



**5TH ANNUAL GRILL MASTERS' COMPETITION
 RULES & REGULATIONS / GUIDELINE HANDBOOK
 4:00 PM SATURDAY, AUGUST 15TH, 2009**



Ladies & Gentlemen,

Welcome to the 5th Annual Grill Masters' Competition with this year's theme being "Cheeseburgers in Paradise." First, let me start by saying thank you to all of last year's participants and our distinguished panel of judges. As always, we welcome all those who think they have what it takes to compete with the Grill Masters of Essex. This year, we decided to do something a little different. We have broken everyone into teams who will prepare ten (10) burgers.

The parade of grills will begin promptly at 4PM with plating times for our judges beginning at 5:00 PM. There will be no exceptions for late entries and those that do not present their plate to the judges at the pre-determined time will be automatically disqualified, no if's, and's, or but's. The burgers will be quartered for the participants to sample everyone's delectable treats. The judges will base their decision on the following point's system/scale:

10 points	Taste / Flavor
5 points	Appearance / Presentation of Plate (i.e. Nonverbal)
5 points	Originality / Technique / Style

There will be no points awarded to anyone trying to verbally describe their burger. Anyone who wishes to speak while presenting their dish to the judges will be automatically disqualified. The meat of the burger has to be one of the following: ground beef, poultry, pork, duck, veal, bison, buffalo, tofu, turkey, or lamb. The judges will not accept seafood or fish burgers and those that prepare something other than the pre-approved meats will be immediately disqualified from the competition.

The judges will be instructed to choose the burger that has the best overall taste. No side dishes will count towards the overall score, but they may be served as part of the visual presentation. The bun, cheese, sauce, relish, and accoutrements and anything on the burger will be counted towards the overall score. If the burger does not have a bun, the entry will not count as a burger and the team will be disqualified.

Most importantly, all burgers must be grilled on gas, electric, wood-burning, or charcoal grills. One grill per team, no exceptions. The judges will not accept any entry that is not prepared or cooked in front of the judges. Each team will set up their grills on the sidewalk on the Southside of Essex Road directly across from the judges table at 1642 Essex Road. At no time, may any team speak directly with any of the judges except to deliver their entry at the pre-determined plating times. Anyone who seeks to influence a judge will be automatically disqualified.

Lastly, each team will submit a \$40 entrance fee to cover the costs of the t-shirts & prizes. Any team that does not submit their entry fee prior to the 4:00 PM parade of grills will be disqualified from the competition. Each team will receive a t-shirt that they may choose to decorate with their team colors and team name.

The judges will be sequestered until they make their final decision. The decision of the judges is final and binding on all participants in perpetuity (forever). The awards ceremony will begin promptly at 7:00 PM. Prizes and awards will be given to the 5th Annual Grill Master of the Year, The 1st Loser for 2nd Place, and the Judges' Honorable Mention Award.

Team 1 – McClellan / Poor	5:00	Team 6 – Keller / Dawson	5:25
Team 2 – Greenlee / Fronk / Connor	5:05	Team 7 – Katz / Riewe	5:30
Team 3 - Senese / Kegler / Keeler	5:10	Team 8 – Catalano / Barger	5:35
Team 4 – Loudon / Willis	5:15	Team 9 – Rex / Call	5:40
Team 5 – Nyhus / Dixon	5:20	Team 10 – Whetzel / Miller	5:45

This year's judges will be announced at the beginning of the competition. Best of luck & May the best team win!