**Voted Best Pizza in Town Contest:**

**Sponsored by the Elmwood Park Chamber of Commerce (NEPCC) and the Resident’s Assistance Program (RAP)**

**Event Overview:** The **"Voted Best Pizza in Town"** contest is a highly anticipated community event celebrating the best local pizzerias in Elmwood Park, while raising funds to support the **Resident's Assistance Program (RAP)** and the **Elmwood Park Chamber of Commerce (NEPCC)**. Local pizzerias will compete in various categories for the coveted "Best Pizza in Town" title, while helping raise funds to support both the food pantry and the Chamber of Commerce.

**Event Details:**

**Date:** Tuesday June 17th, 2025
**Location:** TBD
**Time:** 5:30-8:00pm
**Entry Fee for Pizzerias:** $50 per pizzeria, $25 for locally addressed establishments
**General Admission:** $10 (includes 5 each of People’s choice and tasting tickets)
**Additional Tasting Tickets:** $2 each (each ticket allows the purchase of a slice from any participating pizzeria)
**50/50 Raffle:** Tickets available for purchase at the event

**Goals:**

* **Raise funds** for the Resident's Assistance Program (RAP) to support local families in need.
* **Raise funds** for the Elmwood Park Chamber of Commerce to continue supporting local businesses and community programs.
* **Bring together the community** for a fun and tasty event that celebrates local pizza, while giving everyone a chance to vote for their favorite pizzeria.

**How to Raise Money:**

1. **Pizzeria Entry Fees:**
	* Each pizzeria must pay an entry fee of $50 ($25 for locally establishment) to participate. These funds will go directly to the NEPCC.
2. **Ticket Sales for General Admission:**
	* General admission tickets will be sold for $10, which includes 5 tasting tickets to sample pizzas from the competitors and 5 People’s Choice tickets.
3. **Additional Tasting Tickets:**
	* Additional tasting tickets will be available for purchase at $2 each.
4. **People's Choice Voting:**
	* Visitors will vote for their favorite pizza by distributing **voting tickets** (purchased at $1 each). The "People's Choice" winner will be decided by the equivalent of a "tricky tray" in which votes are distributed across multiple contestants for maximum excitement and participation.
5. **Silent Auction: Or tricky tray of donated baskets**
	* A silent auction with prizes donated by local businesses will be held, with proceeds benefiting both RAP and the Chamber of Commerce.
6. **Food and Beverage Sales:**
	* In addition to the pizza slices, beverages (water, soda, local craft beer) will be sold with a percentage of sales going toward the fundraising efforts.
7. **50/50 Raffle:**
	* A 50/50 raffle will be held to raise funds for both RAP and the Chamber of Commerce. Half of the raffle proceeds will go to the winner, and half will be split equally between the food pantry and the Chamber.
8. **Sponsorships:**
	* Local businesses, including non-pizzerias, can sponsor various aspects of the event to increase their visibility and support the local community.

**Sponsorship Opportunities:**

1. **"The Whole Pie" Keystone Sponsor:**
	* **$1,500 (First Come, First Served)**
	* This exclusive sponsorship is for one sponsor who will receive prominent placement alongside all event advertising, banners, and signage. Their logo and name will be featured as the primary sponsor in all promotional materials.
	* **Includes:**
		+ Free entry tickets (5)
		+ Free People’s Choice and Tasting tickets (15)
		+ Recognition as the primary sponsor at the event and in all pre-event publicity
2. **"The Big Sipper" Secondary Sponsor:**
	* **$750 (First Come, First Served)**
	* This sponsor will be responsible for sponsoring the free refreshments station for all event attendees, ensuring access to drinks during the event. The sponsor's logo will be placed under the Keystone Sponsor's logo across all advertising and at the beverage station.
	* **Includes:**
		+ Free entry tickets (3)
		+ Free People’s Choice and Tasting tickets (10)
		+ Logo placement at beverage station and across all event materials
3. **Tertiary Keystone Sponsor:**
	* **$500**
	* A sponsor for this tier will have their logo displayed at all condiment and cutlery tables, as well as at the voting stations. **Note:** The Tertiary Keystone Sponsor cannot be a competing pizzeria.
	* **Includes:**
		+ Free entry tickets (2)
		+ Free People’s Choice and Tasting tickets (5)
		+ Logo placement at condiment, cutlery, and voting stations
4. **Award Ceremony Sponsor:**
	* **$250**
	* This sponsor will be recognized during the award ceremony and receive visibility on all ceremony-related signage and materials.
	* **Includes:**
		+ Free entry tickets (2)
		+ Free People’s Choice and Tasting tickets (2)
		+ Recognition at the ceremony
5. **Additional Sponsor Levels:**
	* **$100**: Sponsor’s name displayed on event posters and website. Includes 1 free entry tickets and 2 People’s Choice tickets.

**Sponsors are encouraged to distribute their bonus tickets to family, friends and staff to encourage maximum participation**.

**Event Categories and Judging:**

Pizzerias will compete in the following categories:

* **Best Overall Pizza** (1st Grand Prize)
* **Best Crust**
* **Best Sauce**
* **Best Innovative Topping**
* **Best Plant-Based Option**
* **Best Garlic Knots**
* **Best Plain Slice** (Can include Plant-Based options)
* **People’s Choice Award** (2nd Grand Prize)
* **Celebrity Judges Award:** (3rd Grand Prize)

*There are two Grand Prize opportunities.* *All winners will receive an award: a plaque and/or window cling showcasing the category they won and the year.* *Grand Prize winners receive the equivalent of their entry fee as an award, as determined by the NEPCC Board. No cash substitutions.*

**Rules for Pizzerias:**

1. **Registration Deadline:**
	* Pizzerias must register by June 10th, no later than one week prior to be included in the event.
2. **Pizza Requirements:**
	* Each pizzeria should bring 10 full pizzas (or the equivalent amount of slices) for tasting. Small slices and enough for everyone you would like to have the opportunity to try and vote for you. We expect between 100-200 people to attend at minimum.
	* Contestants must maintain their own supply and access to any pizza they want to be judged or voted on.
	* All food must be made on-premises and made fresh within two hours at most, of arrival time. No pre-made or store-bought items are allowed.
	* A comprehensive list of ingredients, including allergen information (gluten, dairy, nuts) and religious or dietary preferences (halal, kosher, vegetarian, vegan), must be provided for each pizza.
	* Garlic knots should be submitted for judging if they are part of your restaurant’s signature offering.
	* All participants are subject to approval from the local health department. The NEPCC is not responsible for quality, qualifications, or representations by participants.
3. **Set-Up Time:**
	* All participants must arrive early enough to set up and receive approval from the health department. Officials may be on site to ensure adherence.
	* Contestants are free to provide additional signature dishes or sides at their discretion.
4. **Taste Testing:**
	* All pizza samples must be bite-sized and ready for serving at the event’s start time.

**Visitor Experience:**

* **Voting Process for People's Choice Award:**
	+ Upon entry, visitors will receive a small book of tickets, which they can use to vote for their favorite pizzerias in any category. Additional tickets can be purchased for $1 donation each. Implemented like a tricky tray.
	+ The "People's Choice" winner will be announced at the award ceremony.
* **50/50 Raffle:**
	+ Tickets will be sold throughout the event, with half the proceeds going to the winner and half split equally between RAP and the Chamber.

**Registration Form:**

**Voted Best Pizza in Town Contest - Pizzeria Registration Form**
Please submit this form by June 10th, 2025

**Pizzeria Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Person:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Web/Menu Address:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Address of Pizzeria:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature Pizza Name (Optional):** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Pizza (please circle):** Traditional | Gourmet | Plant-Based | Gluten-Free | Other: \_\_\_

**Number of Pizzas to Bring (10 pizzas or equivalent recommended):** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Special Ingredients (allergen information):** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Religious/Dietary Preferences:**
(Please check if applicable)

* ☐ Halal
* ☐ Kosher
* ☐ Vegetarian
* ☐ Plant-Based (Vegan)
* ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Entry Fee Payment: Includes Complimentary membership to the NEPCC for 6 months**

* ☐ $50 Visitors (Based outside the Borough of Elmwood Park)
* ☐ $25 Hometown (Locally addressed, Elmwood Park based)

**Tasting Tickets:** Number of additional tasting tickets requested at time of registration.

* ☐ $2 Single ticket ☐ $5 Single tasting ticket and three (3) People’s Choice
* ☐ $10-Book of Ten (10) ☐ $20 Ten (10) tasting & Ten (10) People’s choice tickets
* Would you like additional apparel for your establishment? Y /N

Please make checks payable to NEPCC- Total amount Enclosed: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Agree to Guidelines:**
I, the undersigned, agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Voted Best Pizza in Town contest and authorize the use of my restaurant’s name and photos for promotional purposes by the NEPCC.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Expectation:

Income Expense

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Registration ~$375 | Space rental- Expected minimal to no cost |
| Guests range: 100-200. ~$1500 | Insurance-Single Day- ~$100 |
| Additional tickets ~$500 | Marketing and Ads- ~$300 |
| Sponsorships ~$3,300 | Setup/Admin from NEPCC- ~$200\* |
| Raffle / Tricky tray ~$500 each RAP/NEPCC | Awards- ~$200 |

Net gain of ~$5,875, of which approximately $2,750 would go to the RAP and $3,125 would go to the NEPCC. NEPCC will secure all expenses and setup costs. \*

We will use boosted ads, traditional print, word of mouth and meeting announcements through the Borough Council, HOA and Chamber.

We (NEPCC) will offer condiments and free light refreshments (water, tea, coffee, generic soda) but encourage a sponsor table to sell premium refreshments.

\* If there is no beverage sponsor, the NEPCC and RAP volunteer will have a joint table to ‘sell’ for donations, all refreshments but still offer that they are free to those who cannot donate. The proceeds of which would be split equally among hosts in addition to the above expected returns.

Check-in table will have all participants complete menus and an “about me” profile next to their tricky tray vote box. The RAP will have a separate table for their own purposes, fundraising and outreach, as well as a drop off for donations. Membership forms for the chamber will be made available.

All fundraising subject to volunteer availability and getting out to visit the locations.

This **Voted Best Pizza in Town** contest is a fantastic opportunity to support both the Elmwood Park community and local businesses while enjoying delicious pizza! We look forward to seeing you there!

Information about recent pizza-related events in Elmwood Park, NJ:

* **Pizza Town USA** hosted a contest with two categories: one for children aged 3 and under, and a headliner contest. Participants were encouraged to sign up early for discounted rates.
* **Francesca's Pizza** celebrated its 8th anniversary at 246 Market St, Elmwood Park, NJ. The event featured festivities and special offerings.
* **Saint Leo's Catholic School** participated in a Fall Harvest Celebration on Market Street, selling soups, pumpkins, and mums. The church complemented the event with food sales and a beer garden.
* **Pizza Bowl IV** was an annual contest organized by Jersey Pizza Joints to identify the best pizza in New Jersey. Voting commenced in December 2023.
* **Francesca's Pizza** also participated in the New York Pizza Festival, showcasing their offerings from Elmwood Park.
* **Dave Portnoy of Barstool Sports** recently evaluated two renowned pizza shops sharing the same location in New Jersey, aiming to determine which offers the superior slice.
* **Mangiamo Pizza Restaurant** in Paramus, near Elmwood Park, offers online ordering, catering services, and private party packages. citeturn0search6
* **Pizza Town USA** in Elmwood Park is praised for its tasty pizza, especially as a late-night option.
* **Squared Pizza** ran a contest giving away four $25 gift cards to winners. The contest concluded on a Thursday night, and the pizzeria operates from Tuesday to Saturday.

Here's a video script and storyboard concept for "Voted Best Pizza in Town" contest promotion:

**Video Title: "Who Has the Best Pizza in Elmwood Park?"**

**Length:** 25-30 seconds
**Tone:** Fun, energetic, and community-focused

**🎬 OPENING SCENE**

**[Visual: A sizzling close-up of a fresh pizza coming out of a wood-fired oven, cheese bubbling.]**
🎤 **Voiceover (optional, North Jersey accent):**
*"New Jersey is famous for its pizza… but who’s got the BEST slice in Elmwood Park?"*

**🍕 MID-SCENE: THE CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT**

**[Visual: A split-screen of different delicious pizzas—thin crust, Sicilian, grandma pie, etc.]**
🎤 **Voiceover:**
*"On* ***June 17, 2025****, the battle of the ovens is ON! The ‘Voted Best Pizza in Town’ contest is coming to Elmwood Park, and YOU get to decide the winner!"*

**🏆 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & FUN**

**[Visual: Shots of families, foodies, and friends enjoying slices, smiling, and rating pizzas on scorecards.]**
🎤 **Voiceover:**
*"Come taste, vote, and celebrate the pizza that puts North Jersey on the map!"*

**📍 EVENT DETAILS & CALL TO ACTION**

**[Visual: A lively shot of a park with a crowd, booths of pizzerias, and a banner reading ‘Best Pizza in Town – Vote Today!’]**
🎤 **Voiceover:**
*"Join us at [event location] in Elmwood Park on* ***June 17****! Bring your appetite and your opinion—because the best pizza in town is waiting to be crowned!"*

**🔥 CLOSING SCENE**

**[Visual: A dramatic slow-motion cheese pull from a hot pizza slice.]**
🎤 **Voiceover:**
*"Who will take home the title? Find out June 17! 🍕🔥"*