



Stars & Stripes Parade Rules and Regulations

1. The FOX West Texas Stars & Stripes Parade does reserve the right to accept or reject any parade application.
2. The Parade staff reserves the right to remove any unit from the Parade line-up or staging area for any cause or reason without advanced notice.
3. **A Release Form/ Hold Harmless (HH) agreement**, must be signed by each entry as a requirement for participating in the Parade. All HH agreements must be signed by the main group contact or responsible group supervisor. The Hold Harmless must be provided when registering.
4. Proof of insurance must be provided for **ALL** vehicles in your group. Insurance must meet the minimal Texas Insurance Coverage requirements. A copy of insurance for the vehicle being used must be provided when registering and have a copy available at the parade.
5. Additions or changes made to parade units post acceptance must be approved by the Parade Coordinator. Parade units with changes that have not been approved will not be allowed on the parade route.
6. Parade participants and unit drivers will follow instruction from the Parade Staff, Volunteers, and the Abilene Police Department. Unit leaders accept responsibility for the actions and behavior of the participants of their entry.
7. **There shall be no use of any social or political material, issue, or candidate.** Improper use of the American Flag is not permitted. Proper use of the Flag is based upon United States Code, Title 4; §1 - §10.
8. All vehicles in the parade must have parking/running lights on at all times. The driver of the float must be able to see what is in front of their vehicle at all times and watch for spectators crossing the parade line. There will be some crowd control, but the driver is responsible for being aware of their surroundings.
9. **No walking groups parallel to ANY vehicle or trailer.** Walking groups must follow behind a minimum of 3 feet and may not make physical contact with spectators of the parade (i.e. handshakes, high fives). Walking groups must keep pace with the parade and stay within the boundaries of the parade line at all times. **We will not allow walkers under the age of 12, as they have trouble keeping up.**
10. **For everyone's safety, Parade participants or walkers are NOI allowed to distribute [throw/hand out] candy, pamphlets, or any other materials along the parade route. Participants found tossing, handing out or receiving anything (candy or otherwise) to spectators will be removed from the parade route and are subject to the laws of the City of Abilene.** Violators of this rule will also be excluded from future FOX West Texas Parades.
11. Participants must keep pace with the parade line. All units must maintain forward motion during the parade. There should be **no counter marching, demonstrations or maneuvers that would be contrary to the forward progress of the parade.** A set pace must be maintained at all times to keep the parade on schedule.
12. Parade line-up numbers and maps will be sent out in **late JUNE**. Make sure the number is on the **Driver's Side door** of your entry. If other (walking group/horse etc.), please place number on the **person to the front left** side of your group.
13. If there is a problem with your unit, or your vehicle has a malfunction, move off to the side of the road out of the parade line. A parade Committee member will assist you as soon as possible.

14. **DO NOT BE LATE TO THE LINE-UP AREA.** Arrive no later than **5:15pm** to get your float/group in line. You will receive a map of the line-up area. Follow it and park where your number is located, facing the direction stated. You may show up early to the line-up as long as local businesses are not impeded or interrupted by your entry. **Streets will be blocked off at 5:30 p.m.**
15. **NO PARKING in or driving through the Parade line-up area.** This area can get congested, and space is limited. Extra traffic does not allow bigger floats to maneuver to their designated parking spot. **Have your guests and parents park elsewhere and then walk to the line-up area.** If your group consists of many small children, it is suggested that you meet earlier at an accessible location and then walk over to the float staging area as a group. IT WILL BE CROWDED AND YOU WILL BE ASKED TO MOVE. Please do so promptly.
16. Non-participants (family/friends) are not allowed to stay with participants in the line-up area. **Groups must have a responsible adult for children in your unit. Groups must have 1 adult for every 10 children.** This excludes organized bands or performance groups.
17. There will be check-in persons along the line-up area. Look for the people wearing yellow reflective vests, name badges, and carrying a clipboard. They are there to assist you!
18. **Pick-Up:** After completion of the parade route **have a Predetermined Meeting Place** for your group. Be aware the parade will still be moving out of the staging area. **Do Not** impede the parade units in this area. Roads will still be blocked, and parents will not be able to drive in to pick up children. **Group supervisors stay with your group until ALL children have been properly accounted for!**

***** Most Importantly: Have Fun and wave those American Flags! *****