

For Immediate Release
February 15, 2023

City of Welch Announces 2023 Coalfields Cookoff BBQ State Championship Festival on June 9-10, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Welch, WV: The third annual WV Coalfields Cookoff: The WV State BBQ and ATV Festival will be held on June 9-10, 2023 in Welch, WV. The event, hosted by the City of Welch, will feature the WV State BBQ Championships sanctioned by the Kansas City BBQ Society for pro pitmasters and backyard BBQ teams, as well as live music, and vendors. Other events include family activities, a beer garden, a public BBQ tasting, and an ATV show. The WV Coalfields Cookoff promises outdoor summer fun for the whole family in beautiful McDowell County.

The event has also earned the support of the State of West Virginia. Governor Jim Justice declared the event a WV State Barbeque Championship with an official proclamation. Harold McBride, Sr. says the event has been carefully curated to attract many kinds of tourist.

“The WV Coalfields Cookoff invites the best BBQ cooks, ATV enthusiasts, and the general public to visit the great City of Welch, WV,” said Harold McBride, Sr. Mayor. “In addition to the professional and backyard BBQ state championship cook-off, we will have arts and crafts, food vendors, a Beer Garden, and an ATV show! We really have something for everyone at this event.”

“The event is free and open to the public and we hope to have a lot of people also participate in the public tasting! With our surrounding mountains being home to the Hatfield McCoy Trail and Welch welcoming off-road machines into the city, we expect the event to be popular with our ATV tourists. The location also offers easy access to return to the off-road trails surrounding the city,” he continued.

Hosted by the City of Welch, ticket, contests, and BBQ cook team registration are available at <http://www.wvcoalfieldscookoff.com> or at the city offices located at 88 Howard Street in Welch. The festival is free and open to the public but tasting tickets are \$10 per person, and \$5 discount for veterans and first responders, and can be purchased online. A portion of the proceeds from the event will benefit the Welch, WV Volunteer Fire Department. Children ages 12 and under are admitted free with an adult.

The BBQ Cook teams will compete for over \$13,000 in prize money and the WV State Barbeque Champion title. The highest number of points accumulated in the KCBS contest are calculated and a Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, and first through fifth place in each meat type will receive awards and cash prizes. The winner of this contest will be invited to go to the American Royal and will be entered in the Jack Daniels contest lotto.

Several regional and national businesses have signed on as supporting sponsors of the event. Groups interested in sponsorship should visit www.wvcoalfieldscookoff.com

For more details and contest rules for the BBQ Cookoff, music contests, ATV competitions, or general festival information, visit our website and follow the festival on Facebook or Instagram at [@wvcoalfieldscookoff](https://www.facebook.com/wvcoalfieldscookoff).

MEDIA INFORMATION: For additional information, images, or interview requests, contact Andrea Ball, festival organizer at 301.335.2715 (call/text). Visit www.coalfieldscookoff.com for additional information about the event. The event will be held Friday June 10 and Saturday, June 11 and is hosted by the City of Welch, WV, media, and bloggers interested in attending can receive a complimentary press pass on request. Facebook @wvcoalfieldscookoff #KCBS #BBQ #CoalfieldsCookoff

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