

**Southland Salutes presents: BBQ 4 Vets
Rib Cook-off
Saturday July 11th, 2026**

Welcome to the 8th annual Rib Cook-Off which will be held on Saturday July 11th, 202, at Konows in Homer Glen. The goal this year is to raise money for the Illinois Veterans Home- Manteno and other local veteran charities, and to have a great time doing it!! **Last year \$27,848 was raised thanks to all of you!** We are also asking for sponsors at various levels, if you know a local business that would like to be recognized during this event. Contestants need to pre-register & have paid \$150 entry fee. You can also add as many slabs as you would like for \$15 ea. Also, the Peoples' Choice Chicken Wing side contest is back! \$35/team (optional) which includes 3lbs of wings (registration due by June 15th)

Prizes will include cash (TBD) and a trophy to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers in Ribs. Award, Cash and C.P Market Gift card for People's choice Chicken Wings

RIB RULES:

All teams in the Rib Cook-Off will be provided with 3 slabs of **PORK SPARERIBS** included in your entry fee. All accepted entries are to be cooked on premises during the time frame allotted, and in your team's designated cooking area. You may season or prepare your ribs as your team sees fit. Cooking can be done on your choice of grill, smoker, or by any other medium. **Note: there is very limited electricity. We will provide these to the first teams that request them at registration. After that please provide your own small generator.**

Rules:

1. Each team will consist of a Team Captain and as many assistants as the Team Captain deems necessary.
2. Each team will provide a grill/smoker or other medium to be used exclusively by that team within the confines of the team's cooking space.
3. Each team will bring their own seasonings, sauces, cooking equipment/ utensils & garnish.
4. Small "easy-up" tents are recommended for shade or rain **20'X 20' MAX.** (trust us, it's a smart idea!)
5. Contestants must adhere to all electrical, fire, health & other codes whether local, county, state, or federal
6. **All Liquor sales must be conducted through the Konows through the duration of the event.** and no person under the age of 21 may consume any alcohol on the property.
7. Each team is solely responsible for observing meat/cooking temperatures as well as proper sanitary conditions.
8. Turn in boxes will be provided, the garnish is not. **Acceptable garnish includes lettuce (except red-tipped), kale, cilantro, or flat leaf/Italian parsley.**

Timeline:

9:00am- Check in	3:00pm Chicken wing tasting closes
9:30am- Team Meeting, Stars Spangled Banner	4:00, 4:20, 4:40pm - TURN IN TIME
10:00, 10:20, 10:40am- Cooking begins	5:15pm- Raffle winners announced
11:00 am- Bar opens!!	6:15pm (approx.)- Awards Presentation for wings and ribs
2:00pm Chicken wing tasting opens	

Judging Overview & Criteria

1. Blind Judging containers will be handed out at 1:30p.m.
2. Each team must prepare one rib sample per judge (6 judges)
3. **Anything placed in the container that is not a rib and acceptable garnish will result in disqualification**
4. Entries will be scored on **appearance, taste, and tenderness.** Each category will be scored (1-9) In a KCBS Style.

Questions? Please TEXT Nick McGuire at (815)409-6885

Email: info@southlandssalutes.com

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We are excited do this again this yeas as an addition to the Rib Cook-off as a fun side contest that will be judged by people's choice. Keep in mind that this is **optional** and does not affect your **rib** score at all. Each entrant will be given 3 lbs. of chicken wings to share with the public. Entry fee is \$35.

CHICKEN WING RULES:

1. Chicken wings will be distributed at 11:00am
2. Turn in at Judges tent by no later than 1:50pm
3. The tasting begins at 2:00pm
4. Tasting Closes at 3:00pm or when sold out
5. Wings can be cooked with any medium the team captain chooses.

Judging Overview

- The public will purchase wristbands and be given 5 voting tokens
- They will place the tickets in each team's bucket. 0-5 tickets
- Prizes will include a cash prize, trophy, and gift card to C.P. Meat Market (1st-3rd)