

California STATE★FAIR

Postal Service Cooking Challenge



We are looking for Mail Women or Men who can really deliver...in the kitchen! Compete in a live cooking challenge at the California State Fair. Individual amateur chefs will use a basket of three mystery ingredients to prepare a 3-course, home-style meal in front of a live fair audience and a panel of qualified Judges. Space is limited, apply today!

APPLICATIONS DUE: June 15, 2018, accepted on a first-come-first-served basis

DATE: **Sunday, July 15, 2018** (all rounds)

TIME: Qualifying Round 1: 12pm-2pm
Qualifying Round 2: 3pm-5pm
Final Round: 6pm-8pm

LOCATION: Cooking Theatre in "California's Kitchen," Building B

QUALIFICATIONS: Any team of 2 amateur cooks, one must be currently employed by USPS.

AWARDS: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place (final round) State Fair Rosette
1st, 2nd & 3rd Place (qualifying round) State Fair Ribbon

AVAILABLE EQUIPMENT:

- Electric range & oven, microwave, sink and electrical outlet.
- Tools and small appliances typically found in a home kitchen are available.
- Teams are encouraged to bring their own knives or any specialty equipment needed.

AVAILABLE INGREDIENTS:

- Mystery ingredients will be provided and MUST be featured in 1 or more dishes.
- The pantry is stocked with a variety of common ingredients for cooking and baking
- Teams may not bring any outside food or spices into the competition

JUDGING CRITERIA

- 30% **Taste:** Complimentary courses, seasoning, flavor, temperature/doneness
- 25% **Presentation:** portion size, harmonious use of garnish, color, slicing/placement
- 20% **Skill Level:** Difficulty of dish, cooking & knife skills, use of ingredients, creativity
- 15% **Use of Mystery Ingredient:** Prominence in meal, good use of ingredient
- 10% **Work Habits & Showmanship:** Food safety and sanitation, organization of work area, professional and courteous, communication with MC and Judges during competition

Significant Points Deductions:

- Mystery ingredient not featured in any dish (-30 points)
- Food not safe to eat (undercooked) (-20 points per item)
- Less than 3 courses presented (-20 points per absent course)

CHALLENGE FORMAT:

1. Arrive **30 minutes prior** to your start time to be fitted for a microphone and to sort out any last minute details
2. **Start Time:** The MC will introduce the challenge, competitors and Judges. The mystery ingredient will be revealed then the MC will start the competition
3. **5 minutes:** to “shop” for food carts in front of kitchen set. More ingredients are available behind the set throughout the competition.
4. **5 minutes:** to prep and set up kitchens: preheat ovens, boil water, organize equipment, etc. No cooking or food prep is allowed at this time.
5. **50 minutes:** to cook and plate your meal, which is immediately presented to Judges upon completion
6. **Judges Evaluate** the dishes behind the scenes while teams distribute any remaining food as samples and clean the kitchens (Fair staff will also help clean)
7. **Judges Announce the Winners** and ribbons will be presented.

ADDITIONAL RULES & REGULATIONS:

- **Contestants may not be inebriated, and no alcoholic beverages may be consumed** either in front or back of the set; however, it may be used as an ingredient. Failure to follow this rule may lead to disqualification and prizes will be forfeit.
- Kitchens will be assigned randomly before each round begins.
- No open flame is allowed, including torches and lighters (CA Fire Marshall Regulations)
- Please prepare enough food for 4 standard servings so that food will be available for fair guests to sample.
- Only participating team members may be backstage (space limitations and food safety)
- Teams are encouraged to wear USPS apparel.
- Each participant will receive 1 Admission Credential and 1 parking pass to enter the Fair the day of the Challenge. 2 additional credentials will be given to each participating team member for guests.

CONTACT: Ralph Petty
 State Fair Liaison to USPS
 916.521.6646
 petty-r@pacbell.net



Postal Service Cooking Challenge

APPLICATION DUE DATE: June 15, 2018

SUBMIT TO: Ralph Petty
5505 South Grove St #95
Rocklin, CA 95677

email: petty-r@pacbell.net
phone: 916.521.6646

Contact Name	
Phone Number	Cell phone Number <i>(for day of presentation)</i>
Mailing Address	
City	State, Zip Code
Email Address	
Teammate Name	
City or Post Office Branch Representing	

Preferred Preliminary Round on Sunday, July 15, 2018:

12pm-2pm 3pm-5pm

I hereby certify that all of the information submitted with my application to compete in the Postal Service Cooking Challenge is true and correct.

I hereby certify that I have read the competition information and rules, and I will accept and comply with rules as written, and accept the decision of the Judges as final.

I hereby certify that if selected as the first place winner of my preliminary round that I will be available to compete in the final round on Sunday, July 15th from 6:00pm-8:00pm.

Challenge Accepted!

Signature _____ Date: _____

**CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION AND STATE FAIR
CALIFORNIA'S KITCHEN
Letter of Understanding**

This Letter of Understanding is between CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION AND STATE FAIR, hereafter referred to as "Cal Expo" and _____ hereinafter referred to as "Demonstrator". (full name)

Under this agreement, Demonstrator will prepare a dish in the Cooking Theatre in Building B on Sunday, July 15, 2018 for the purpose of the Postal Service Cooking Challenge Preliminaries.

Demonstrator agrees to appear on Sunday, July 15, 2018 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, should they win their Qualifying Round.

Demonstrator will provide to Cal Expo a completed Megan's Law compliance form.

Cal Expo will provide: 1) mystery ingredients, basic pantry ingredients, tools, and demonstration kitchen; 2) credentials for Fair entry and parking for above dates.

Demonstrator and all participants agree to indemnify, defend and save harmless the State of California, California Exposition & State Fair, its officers, agents and employees from any and all claims and losses accruing or resulting to any and all contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, laborers, and any other person, firm or corporation furnishing or supplying work services, materials, or supplies in connection with the performance of this Agreement, and from any and all claims and losses accruing or resulting to any person, firm or corporation who may be injured or damaged by the Demonstrator and/or the Demonstrator's paid or volunteer assistants in the performance of this Agreement.

Demonstrator's Signature Date: _____

California Exposition and State Fair

Heidi Turpen, Contracts Manager Date: _____

