



International Hot Sauce Competition Rules & Judging 2022

We are on a quest to identify the best tasting hot sauce, BBQ sauce, spicy mustard and spicy snacks in the world! We also want to promote their small batch producing companies.

It's super easy to enter and you do not have to attend to win. **All entries are mail-in only.** Enter on-line at oldboneymtnhotsummernight.com

Entry fee is \$75 for one entry or \$150 for an unlimited number of entries.

28 magnificent trophies will be presented!

One (1) Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night People's Choice World's Favorite Hot Sauce

One (1) Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night People's Choice World's Favorite Label

One (1) Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night People's Choice World's Favorite BBQ Sauce

One (1) Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night People's Choice Favorite Culinary Experience (at festival)

1st, 2nd, 3rd Place for Best "Mild" Hot Sauce

1st, 2nd, 3rd Place for Best "Medium" Hot Sauce

1st, 2nd, 3rd Place for Best "Hot" Hot Sauce

1st, 2nd, 3rd Place for Best "Extra Hot" Hot Sauce

1st, 2nd, 3rd Place for Best "Fruit Based" Hot Sauce

1st, 2nd, 3rd Place for Best "Spicy Mustard" Sauce

1st, 2nd, 3rd Place for Best "BBQ" Sauce

1st, 2nd, 3rd Place for Best "Spicy Snack"

This is unlike other hot sauce competitions or expos because this is for charity! All entry fees and donations go to awards, event overhead, Old Boney Mountain Foundation for Kids and Ventura County Fire Department Widow's, Orphans & Assistance Fund.

Each category entered requires its own entry form if you don't enter on-line. The entry form is attached to this document. If you enter on-line the entry forms are generated automatically and you don't need to use the form attached below.

Read all of the rules, for each division entered, submit two (2) bottles of your sauce or snack and mail to:

**Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night
2629 Townsgate Road, Suite 235
Westlake Village, CA 91361**

You can pay by credit or debit card by entering on-line. You can pay by check by filling out the attached form for each entry. The form is not required if you enter on line

All hot sauce and entries of any kind must be manufactured in a professional, inspected food facility. All entrants must be certified professional manufacturers, following all FDA or Home (origin) Country regulations designated for consumer mass production by a certified kitchen, and/or co-packer. **No "home packed" products may be entered.** Labels must meet FDA or Home (origin) Country guidelines.

All entries must be correctly canned and sealed according to standard food and health safety procedures.

Contest management reserves the right to discard and disqualify any entries that are not properly canned or sealed, according to food and health safety procedures or that arrive damaged from shipping.

All entrants must submit two (2) sample bottles for each division entered or two pre-packaged and sealed snacks.

Product must be shipped along with the **signed entry form OR printed entry form from on-line entry** and must be received by the **entry deadline date of 6-1-2022** to be considered eligible. Please do not attempt to phone, fax, or e-mail entry forms. All entries must be carefully packaged. We will not be held responsible for any damage incurred during shipping.

There are NO refunds.

You may enter as many products as you like. Please make sure the division entered for each sauce is sent along with the sauces. Your product should not require refrigeration prior to opening. Each product must be properly labeled with ingredients listed along with the name of the product on each entry bottle. Disqualified entries will not be notified of disqualification. Please be sure to read these rules thoroughly and if any questions please refer them to us before entering.

Disclaimer:

Organizers will not be held responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged entries and reserve the right to refuse any product that, in their judgment, may present a health hazard. In any of the categories that are judged visually, all declared winners are final. No containers or leftover products will be returned and may be used in fundraising efforts or donated to charities of HSN leadership choosing. All entry fees are nonrefundable.

The contest rules have been established for the best interests of all concerned. In the event of necessity, any rule may be altered at the discretion of Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night. In any event, all interpretation of rules and final decisions will rest with the event coordinators. The decisions of the judges are final, binding, and conclusive in all matters.

By entering your product and/or signing the entry form, you understand these rules and agree to abide by the decisions of the event coordinators.

Hot Sauce Vendors at the Event

In order to be a hot sauce vendor at Los Robles Gardens Golf Course in Thousand Oaks, California on 7-14-2022, you must enter at least one hot sauce or BBQ sauce in the international mail-in competition by 6-1-2022. To have a booth at the event there are no additional fees other than the mail-in only international hot sauce competition entry fee of \$75.00. Booth space is limited and on a first come first served basis. You will be assigned a 10x10 booth space should you be selected to participate. Sign up to request a booth space at oldboneymtnhotsummernight.com. Once you submit an application to be a hot sauce, food or drink vendor you will be contacted if accepted shortly thereafter. You are not automatically accepted by applying.

All event vendors and participants in the contest must agree to the following hold harmless agreement:

I hereby agree that I have read and understood the rules for the Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night, International Hot Sauce Competition and agree to abide by the rules. I further state that all information provided is accurate. In the event of necessity, any rule may be altered at the discretion of OBM HSN. All decisions of the event organizers are final, binding, and conclusive in all matters. Hold Harmless: In consideration for being permitted by Old Boney Mtn Foundation for Kids. Evergreen Alliance golf Limited, LP dba Arcis Golf Los Robles Golf Course to participate in the Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night, I hereby waive and discharge any and all claims for damages for personal injury death, or property damage which I may have or which I may hereafter accrue to me as a result of participation in said activity. This release is intended to discharge in advance the aforementioned organizations and event sponsors, volunteers, employees and agents from any and all liability arising out of or connected in any way with my participation in said activity, even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the person or entities mentioned above. It is further agreed that this waiver release, and assumption of risks is to be binding on my heirs and assigns. I understand that no refunds will be issued for any reason. By signing the entry form you understand these rules and agree to abide by the decisions of the event coordinators. Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night, its organizers and volunteers are not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen product. I further agree to allow Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night to publish product name, image, and/or logo and use my entry as they see fit.

Old Boney Mountain Hot Summer Night - Judging

Each blind judging event should have available beer, wine, milk, water, crackers, peanut butter, mini spoons, toothpicks, Lazy Susan's, Judge forms, place mats, pens and pencils.

Judging Criteria – Aroma, Taste, Texture, Use of Heat

Each and every small batch hot sauce and BBQ sauce maker has worked hard to produce their sauce. They have put their heart and soul into each recipe. Keep that in mind and take your time when judging each individual sauce. Be as fair and impartial with each of these sauces as you can. Through the process of maintaining the utmost integrity in our judging, we will continue to instill confidence in those who enter the contest.

1. Take your judging seriously.
2. Pay attention - Listen to judging instructions.
3. When it is in front of you, judge each sauce as if it were the only sauce in the world at that instant.
4. Pace yourself. You have several sauces to judge. Take time enough to check the aftertaste.
5. Clear your palate between tasting the different sauces.
6. You must judge and score each and every sauce in the division.

7. The total score you write at the bottom of the score sheet for each sauce will be the one we use as the official score. We will not tally the scores from each category so please make sure that the total score is the one you wish to be used.
8. Do not share your scores with any of the other judges.

Judging for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each division mild, medium, hot, extra hot, fruit based, spicy mustard, BBQ sauce and spicy snacks will take place *prior* to the Old Boney Mountain Hot Summer Night Festival.

The judging panel can be made up of food industry professionals, including chefs, restaurant owners, culinary instructors, food writers, food manufacturers not entered in the contest, and other industry leaders and professionals. A number of judges may be "Chili Heads" who have served as judges at prior hot sauce competitions.

All product sampling will be conducted under the strictest of standards using fair, impartial and blind judging methods.

Products will be judged on the following criteria: aroma, taste, texture, and use of heat.

Each entry is judged in a blind tasting using a numbered cup to represent each entry. Judges are not allowed to see any indication of the brand, owner, or manufacturer of the product.

SCORING

1. Write your name at the top of the page and sign your score sheet when you finish. Keep it folded when not entering your scores.
2. Place your score in the score sheet blank that corresponds to the judging number marked on the exterior of the cup you are judging.
3. Whether you tend to score high or low doesn't matter as long as you are consistent in your scoring pattern.
4. For consistency, some judges use a score of "5" as "good" and use below 5 and above 5 as less than and more than "good".
5. Each entry shall be scored on its own merits with a whole number from 1 to 10 with 10 being the highest. No pluses (+), minuses (-), fractions (1/2) or decimals (.5) will be taken into consideration. Each entry will be scored by all judges present. Score sheets are then tabulated by calculating the total score for each entry and then adding all the scores from each judge together for that product. The combined high score wins.

The blind judging will take place at several select locations. Six to 12 judges for each division and at each location is optimal. Judging will be conducted in round-table fashion with a lazy Susan. Each individual setting will include a numbered place mat or plate, a glass of water, a glass of milk and a tray with toothpicks and spoons. Each table will be supplied with a portion of peanut butter and crackers to assist in cleansing the palette. It is important that each sauce is judged the same way by each judge, for each division.

People's Choice World's Favorite Hot Sauce and BBQ Sauce competition will take place prior to the Hot Summer Night Festival. All are invited to attend (check the website for location) and vote in that blind judged final where the top hot sauces from the preliminary judging events will compete against each other for the "People's Choice World's Favorite Hot Sauce and BBQ Sauce".

The decision of the judges is final and may not be contested.

Order of Operations – judging events

A designated person who is not judging the contest will fill each numbered cup with the corresponding numbered hot sauce and place the cups on the lazy Susan, leaving the bottles hidden.

Each judge will have a mat or plate in front of them with numbers on it to correspond with the cups they are judging on the lazy Susan.

Each judge will use the spoon to take the sauce out of the cup on the lazy Susan and place it on the mat or plate that matches the number on the cup. This spoon will be used for looking at the sauce, smelling the sauce and tasting the sauce with the toothpick or mini spoon.

Judges should never discuss the *score* they give a particular sauce. The score is a personal judge's opinion and all scoring should be an independent view of each sauce.

The judges will do the first-round tastings at their own pace, tasting and scoring every numbered cup on the lazy Susan in any order they wish documenting that score on their score sheet. Be sure to total your scores. The total score is the only one we will use to determine the final outcomes.

After all the judges have completed the first round of sauces on the lazy Susan, a round-table discussion based on their notes should happen and a "revisit" of any sauce can take place and scores revised. Remember not to discuss your actual score with anyone. Put a line through the original score and write the new score next to it if you change it. Once you are satisfied with your scores, add each score in the "total" column for that sauce. Be sure to double check your math for accuracy. The total final score in the box must be clear and legible. Scores will be entered into the spreadsheet by number and not name of company ensuring anonymity of the company and integrity in the judging.

www.Oldboneymntnhotsummernight.com





Old Boney Mountain Hot Summer Night International *Hot Sauce* Competition

1 entry \$75 – Unlimited entries \$150

Name of Company: _____ Contact _____

Name of Product: _____ Street Address (*no PO Box accepted*): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Website: _____ Country of Origin: _____

Hot Sauce Division: (Check One)

Mild

Medium

Hot

Extra Hot

Fruit

Mustard

BBQ

Snack

This form is only for those paying by check. If you signed up on-line (preferred) there is no need to complete this form.

All entries must be **received by June 1, 2022**. Include a *check or money order made payable to: Old Boney Mountain Foundation for Kids*. You may enter a sauce in more than one division but must include 2 bottles per division entered.

Submit All Entry Forms, Fees and Products to: **Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night**
2629 Townsgate Road Suite 235
Westlake Village, CA 91361

This competition is blind judged and mail-in only (not a live event). The winners will be announced during our live/virtual event. You can enter on-line at oldboneymtnhotsummernight.com and pay with a credit card.

I hereby agree that I have read and understood the rules for the Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night, International Hot Sauce Competition and agree to abide by the rules. I further state that all information provided is accurate. In the event of necessity, any rule may be altered at the discretion of OBM HSN. All decisions of the event organizers are final, binding, and conclusive in all matters. Hold Harmless: In consideration for being permitted by Old Boney Mtn Foundation for Kids, Evergreen Alliance golf Limited, LP dba Arcis Golf Los Robles Golf Course to participate in the Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night, I hereby waive and discharge any and all claims for damages for personal injury death, or property damage which I may have or which I may hereafter accrue to me as a result of participation in said activity. This release is intended to discharge in advance the aforementioned organizations and event sponsors, volunteers, employees and agents from any and all liability arising out of or connected in any way with my participation in said activity, even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the person or entities mentioned above. It is further agreed that this waiver release, and assumption of risks is to be binding on my heirs and assigns. I understand that no refunds will be issued for any reason. By signing the entry form you understand these rules and agree to abide by the decisions of the event coordinators. Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night, its organizers and volunteers are not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen product. I further agree to allow Old Boney Mtn Hot Summer Night to publish product name, image, and/or logo and use my entry as they see fit.

Company Authorized Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

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Questions? [805.807.2600](tel:805.807.2600)