

ChocoFest 2026

Chocolate Chip Cookie Bake-Off

Rules and Instructions

Welcome to the second annual Chocolate Chip Cookie Bake-Off at ChocoFest! We are excited to see the creativity and baking skills of all participants.

Contestant Categories

Maximum 20 entries per category.

Kids: Ages 8–12

Teens: Ages 13–18

Adults: Ages 19 and up

Registration

Registration Dates

Online registration is open from March 10 to April 20, 2026.

Pre-registration

All contestants must preregister by completing the online form at www.chocofest.ca/cookie-bake-off

Registration closes at midnight on April 20, 2026.

Registration Fee

\$10 per entry. Payment is due at the time of registration.

Confirmation

Contestants will receive a confirmation email containing these rules and any additional details.

Bake-Off Rules

Homemade Requirement

All cookies must be homemade and baked from scratch. Cookie mixes, premade dough, or store-bought cookies are not allowed.

Ingredients

Contestants may use any ingredients they wish as long as chocolate chips are the main ingredient.

Any type of chocolate chips may be used (milk, dark, or semi-sweet). Optional additions such as nuts, dried fruit, or other ingredients are permitted.

Cookie Size and Shape

Cookies must be round and approximately 2–3 inches (5–7.6 cm) in diameter. Cookies should be reasonably uniform in size and shape.

Quantity

Each contestant must submit fifteen (15) cookies.

- The cookies will be used for judging, display and the Golden Cookie Charity Draw.

Presentation

- Cookies should be presented on a disposable tray or plate and covered with clear plastic wrap.
- Trays or plates will not be returned, so please use disposable items.

Entry Limit

Each participant may submit one entry and may compete in only one category.

Submission Details

Date

Saturday, April 25, 2026

Drop-off Time

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Location

Cookie drop-off table near the entrance to ChocoFest at Millennium Place. 2000 Premier Way, Sherwood Park, AB

We are unable to accept cookies before 10:00 AM or after 11:00 AM.

Check-In Process

When contestants arrive, a volunteer will check them in and assign an entry number. Names will be removed from the display and replaced with the entry number so judging remains anonymous.

Contestants must:

- Bring their registration ticket with QR code
- Bring their signed release and liability form
- Check in with a volunteer who will receive the cookies and confirm the entry

Judging Criteria

Entries will be judged by a panel of judges using the following criteria:

- Taste – 40%
Flavour, balance, and overall deliciousness
- Texture – 25%
Chewiness, crispiness, and mouthfeel
- Appearance – 20%
Colour, presentation, and uniformity
- Creativity – 15%
Originality in the use of chocolate chips and additional ingredients

Judging will take place behind the scenes and the judges' decisions are final.

Judging and Awards

At 12:00 PM the cookies will be placed on display tables near the Hot ChocoBar, with the winning entries marked with First Place, Second Place, and Third Place ribbons.

Contestants do not need to be present at noon.

Winners will be notified by text or email and may pick up their prize at the ChocoFest Festival Office between 12:30 PM and 5:00 PM on Saturday, April 25.

Prizes

First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded in each age category.

Prizes may include gift cards, baking supplies, cookbooks, or other related items.

Charity Fundraiser

After judging, the cookies will be displayed as part of the Golden Cookie Charity Draw.

Festival visitors may purchase draw tickets for a chance to win each plate of cookies.

All proceeds from the ticket sales will be donated to the Strathcona Food Bank.

Contestants' personal information will not be displayed with the cookies.

Instructions for Contestants

Preparation

Bake your cookies in advance and have them ready for drop-off between 10:00 AM and 11:00 AM on Saturday, April 25.

Labelling

Attach a label to your tray or plate that includes:

- Your name
- Your age category
- A copy of your recipe

Please also indicate if your cookies are gluten-free, sugar-free, lactose-free, vegan, or nut-free.

Drop-off

Bring your cookies to the drop-off table near the ChocoFest entrance at Millennium Place and check in with a volunteer.

Important Notes

Allergies

Please list all ingredients used in your cookies. Contestants should be mindful of common allergens. Avoiding nuts is recommended but not required.

Food Safety

Cookies must be prepared in a home kitchen using proper food safety and hygiene practices. Please ensure cookies are fully baked and handled with clean utensils or gloves.

Fair Play

This is a friendly competition. Please respect the rules and the spirit of the event.

Photo and Recipe Release

Contestants may be asked to sign a release allowing ChocoFest to use photos or recipes for marketing or future publications.

Disqualification

Any entry that violates the contest rules or interferes with the judging process may be disqualified.

Disqualified participants may be prohibited from entering future contests hosted by Mountainlion Events Ltd.

Liability

Mountainlion Events Ltd. and its affiliates are not responsible for any injuries, damages, or losses incurred during participation in the contest.

Agreement to Rules

Participation in the Chocolate Chip Cookie Bake-Off constitutes acceptance of these rules.

Modification of Rules

Mountainlion Events Ltd. reserves the right to modify these rules at any time.

Contact Information

For questions or additional information, please contact: info@chocofest.ca

We look forward to your participation and wish you the best of luck. Happy baking!