

MESQUITE CITIZEN JOURNAL

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Smokin' in Mesquite BBQ Kicks Off Friday

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The third annual \$40,000 Smokin' in Mesquite BBQ Championship will include incredible food prepared by some of the nation's best cooks on Labor Day Weekend at the CasaBlanca Resort.

Photo submitted.

The third annual \$40,000 Smokin' in Mesquite BBQ Championship Labor Day Weekend at the CasaBlanca Resort in Mesquite will feature three days of non-stop activities.

Festivities begin Friday with a BBQ 101 cooking class taught by renowned instructor and expert Kelly Wertz of 4Legs UP BBQ from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Instruction will be provided in chicken, ribs, pork and brisket.

The popular Kansas City Barbeque Society Judging Class will conclude activities Friday with registration beginning at 5:30 p.m. and the judging class set from 6-10 p.m.; with the gatherings set in the Kon Tiki and Outrigger meeting rooms.

The BBQ Championship headlines Saturday's activities with competitors beginning their competition cooking in the west parking lot. The Event Center will be the site of a beer garden (10 a.m. until 7 p.m.); along with interactive audience games throughout the day; a salsa making contest (12:30 p.m.); Daiquiri making contest (2:30 p.m.); the Mesquite Rib Off competition benefiting the Mesquite Boxing Club (3 p.m.); and team eating contest (3:30 p.m.).

Sunday's schedule includes the main competition all day long. Contestants will turn in their work for judging beginning at noon.

Sunday's schedule also includes a beer garden with live DJ, BBQ food and kids corner from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. in the Event Center; a pie eating contest for kids 12 or younger beginning at noon also in the event

center.

Also on the schedule Sunday will be the Peoples Choice benefiting the Mesquite Elks Lodge from 3-5 p.m. in the Event Center. The Peoples Choice enables guests the chance to sample the competitive BBQ teams favorite pulled pork for a fee of \$5 all going to the Mesquite Elks Lodge.

Various other activities will also be presented during the day with the awards ceremony concluding the giant event beginning at 6 p.m. in the Event Center.

A full schedule of activities can be found by visiting www.mesquitebbqchampionship.com.