

City of Caribou's Rib Rumble

Competition Rules & Information

Welcome to the City of Caribou's Rib Rumble! The goal of this event is simple: spend the day with friends, enjoy some great barbecue, share a few laughs, and see who turns in the best ribs. This is meant to be a relaxed, backyard-style competition with as little stress as possible.

Entry

- * FREE entry for all pit masters.
- * Cook as an individual or as a team.
- * If you want to enter your team, reach out to Chris Perkins at cperkins@cariboumaine.org or by telephone at 207-493-4211

Meat

- * Each pit master/team must cook at least two racks of pork ribs.
- * One rack will be used to prepare your six-bone blind turn-in box for judging.
- * The second rack is intended for our judges and/or sponsors as a thank-you for supporting the event.
- * Competitors may cook additional ribs if they'd like to share samples with spectators.
- * Baby Back or St. Louis-style ribs are both acceptable.

Meat Preparation

- * You may prep your ribs at home or on site. However, the ribs MUST be COOKED ON SITE.
- * All competitors are expected to follow safe food-handling practices and keep meat at proper food-safe temperatures prior to cooking.

Cookers

- * Any style smoker or grill is welcome.
- * If your cooker requires electricity, please bring your own power source (such as a Jackery, battery power station, or a quiet Honda EU-style generator). (There are a few 110 outlets at the venue if needed.)

Sharing a Smoker

- * If a friend wants to compete but doesn't own a smoker, feel free to share yours.
- * Just remember... if they open your smoker without permission, we can't be held responsible if you jokingly threaten to break their fingers. 🤞

Setup & Turn-In

- * Arrive early enough to get set up and your fire going.
- * **Official turn-in time is 2:00 PM.**

* Late entries will not be accepted.

Judging

- * Judging will be blind.
- * Turn-in boxes will be provided.
- * Garnish is optional.

Refreshments

- * Feel free to enjoy your favorite beverages throughout the day.
- * Just keep them in a cup—we're guests of the City of Caribou.

Awards

We're working hard to secure sponsors so we can put together a prize purse that's worth competing for. Prize payouts will depend on the number of competitors and sponsorship support, but our goal is to reward the top teams while making this an event everyone wants to come back to year after year.

Most Important Rule

Relax. Have fun. Bust each other's chops. Swap barbecue stories. Meet new friends. Enjoy a day around the smokers.

This event isn't about expensive equipment or chasing sanctioning points—it's about bringing Northern Maine's barbecue community together for a great day of BBQ, friendship, and a little friendly competition.

Good luck, and may the best ribs win!