

Hi All,

Thanks to all who made last year a great year for tailgating. Hope everyone survived the “earthquake “ today. Please take time to read ALL the information below.

As most of you all are aware, we had an unfortunate incident at the last tailgate where the wind destroyed the canopies. We will be in the future more aware of the wind and will be putting the canopy tops on once arriving in the morning when there is fear of wind. Since most of the canopies were not repairable, I have purchased new canopies. At the end of last season a few individuals gave some money to be used towards the purchase of new canopies. I’m asking those who are able to contribute, consider giving a little to the “canopy fund” as we had to replace all 6 canopies.

I’m suggesting a new tradition for our tailgate, we should have a “drink” of the tailgate. Every week someone or some people are responsible for bringing that special drink. The people who take a particular week will choose the drink to be provided. We could have a Margarita, Mojito, or a Hurricane drink for the tailgate. If UVA was in Blacksburg this year, I would suggest doing a wine and cheese theme. Please let me know if you would be interested in signing up.

The **BIG** thing I am going to request is more people need to help out more with the main dish area by both providing and also fixing during the tailgating. We **CAN NOT** have the same people to provide the main meal or larger dishes and then incur those costs! I also would like to have some volunteers to help out with the grilling/turkey frying/shrimp boil! I’m suggesting that we start a mentoring/shadowing program to start training other people who would like do some of the cooking. It’s not fair to have the same people at the grill and not be able to enjoy the tailgate! I believe most people are willing to help, but might be hesitant as they are unsure exactly what to do. If you haven’t fried a turkey or done a shrimp boil, this is a great opportunity to learn. Maybe next year take the lead but still have support from others. I promise it will be much appreciated and I know no one will complain how you decide to prepare or cook the meal. Once again please let me know if you would like to help out for a week and learn!

I am not setting the main meal schedule at this time as I would like some feedback for ideas or volunteers. I’m making the suggestion we do our annual hamburgers and hot dogs for the first game, but I’m looking for some other people to step up!!

I have decided to continue a suggested amount for financial contributions to the overhead costs of the tailgate (paper products, gas (propane & gas for generator), water, soda, alcohol, trailer parking fee, etc.). This **DOES NOT** cover the cost of the food and it is still expected that everyone will bring food to the tailgate. I am suggesting \$10 per person, per game to cover all the expenses. **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU PAY WHEN YOU ATTEND**, there should be a collection jar around the food table!! If you tailgate for all the games, an individual may contribute \$50(for 6 games and made payable by 9/17) and will cover that individual for the entire season. Some might be reluctant to pay up front because they might miss a game but will have a family member/friend take their place. If this is the case, your substitute would not have to contribute for that game. Example: Susanna and Bryan decide to contribute \$50 each for the season. Bryan is unable to make the second game, but Bryan gives his ticket to Cathy to attend the second game. Since Cathy is taking the place of Bryan, there is no need for Cathy to contribute \$10 when she comes to the game. I realize this system is not perfect, especially for non-alcoholic drinkers and those under 21. For those tailgaters, I am suggesting a contribution of \$6 a game or \$30 for the season. Please note, I do not want to exclude anyone who can not afford these costs. If

you do not feel that you can afford the suggested amount, I am open to alternative arrangements (helping out a little more with the tear down or setup of the tailgate). I would be happy to discuss these options with you confidentially if you are interested. Shoot me an email or give me a call if you would like to discuss.

If you would like to pay in advance, please feel free to mail checks to or give to me in person:

Rusten Bailey
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Ashburn, VA 20147
571-436-2065

I am asking to have people sign-up to be responsible for setting up and tearing down the tailgates. Last year was great and I appreciate everyone helped clean up. There will be a link on the webpage for this, but please let me know which game/games you will be able to help and I will put your name down. Please remember cleaning up is a part of the experience and people NEED TO HELP! I personally would like to thank everyone who has helped on the Friday evenings before the games for setting up the canopies.

The keg choice will be Miller Lite or Coors Light as this type keg fits the best in the kegerator.

I will be providing the following alcoholic beverages:

Bud Light, Coors Light, Mic Ultra, Corona, Heineken, Smirnoff Ice
Flavors, and Mike's Hard Lemonade & various Flavors.

* If there is another beer choice others would like, please let me know.

I will also be providing the following non-alcoholic beverages:

Sprite, Dr. Pepper, Diet Pepsi, & Water
Both Regular and Diet: Coke, Mountain Dew

*I'm discontinuing supplying regular Pepsi unless someone requests Pepsi

Please note that I will do my best to have all choices of beverages under the canopy either in the party fridge or in a cooler, if you don't see your choice, please check the refrigerator in the trailer.

I will continue using evite for keeping track of who is coming. Please remember that we need to know by the Wednesday afternoon before the game if you plan on attending.

As most of you all know, I try and make at least one new improvement to the tailgating season each year. A couple years ago we added the LCD TV in the trailer, then the LCD under the canopy and honda generator, the mister and last year tried to use the extended gas tank for generator and new aluminum panels. This year we have the new canopies, new generator box top, improved extended gas tank line, and still working on getting some graphics.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Blacksburg!

Go Hokies!

www.vtcagetailg8ors.com

Please feel free to forward to anyone I may have missed!