



Hello GVGO Members,

It's that time again—tomato season is here! We're now accepting sign-ups for the 2026 Mike DeMars Memorial Tomato Contest, held in honour of our good friend and fellow grower, Mike "Zeke" DeMars.

This fun, team-based contest is open to all paid GVGO members at no extra cost. To join, simply email Bob MacKenzie at [mackenzi@bmts.com](mailto:mackenzi@bmts.com) before May 23rd to get your name on the list.

**How it works:**

- Growers will be placed into teams of 3 by Bob, based on past results to keep things fair and competitive.
- Each grower may enter multiple tomatoes, but only their largest two will count (maximum of 6 tomatoes per team).
- Tomatoes must be weighed on digital scales and submitted with clear photos showing all sides and the weight.
- Tomatoes over 7.5 lbs. must be weighed on a certified third-party scale (e.g., a local business), with photo verification.
- Entries from GPC-sanctioned weigh-offs are eligible, but results must still be submitted to Bob.
- Final submission deadline will be announced later in the season.

**Prizes:**

- 🏆 Winning team: \$50 per member
- 🏆 Heaviest overall single tomato: \$150 bonus prize
- 🏆 \$350 bonus prize if an officially recognized world record tomato is entered in the contest

This is a great way to challenge yourself, connect with fellow growers, and celebrate Mike's legacy. Let's make this year's contest bigger and better than ever!

If you have questions or want to sign up, contact Bob at [mackenzi@bmts.com](mailto:mackenzi@bmts.com) by May 23rd.

New participants: please include your personal best tomato weight (if available). Returning growers—Bob has your info on file.

Good luck, and happy growing!

– GVGO