

Town of Fort Myers Beach
2022 July 4th Parade
General Rules and Regulations

- 1.** All parade entries and participants are selected by the parade committee based on “show and entertainment value” offering a diverse mix to the overall parade and theme. Selection criteria is: (a) show and entertainment value of unit (b) diversity within parade group and (c) completeness of application. Understanding that a parade is an entertainment medium, the contribution of each unit is critical. Artistic beauty, use of color, special effects, originality, rider personnel, marching/dancing skills, visual appearance and holiday spirit are all considerations for selection by the committee. Costuming and decoration of all units is expected. Because of this “Total Show Concept”, THIS PARADE IS NOT TO BE A PLATFORM FOR POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS/ISSUES OR TARGETED SPECIAL GROUPS.
- 2.** All walking and marching parade participants must be a minimum of 6 years of age and supervised by an adult.
- 3.** Lineup position cannot be changed once assigned.
- 4.** Parade units (especially floats) may arrive after 7:30am in the staging area for final decorating. Due to space availability and safety for participants, there will be only ONE support vehicle allowed into the staging area for each parade unit. Support vehicles must UNLOAD and proceed to provided parking area. ALL SUPPORT VEHICLES MUST LEAVE STAGING AREA BY 2:00pm.
- 5.** No vehicles and/or riders are allowed to leave or be removed from any unit once the parade has started.
- 6.** All units and participants must be in position for line up and parade ready by 9:00am with the exception of bands.
- 7.** All buses, horse trailers, vans, and their drivers must remain in the staging area and be ready by 9:45am when instructions are given to proceed to the dispersal area by Sheriff escorted caravan. Drivers are to stay with their vehicle in the dispersal and wait for their unit.
- 8.** All audio, towing, and motorized vehicles, with the exception of antique vehicles, must be decorated in the holiday spirit.
- 9.** No excessive horn blowing or sirens is allowed by any unit.
- 10.** Any unit using sound must play one or more of the following: traditional holiday music, contemporary music of all genres will be suitable for all ages and contain no profanity. All music selections will be submitted in advance with your application to be reviewed by the parade committee.
- 11.** This is a moving parade. PLEASE No stopping to perform at any time during the parade route.
- 12.** All vehicles in the unit must arrive with a vehicle pass, which will be issued to the Unit Coordinator. No one will be admitted to the staging area and the parade itself without a pass. The distribution of these passes is the responsibility of the person signing this application (Unit Coordinator). Passes must be placed on the dashboard of the driver’s side window.
- 13.** All unsafe or disabled units will be removed from the parade route and not allowed to re-enter.

- 14.** Blatant sound advertising or signage will not be allowed. Sponsor signs may be at the front or rear of the float/unit and may be 18"x36" or proportioned to the overall size of the unit.
- 15.** Any profanity, verbal or otherwise, by persons or on vehicles in the lineup area or on parade route will not be tolerated.
- 16.** During the parade units are to maintain a safe distance of at least 10' from the unit in front of them. Vehicles are to travel to the "center" of the roadway or as directed by Recreation staff or emergency personnel. Vehicles must be in good mechanical and braking condition and must have an adequate supply of gas to run engine before parade and the entire length of the parade route. Units are to maintain a safe speed of 5 mph and will watch for the unit in front of and behind them to maintain a smooth flow.
- 17.** There is a speed limit of 5 mph for all units including motorcycles and law enforcement units.
- 18.** Units may distribute candy and merchandise. However, DO NOT encourage parade viewers to come into the roadway to pick up or be handed items from your unit. Be safe.
- 19.** Any person who possesses or is "under the influence" of alcohol or drugs will be violating a Town of Fort Myers Beach ordinance and will be removed from the lineup area and the parade itself.
- 20.** The parade will be held rain or shine, unless conditions deemed dangerous to the participants are present.
- 21.** Parade official's instructions in the staging area, on parade route, and in the dispersal area must be followed. The Parade Committee has the right to eliminate any unit from the parade if the instructions are not followed or if any unit is considered unsafe to proceed down the parade route.
- 22.** The Parade Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any entry. The parade Committee reserves the right to pull a unit from the parade for any reason.
- 23.** Parade participants are asked to clean trash or debris from their area prior to beginning the parade.
- 24.** I understand that any rule violation by any member of this group may result in nonacceptance into subsequent parades.
- 25.** Parade rules as listed above have been developed for the safety and enjoyment of participants and spectators.
- 26.** Appropriate dress code must be enforced.