



2022 NCCIA Cheese Making Contest

North Central Cheese Industries Association (NCCIA) is pleased to announce its annual cheese making contest. The competition is open to any individual or cheesemaker who is a member of the Association. Each year, since 1953, NCCIA collaborates with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) to raise money for dairy-related scholarships at South Dakota State University, University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin - River Falls, and Iowa State University.

Contestants may submit one cheese per category. Professionally trained judges grade all entries and provide each contestant with an official ADSA scorecard that identifies the grade and criticisms of their product. Judges will select one Grand Champion; and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each category.

Award-winning cheeses will be put up for auction at the NCCIA Conference on October 12, 2022.

Cheese Categories

40 lb Cheddar Block

Cheddar Blocks must be a minimum of 40 lbs and must include the manufacture date.

Barrel

Barrel entries must consist of 3 plugs of cheese taken at random with a barrel cheese trier. Plugs must be individually wrapped with aluminum foil (do not use plastic) and placed in a plastic bag.

Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous entries must be standard commercial size. Any type of cheese (other than Cheddar) may be entered in this classification: Mozzarella, Colby, Brick, Blue, Monterey Jack, Swiss, Brie, Camembert, etc.

Preparing Your Entry

Cheese judging will take place at Bongards' Creameries in Bongard, MN. Entries must arrive no later than September 9, 2022.

All Entries must contain the manufacture date and the name and address of the individual entering the cheese.

1. Complete the official identification card and place inside the package, next to the cheese, but outside the cheese wrap.
2. Securely wrap and package cheese for safe delivery. Mark package "Refrigerate - Do Not Freeze".
3. Pre-pay all shipping charges. Packages with freight charges will not be accepted.
4. Ship package to Bongards' Creameries
Attn: Terry Simon
13200 County Road 51
Bongards, MN 55368
5. To ensure proper delivery, email **cheese identification information** to: terrys@bongards.com and lisa.ramacher@state.mn.us - Include the name of the cheesemaker, type of cheese, and plant location.
6. All entries must arrive by September 9, 2022.

Important

Dates

- Entry Deadline: 9/09/2022
- Contest Judging: 9/13/2022
- Cheese Auction: 10/12/2022
- Contest Awards: 10/12/2022

Notification and Awards

Contest winners will be announced and will be recognized during the banquet dinner at the NCCIA Annual Conference. NCCIA will award first place in each category and the Grand Champion with an engraved plaque.

Entry Fees

Barrel entry fees are \$50. All other cheese entries are considered a donation to the NCCIA and are not charged a fee.

Make checks payable to: NCCIA

Send payment to: NCCIA, 8665 Summit Peak Way #112, Ooltewah, TN 37363

Eligibility

In order to participate in the contest, the individual or plant must be a current member of NCCIA.

To join NCCIA, contact Susan Eschbach (seschbach.nccia@gmail.com) or 612.968.1080.

2022 NCCIA Annual Conference
October 11-13, 2022

Important Links

[2022 Conference Registration](#)

Questions:

Contact: Susan Eschbach
seschbach.nccia@gmail.com
612.968.1080

<p>(Insert card between top box flaps as you close the package)</p> <p>NCCIA CHEESE CONTEST IDENTIFICATION CARD</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Cheese Plant/Location _____</p> <p>Email Address _____</p> <p>Date of Manufacture _____</p> <p>Entry Category (check one):</p> <p>___ Barrel* ___ Cheddar</p> <p>___ Misc. (Please indicate type of cheese below)</p> <p>_____</p> <p><small>*Barrel cheeses require a \$50 entry fee. Please remit payment to: NCCIA 8665 Summit Peak Way #112 Ooltewah, TN 37363</small></p> <div>Space reserved for Contest Superintendent</div>	<p>(Insert card between top box flaps as you close the package)</p> <p>NCCIA CHEESE CONTEST IDENTIFICATION CARD</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Cheese Plant/Location _____</p> <p>Email Address _____</p> <p>Date of Manufacture _____</p> <p>Entry Category (check one):</p> <p>___ Barrel* ___ Cheddar</p> <p>___ Misc. (Please indicate type of cheese below)</p> <p>_____</p> <p><small>*Barrel cheeses require a \$50 entry fee. Please remit payment to: NCCIA 8665 Summit Peak Way #112 Ooltewah, TN 37363</small></p> <div>Space reserved for Contest Superintendent</div>
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