

Douglas County Fair  
Where Urban and Rural Meet



Douglas County Fair Parade Safety Checklist & Rules

1. All floats will be subject to an inspection check for compliance with the Float Safety Requirements (please contact the Douglas County Fair for a copy) prior to commencement of parade. The float safety checklist must be signed and in the possession of the driver at the start of the parade.
2. The parade participants may not have squirt guns, silly string and other items that could lead to crowd control issues.
3. No candy or materials may be thrown from parade vehicles and participants to spectators along the parade route. Parade participants wishing to provide giveaways should have walkers along the float to HAND OUT the giveaways. DO NOT THROW ITEMS INTO THE CROWD.
4. NO stickers are allowed!
5. ONLY elected officials are allowed in the Parade, no campaigning for any candidate, referendum, topic or position is allowed.
6. Parade participants may not jump from or onto a float or motorized vehicle.
7. All participants riding on open floats shall have solid sitting arrangement with hand holds readily available to them. Any standing participants shall have a stabilized body support with buckled safety belt or other means to prevent falling from unit. No person shall be wired or tied to the float. Secured safety rails, barriers, or ropes may be used to prevent a fall from the float. No unsecured riders may be located where they might fall beneath the float, its wheels or between tow vehicle and float (e.g. no seating on rear edge of tow vehicle, fire truck or on front edge of float). If present, children must be under adult supervision and seated at all times when in motion. Riders are to remain on the float once the parade begins and at all time when the float is in motion.

8. No open flames are permitted on parade entries. Open flame displays, roman candles, and fireworks are prohibited on floats and tow vehicles.
9. Generators or other equipment that use flammable fuel are not allowed on the float itself. Generators used to supply electricity to the float should be put in the bed of the pickup or hauling devices at least three feet from the float body. Any generator in a confined space (e.g. pick-up camper shell) shall not have any riders inside same space.
10. At least one type ABC (2A20BC) fire extinguisher is to be located within easy access on each float. Floats will be inspected for fire safety. If there are no fire extinguishers on board, or the float is made of flammable non-approved materials, or there is some other violation the float will be red tagged and not allowed in the parade until these items are corrected.
11. Electrical systems where used for lighting, motorized decorations or other application on a float, electrical wiring must be of a type approved for the use for which it is being employed, shall have sufficient capacity, shall be secured to prevent damage, shall have all connections secured via approved devices (or electrical boxes) and shall be properly fused. Not bare wires or exposed electric connection are permitted.
12. No alcohol is permitted on any parade floats, entries or on-site at the parade line-up. Anyone with alcohol will be asked to leave and will not be allowed to participate in any future Douglas County Fair Parades.
13. Float driver shall have a valid driver's license and be in competent condition to safely operate the vehicle. Driving under the influence of drugs or intoxicants is prohibited. For the safety of float riders, the driver must minimize abrupt starts and stops. The float safety checklist must be in the possession of the driver.
14. Towed and self-propelled floats shall be capable of maintaining a minimum speed of 5 miles per hour during the parade. The speed when float is occupied during parade is limited to a maximum of 10 miles per hour.
15. No tandem trailers or other trailers, where the wheels are in the center of the trailer, are allowed for units that have people on them. The foundation for a tow float is typically a sturdy flat trailer bed with pneumatic wheels. All load supporting areas on the float should be of wood, steel, or other structurally competent material (not

cardboard). Wheels, tires, dollies, axles, bearings of adequate sizes and strength to support the total load of the float are required. Wheels and tires should be in good condition and vehicle brakes sufficient to stop the float when loaded. The authority having jurisdiction with the parade shall have the exclusive right to ban any unsafe vehicle.

16. The hitch used to attach the float to the pulling vehicle shall be factory 'receiver' type or welded pickup style bumper. No "bolt-on" type hitches is allowed. When using a large truck, a 'drop-hitch' must be used and should be at least 12" from hitch to the ground.
17. Floats decorations shall be designed to allow the driver 180 degrees clear vision to the front and sides of the float or tow unit. If 180 degrees vision cannot be provided, a spotter(s) with clear vision of these areas must accompany the float as a guide. Driver shall also have view of (or communication with) float riders in the event of a problem on the float.
18. If horses are entrants in the parade, the parade participant is responsible for all pooperscooper and waste clean up behind the horses.
19. No ticker tape or confetti to be used on the actual parade route by parade participants during the parade due to the creation of fire hazards, engine air-intake problems and clean-up costs.
20. All drivers of floats or motorized vehicles must be able to provide proof of vehicle liability insurance and a valid Nebraska Driver's license.
21. The Douglas County Fair reserves the right to 'veto' or reject any aspect of the parade in its sole discretion, including without limitation if they feel such aspect poses an unreasonable risk of injury or danger to the public. To the extent reasonable, the Douglas County Fair will permit event producers to revise any objectionable part of a plan. Public safety must ultimately be the responsibility of the police department and fire rescue department, and related public agencies.