

Quartzsite's 5th Annual

Great! Salsa

Off

Competition Date

May 9th 4pm-6pm & May 10th, 2025 10am-1pm

Competition Location

Quartzsite Community Center

Qualifications

A team may be one to three persons. All teams must complete the La Paz County Food Handlers Class. Each team may produce up to three entries for judging. Each team must post any potential allergy inducing ingredients that are included in their salsa. Each Team will pay \$5 for an entry fee. All proceeds will go to cover cost, and all profits will support teens in Quartzsite.

Awards

Trophies will be awarded for:
Best Overall, Hottest, Tastiest, Best One Hour Salsa, Best Guac, & Best Table

Contestant Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Description of Salsa to be Entered: _____

Memorandum of Agreement:

I certify that I have read a copy of the official rules and that I agree to abide by them. I understand that a violation may disqualify my team from the competition and any awards.

Team Name (optional) - _____

Team Member(s) (not the leader) - _____

Team Leader Signature - _____

Team Leader Printed Name - _____

Return this form to:
Arise Alliance Church
C/O Great Salsa Off
PO Box 2817
Quartzsite, AZ 85346

Or by email

quartzsitealliance@gmail.com

Competition Rules

Participants:

- Anyone above the age of 8 years old can participate.
- Participants under the age of 18 years must have an adult participating with them.
- Participants must fill out the Contestant form and return it to the Arise Alliance Church as soon as possible to guarantee a place at the competition.
- Each Participant of a team must have a current La Paz County Food Handlers card.
- Participants must provide their own fresh ingredients, and preparation equipment.

Food Preparation:

- Participants must arrive and check in no later than 4pm on Friday May 9th, and 10am on Saturday May 10th at the venue.
- Each team member must present their La Paz County Food Handlers card at check-in.
- Each team must prepare their salsa in front of contest officials.
- All salsas must use fresh ingredients; if an official sees ingredients that look rotten, the team will have to buy new ingredients or be disqualified.
- Enough Salsa should be made to give 150 people a few dips for tasting.
- On May 9th at 4pm, each team will have two hours to prepare up to three salsas for the May 10th competition.
- On May 10th at 10am, each team may prepare a one hour salsa entry.
- No team will be allowed to start salsa preparation before the official signal to start is given.
- No ingredient may be pre-cooked or assembled prior to the official start.
- Community tasting will commence at 11am on Saturday May 10th.
- Only official, registered team members are allowed in the cooking area.
- At least one team member must remain in the preparation area at all times.
- Teams may sell pre-prepared salsa, during the tasting portion of the competition. Pre-prepared salsa must be in sealed containers with labels.
- Teams may take home any remaining food or salsa when the competition ends.

Food Safety:

- Each team member must have an up-to-date La Paz County Food Handlers card, that must be presented at check-in on the date of the competition.
- If you do not have a current card, you may visit, <https://www.statefoodsafety.com/food-handler/arizona/la-pazcounty>, to obtain one. Or you may contact Nancy Nichols at 1-360-635-1367.
- All team members must wear gloves and have their hair up while handling food. Competition officials will provide gloves.

Check-in & Set Up:

- Check-in and set up time will begin at **3:30pm on Friday May 9th** and **9:30am on May 10th** at the **Quartzsite Community Center**; located at **295 E Chandler St, Quartzsite, AZ 85346**.
- Depending on the number of Contestants, the competition officials will provide either a 48x30 or a 96x30 inch preparation and display area.
- Containers for salsa distribution, gloves for salsa preparation, disposable masks, and chips will be provided by Arise Alliance Church.
- Teams are responsible for supplying all of their own cooking utensils, additional prep table.
- Each team is responsible for keeping the contest area clean during the competition.

Judging

- Each community member that desires to participate will receive four tickets, red for hottest salsa, blue for tastiest, green for best overall, and yellow for best one hour salsa, and an additional ticket for best Table Decorations will be added this year.
- Each team will have a container in which community participants may place one or more of their tickets.
- A ticket translates into one vote.
- Community tasting will begin at 11am and end at 12:30pm on Saturday May **10th**.
- At the end of the competition, the officials will tally up each team's ticket(s), and award trophies accordingly.

Clean-Up

- Teams are responsible for cleaning up their own area.
- All ingredients must be disposed of, or taken home by the team.
- Arise Alliance Church will provide garbage bags for the disposal of ingredients and excess salsa.
- Teams are responsible for putting away the tables and chairs they used for the competition.
- Please leave your preparation area cleaner than you found it.

Disqualifications

- Teams will be disqualified for not following the above rules.
- Each team member will receive one warning from an official before being disqualified.
- A Team member may be disqualified for the following:
 - Starting earlier than the official start of the competition.
 - Not presenting a current La Paz County Food Handlers Card.
 - Not having hair kept up while handling food.
 - Not wearing food handling gloves in the preparation area.
 - Not washing hands after using the restroom.
 - Using rotten ingredients.
 - Be aggressive, vulgar, or rude to their fellow competitors or community participants.
 - Sabotaging another competitor's entry.
 - Trying to "fix" the competition in their favor.

Sponsorship

- This competition is sponsored by Arise Alliance Church to bring the community together during the summer months. Arise Alliance Church is not responsible for theft, damage of personal property, or injury to any team members or any team members' family or guests.