



2026 Newberry Pork in the Park Cooker's Packet

April 17 & 18, 2026, in Downtown Newberry

Awards

Awards for each of three categories: Boston Butt, Pork, & Ribs

3 rd	\$150 & Trophy
2 nd	\$250 & Trophy
1 st	\$400 & Trophy

Grand Champion - \$600 & Trophy
Reserve Grand Champion - \$300 & Trophy

Competition Timeline

Application Deadline: Wednesday, March 18, 2026, by 11:59pm or until spaces are filled. Your participation is not confirmed until you have received a letter of acceptance from a staff member.

CHECK-IN & Meat Inspection: Friday, April 17, 2026, from 12:15pm-3pm. Teams will be allowed to set up immediately after their meat inspection. Meat Inspection will occur during check-in (see SBN rules about unseasoned meat before arrival).

Cooks Meeting: Friday, April 17, 2026, 4pm (Memorial Park). The Cooks' Meeting is mandatory for all teams.

Competition Turn-In Times: Saturday, April 18, 2026 (NFCC).

- Boston Butt 10am (Turn in from 9:55am-10:05am)
- Pork Ribs 11am (Turn in from 10:55am-11:05am)
- Chicken 12am (Turn in from 11:55am-12:05 pm)

Awards will be announced from the stage in Memorial Park at approximately 3pm.

Pork in the Park Rules & Regulations

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION DOES NOT GUARANTEE A SPACE

1. Pork in the Park is a competitive BBQ event sanctioned by SBN (Southern BBQ Network). **All competitors must follow SBN competition rules. These can be found on their website at www.sbbqn.com.**
2. **You must compete in the Pork in the Park competition** to be eligible for a booth. Vending is encouraged with proper preparation but not required.
3. Three Meat Categories: Boston Butt, Pork Ribs, and Chicken. All meat must fit the criteria found in the SBN contest rules. Teams are responsible for providing all competition meats. NO MEAT will be provided by the event. To compete for Grand Champion, teams must compete in all three categories.
4. Teams must check in and have meat inspected during designated check-in/inspection time. All meat must arrive at inspection unseasoned, however, pre-trimmed meat will be allowed.
5. Teams must comply with the City's quiet hours ordinance from 11:00pm to 7:00pm. The use of radios or amplifying equipment will not be allowed during quiet hours.
6. All vehicles, including competitor's vehicles, must be out of the event area by 3:45pm on Friday evening or they will be towed. Vehicles can return to the event area after 3:15pm on Saturday. If your vehicle is a part of your cooking setup, you must receive written permission from the event organizer to have the vehicle in the area. Additionally, said vehicle **MUST** be parked within your cook space, you are not allowed to park on any side streets within the event area!
7. The event reserves the right to reject applications that do not meet the standard qualifications. Our goal is to provide a quality experience for the teams and patrons. Rejected applications will be returned with payment.
8. Teams may not exceed their marked boundaries. Your team location will be assigned for your convenience. Refusal to set up in the assigned space will result in your team being disqualified from the contest without a refund of the competition fee.
9. No cooking space or device shall be shared. All supplies used shall remain within the team cooking space. All seasoning and cooking of products (competition meat and meat to be sold) must remain in the boundaries of the cooking space. Once a team has checked their meat in, the meat must remain in the assigned cooking space until turn-in time. **All participants must have a fire extinguisher (minimum requirement: 10-pound A-B-C extinguisher). The Fire Department will be checking each team for fire extinguishers.**
10. NO campers/camping tents are allowed in the event area.
11. Contestants are responsible for keeping cooking spaces clean at all times. **All trash produced by your booth** should be placed in the assigned large dumpster located on McKibben Street. **DO NOT** move event roll carts to your booth location for personal use.
12. There will be a designated hot ash disposal for cook teams. The event will not provide grease or grey water disposal. Filled containers of grease or grey water may be deposited in the dumpster provided for vendor use.
13. No cooking with open flames under tents! Outdoor grilling must conform to local fire codes.

14. There will be community-designated water supply points during the event. The event will not provide tents, sandbags, tables, chairs, or tubs.
15. Fryers must be secured and leveled within the cooking space to avoid tipping or spilling. Large vat fryers are prohibited. Contact the event organizer with any questions.
16. **Violation of any of the above rules will result in disqualification from the competition and exclusion from future events. Vendors in violation of any of the above rules will be asked to leave with no refund of any fees.**

Rules and Regulations for Vending Teams Only

1. Vending teams may only sell during festival hours. Vendors are required to sell on Saturday and may optionally sell on Friday evening after the check-in period and cooker's meeting is over.
 - a. Friday, April 17, 5pm to 8pm (No Competition)
 - b. Saturday, April 18, 11am to 3pm (COMPETITION DAY)
2. Food Vending: Teams should provide visual menus for patrons on the day of the event.
3. Vending teams at Newberry Pork in Park are required to submit a Certificate of Liability Insurance (COI) listing the City of Newberry as additionally insured before the registration deadline of March 18, 2026 (example available by request). Your COI may be emailed to newberryfestivals@cityofnewberry.com or mailed to City of Newberry PRT, PO Box 538, Newberry, SC 29108.
4. No changes can be made to the vending status after the application deadline.
5. No vending equipment will be supplied.
6. All Food Vendors are required to comply with SCDA Regulation 61-25, Retail Food Establishments. See the SCDA guidelines for food service at special events at the following web link, <https://agriculture.sc.gov/divisions/consumer-protection/retail-food-safety/>.
7. All meats must possess USDA or state DA inspection certification.
8. Taxes & License: Vendors are responsible for collecting and reporting SC sales tax as required by law. Vendors are required to hold a state Business License. Vendors are required to keep a copy of their business license in their booth for the duration of the event.
9. Violations of Rules and Regulations may result in exclusion from future City of Newberry events and vendors may be asked to leave the event, with no refund to their booth fee.
10. Each **vending team** will be limited to one 20-amp service with two outlet plug-ins. All outlets are of GFCI type. Should your food truck require a generator, please plan accordingly. Please work to supply a quiet generator where possible.

Weather Statement: Competition is rain or shine. Any adjustments to the event schedule due to weather will be decided by 5pm on Thursday before the event. If sustained winds of 20 MPH or more are forecasted or occur on the day of the event all vendors will be required to remove their tents.

Any cancellations or changes to the event schedule will be sent to vendors and posted at www.newberryporkinthepark.com. Entry fees may be refunded or credited to the 2027 Pork in the Park event if the competition is cancelled due to weather.

Please keep this page for your records.

Newberry Pork in the Park Competitor's Application

Applications must be digitally received or postmarked by Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 11:59pm; please send completed applications to: newberryfestivals@cityofnewberry.com or by mail to the City of Newberry, PO Box 538, Newberry, SC 29108.

Sanctioned by the Southern Barbecue Network

Event: April 17-18, 2026, Friday Hours: 5pm-8pm, Saturday Hours: 11am-3pm

BBQ Team Name _____
Contact Name _____
Mailing Address _____ PO Box # _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Telephone _____ Alt. Telephone _____
Email _____
Website/Social Media _____

Competition

Applicants must compete in at least one category. Applicants must participate in all three categories to be eligible for Grand Champion. Select the categories in which you will be competing:

☐ Boston Butt ☐ Chicken ☐ Ribs

Setup Requirements

1. All teams must submit an image of their setup. This includes enclosed trailers, open trailers, tents, grills, smokers, and fryers.
 - a. What is the total footprint of your setup? This includes trailers (tongue included) and any tents or equipment you will have set up during the event.
If your trailer door opens to a ramp, please include this in your total footprint. If you do not, we cannot guarantee you will have room to open your ramp!
_____ feet (L) x _____ feet (W)
 - b. Any other considerations? _____
2. For competing and selling teams, what side of your trailer do you vend from?
Driver's Side Passenger's Side (circle one)
For competition-only teams, on what side do you access your trailer or setup?
Driver's Side Passenger's Side (circle one)

Vending Teams Only

Vending teams will be provided with one 20-amp service GFCI outlet with two plug-ins and water access.

Vending Times

- a. Friday, April 17, 5pm-8pm (Selling Only)
- b. Saturday, April 18, 11am-3pm (Selling & Competition Day)

1. Will you be selling on Friday? Yes No (circle one)
2. Does your setup require electricity (select yes if you are NOT providing your own): Yes No

Initial beside the following to demonstrate your understanding:

_____ I have read, understand, and will follow the SCDA Guidelines in Regulation 61-25.

_____ My insurer has sent a copy of the Certificate of Liability Insurance.

Registration Fees

Please mark below the space size you are applying for. **Please select your booth size appropriately using the footprint you defined on Page 1. If your setup is larger than the booth size you purchase, you may be asked to leave the event with no refund of any fees.**

Booth Size Options (Select One)
I wish to apply for a \$150.00 15x30 foot booth space. _____
I wish to apply for a \$225.00 15x50 foot booth space. _____

Payment Options
Total Fees: \$ _____
Cash/Check? Yes No (Mail to City of Newberry PRT, PO Box 538, Newberry, SC 29108)
Card? Yes No (an invoice will be sent to the contact in your application by the City of Newberry for teams to pay online)

Registration fees must be paid in full at the time of application. Application without fee will not be accepted. No refunds will be given to approved competitors after the registration deadline.

Preferred Arrival Time

Please select one (Regardless of arrival time, teams must be parked in their booth BEFORE 3:00pm).

Time Wave One: 12:15pm-12:45pm _____

Time Wave Two: 12:45pm-1:15pm _____

Time Wave Three: 1:15pm-2:00pm _____

Teams are responsible for complying with all contest rules, regulations, and SCDA guidelines. Failure to comply will forfeit the competition and fees collected.

The undersigned does hereby release, acquit, and forever discharge the City of Newberry, its agents, its representatives, its employees, or contracted staff, of and from all manner of actions, suits, damages, claims, or demands whatsoever in law or equity from any loss or damage of any nature of description, known or unknown, in any way relating to the undersigned participation in the City of Newberry events. I acknowledge that I have read all event policies and agree to adhere to them.

Signature _____ Date _____

Print Name of Applicant _____

Completed applications may be emailed to newberryfestivals@cityofnewberry.com, or mailed to the City of Newberry at PO Box 538, Newberry, SC 29108. A city staff member will confirm the receipt of your application and registration fees by email.

Approved competitors will be notified and sent a welcome packet including a map with their booth location, parking pass, and vendor guidelines before the event.



Newberry Pork in the Park 2026 Schedule

Friday, April 17th

Vendor Arrival

Time Wave One: 12:15pm-12:45pm

Time Wave Two: 12:45pm-1:15pm

Time Wave Three: 1:15pm-2:00pm

Check-In & Meat Inspection

12:15pm-3:00pm, following each vendor's arrival.

Cook's Meeting

4:00pm, in Memorial Park. This meeting is mandatory for all participants.

Friday Sales Hours

5:00pm-8:00pm

Saturday, April 18th

Saturday Sales Hours

11:00am-3:00pm

Competition Turn-In Times

Boston Butt 10:00 AM (9:55-10:05am)

Pork Ribs 11:00 AM (10:55-11:05am)

Chicken 12:00 PM (11:55 am-12:05 pm)

Awards Announced

Approx. 3:00pm

Event Breakdown

3:15pm-4:00pm, vendors are asked to remain open until the official breakdown time or be subject to exclusion from future City of Newberry events.