

Welcome to the Memphis Grilled Cheese Festival! This is a growing event that is designed to put your Grilled Cheese recipes and cooking skills to the test. This competition features several different heats that all have different ingredients and rules, so please read these instructions carefully.

As you can imagine, during the event, things will get a little hectic. There will be 2,000+ people at the competition watching you cook, and attendees will be sampling sandwiches for a donation (The team with the most donations will win Fan Favorite). The judges are typically local celebrities and/or people with experience in the culinary arts. Participants are encouraged to wear themed shirts and have team names. Rules, recipes, and the spirit of competition are important, but having fun is the best part. If you find yourself having fun, please come back and compete again. The team of volunteers helping out and running the event try to make improvements each and every year and we know there is always opportunities for improvements. If you have ideas, please share them with one of our friendly volunteers anytime during or after the event. If you have questions or suggestions, you can always email us at info@memphisgrilledcheese.com.

If you have participated before, you will notice that the rules have been updated.

The Competition

Each team that enters in a category will need to create 4 whole sandwich per sandwich category and two bowls for the tomato soup for judging. The entry fee is non-refundable, and you must pre register. Link can be found at www.memphisgrilledcheese.com. Teams must submit 4 sandwiches per sandwich category and two bowls for the tomato soup category for judging. All team members must be 18 years or older. Each team can have up to 8 team members. **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO COMPETE IN ALL OR ANY CATEGORIES!** It is not mandatory to compete. But it would be so much funner if you did!

Day of the event: Competitors will arrive no later than 11 am at the Hit Tone located at 282 N Cleveland with all necessary supplies. At 11:30 AM please start getting samples ready for attendees that will start to arrive at noon. The Competition will start with the first category 12:30.

What Will Be Provided to You

- We will provide power, but you will need to bring power **strips** and a 50 ft. extension cord
- We will provide entry boxes for sandwiches and soup for judging.

Onsite, you will be assigned a numbered grilling station area. The MGCC will provide power to each station.

Please check-in day of to see where you will be stationed, team lanyards (for beer yay!) and goodie bags.

What You Need to Bring

Please be sure to bring any and all supplies and ingredients necessary to make five (5) judging samples in the categories you wish to compete in. See the Sandwich Categories below 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 isn't nice.

PLEASE NOTE: Any perishable items **MUST** be kept in a cooler with ice and be stored at safe temperatures (below 45F).

You can cook with any type of cooking equipment you desire. We are providing power, but you need to provide power strips and extension cords.

It is **YOUR** responsibility to bring all ingredients, cooking utensils and appliances needed to make grilled cheese and tomato soup (if competing in that category) necessary.

******You must provide your own serving utensils, if needed, for Fan Favorite category. Ie...soups need spoons and little cups. LIT is the best place to grab these things.

When handling foodstuffs, all competitors **WILL** wear sanitary, disposable gloves, which **YOU** must provide.

Simply put, bring what you need to get the job done, just remember you are cooking outside in November. We are providing entry boxes for judging.

All entries for category submissions must be cooked and prepared onsite.

If participating in multiple categories, submissions will **NOT** be accepted in multiple categories. I.e. if you submit "lobster grilled cheese" in the Most Ridiculous category, you may **NOT** also submit this same dish into Grand Champion category. **NO REPEATS ALLOWED.**

Categories:

There will be five categories. Fan Favorite, Most Cheesiest, Most Ridiculous, Best Tomato Soup, and Grand Champs.

Fan Favorite will be determined by which team has the most donations collected at their tent from samples handed out to attendees. Please do not put your own money into the donation box. If you would like to make a donation, please email info@memphisgrilledcheese.com and we can direct to you the appropriate place to donate.

Most Cheesiest is our first entry. This will need to be hand delivered by a team member inside the Hi Tone for judging. Most Cheesiest will need to be delivered by 12:45. You can create anything sandwich type that you create, as long as it has cheese...lots of cheese. Must contain 60% cheese.

Best Tomato Soup is super easy and can be prepared ahead of time. Please follow Health Code Requirements on how to properly handle and prepare before and at day of event. Best Tomato Soup will need to be delivered to the Hi Tone by 1:30 pm.

Most Ridiculous is for you to get creative. Your entry must include a grilled outside type bread and include cheese inside. Most Ridiculous is due by 2:30 pm inside the Hi Tone.

Grand Champ is the ultimate category. Your entry must include a grilled outside type bread and include cheese inside. This category is for you to create your most famous, best, cheesiest and delicious grilled cheese. Grand Champ is due by 3 pm inside the Hi Tone.

Awards: After the last entry is judged, the awards will be presented to the winning team. Awards will start at 3:45. Please refer to the schedule to plan your day.

Competitor Rules

Competitors MAY NOT cook sandwiches prior to event day. Tomato soup may be prepared before event day. All perishable items must be stored in a cooler with ice and stored at safe temperatures below 45 degrees F. All foodstuff must be stored off the ground at least 6 inches or remain in coolers. Coolers and supply storage units should be labeled with competitors' names. All other cooking devices and tools such as George Foreman Grills, deep fryers, toaster ovens, Panini grills, waffle irons, foil-wrapped bricks, PAN LIDS/COVERS, etc. are allowed. All teams must wear aprons and sanitary gloves. When handling foodstuffs, all teams members will wear sanitary, disposable gloves.

Entry Times:

Most Cheesiest: 12:30

Best Tomato Soup: 1:30

Most Ridiculous: 2:30

Grand Champ: 3:00

NO LATE SUBMISSIONS ALLOWED, so get a watch, a buddy with a watch or set a timer, but please be on time. Thanks!!

How Your Sandwich/Soup Will Be Judged

See the Judging Rules below for more information.

JUDGING RULES

Each sandwich/soup gets 4 votes.

Each sandwich/soup will be able to score as following:

	Yuck				Meh				Yum!!
-Taste	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
-Appearance	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
-After Taste	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
-Cheesiness	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

AGAIN....

Things YOU need to bring

- All ingredients needed to cook whatever you are planning on cooking
- Serving platter for Fan Favorite to pass out.
- Any cooking appliances you need to cook what you are planning on cooking. Please only use two cooking appliances at a time. Power will trip if ANYONE plugs in and uses more than two. So only two appliances used at a time. Sorry, but with 22 teams using heating power... power tripping is an issue we don't want to have happen.
- 6 foot tables
- Power Strip
- 50 ft extension cords
- Cooking utensils
- Cooler if you need to keep your ingredients cooled
- Ice, duh

- Paper towels/towels for your messes. You will make a mess, so make sure you have a way to clean it up. We do have a mop though.
- Extra food to make for fan favorite category. We are expecting a lot of people, so hit up that Wonder Bread outlet store!
- And anything else you think you might need.
- Load in 9am, cars off street by 10:30, ready to go by 11:30, break down 4pm.