

DEPARTMENT 15 – HOME and DAIRY PRODUCTS

**SECTION 7 – HOMEMADE CHOCOLATE CAKE CONTEST
CLASS 1**

2026 HOMEMADE CHOCOLATE CAKE CONTEST

RULES:

1. Open to any individual **amateur** baker who is a Pennsylvania resident. One entry per person.
2. **Entrants may NOT have won 1st place in this Homemade Chocolate Cake contest at any other fair in 2026.**
3. Entire entry must be **made from scratch**. No pre-packaged ingredients may be used (*ex: pre-made mixes, cookie dough, pie crust, frosting, etc.*) **All ingredients and decorations must be edible.**
4. Cake recipe **must feature chocolate or cocoa** as a main ingredient.
5. Entry must be **a layered chocolate cake**.
6. Entry **must be frosted** and frosting must also be made from “scratch” (no pre-packaged frosting).
7. The entire cake entry must be submitted for judging **on cardboard or other food safe disposable setting**.
(All pans, plates and dishes are considered to be disposable and will not be returned.)
8. Recipes must be submitted with the entry, printed on one side of 8-1/2” x 11” paper. Recipe must list all ingredients, quantities, and the preparation instructions. Entrant’s name, address and phone number must be printed on the back side of all the pages.
(All recipes and cakes will become the property of the Fair or PA Farm Show and will not be returned.)
9. Refrigeration is not available at the fair or PA Farm Show. Entries that require refrigeration after baking must indicate so in the recipe. Those entries will not be sold, auctioned or otherwise distributed for consumption after judging for food safety reasons.
10. Judging Criteria:

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Flavor (aroma, taste, good balance of flavorings)	35 points
Inside Characteristics (even grain, evenly baked; free from air pockets).....	25 points
Frosting (taste, texture, even color)	20 points
Overall Appearance (surface, shape, finished size, color)	15 points
Creativity	10 points
TOTAL	100 points



FAIR PRIZES: 1st = \$80 2nd = \$60 3rd = \$40 4th = \$20

First Place Winner is eligible for the 2027 PA FARM SHOW competition.

Premiums for the 2025 PA FARM SHOW competition

First Place - \$500 Second Place - \$250 Third Place - \$100

Fourth Place – Rosette Ribbon

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Sponsor: PA State Association of County Fairs

