

Fortuna Downtown Merchant Association –

APPLE PIE-EATING COMPETITION

ACCIDENT WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY FORM

1. ASSUMPTION OF RISKS (SOLID FOOD & NO-HANDS HAZARDS)

I understand that participating in a speed pie-eating contest is an inherently dangerous activity. I acknowledge that eating large quantities of solid food at a rapid pace—particularly without the use of utensils or hands—carries severe and unique health risks. These include, but are not limited to: **choking on solid apple chunks or firm pastry crusts, airway blockage, nasal and pulmonary aspiration (inhaling food particles or spices into the lungs), temporary suffocation**, gastrointestinal distress, stomach tearing, nausea, vomiting, and death. I knowingly, freely, and voluntarily assume all such risks, both known and unknown.

2. ALLERGEN & SPICE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I understand that the apple pies provided contain ingredients that may cause allergic reactions or physical irritation, including **wheat, gluten, dairy, eggs, cinnamon, and nutmeg**, and may have been prepared in a facility that processes **peanuts and tree nuts**. I acknowledge that inhaling baking spices during rapid consumption can cause severe coughing fits or respiratory distress. It is my sole responsibility to confirm the ingredients before competing.

3. MEDICAL ACCORDANCE & PHYSICAL FITNESS

I certify that I am in excellent physical health and have no medical conditions (including but not limited to respiratory issues, asthma, swallowing disorders, or severe allergies) that would make my participation dangerous. I authorize event staff to seek emergency medical treatment on my behalf if an injury

occurs, and I agree to be solely responsible for any resulting medical costs.

4. RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS

I, for myself and my heirs, hereby release, waive, and forever discharge Fortuna Downtown Merchant Association, Apple Harvest Festival, City of Fortuna, all sponsors, volunteers, and their respective directors, officers, and employees from any and all liability, claims, demands, or causes of action arising out of negligence, personal injury, illness, or property damage sustained during this event.

5. RIGHT TO DISQUALIFY

I agree to follow all contest rules. I acknowledge that the event coordinators have the absolute right to stop my participation and disqualify me at any moment during the competition if they judge my physical condition to be at risk, and I will comply immediately.

6. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AGE

I certify that I am 18 years of age or older on the date of this event, and I am legally competent to sign this agreement.

Participant Name (Printed): _____

Participant Signature: _____

Date: _____