminate, and the Contestant shall be entitled to the return of the fees for the Contest, less the prorated share allocated to the American Royal of the expenses incurred by the Royal in connection with the event as of the date of the Force Majeure Event. Refund of the Fees as provided in this section shall be the exclusive remedy of the Contestant against the American Royal in case the contest is cancelled or rescheduled through a Force Majeure Event. In the event of cancellation or unavailability for reasons beyond the control of the American Royal, Contestant releases and holds all claims for damage and agrees that the American Royal shall have no obligation except the above stated refund.