

Bristol, Rhode Island
233rd Annual Civic, Military, and Fireman's Parade

Parade Rules and Regulations
Wednesday July 4, 2018

1. Participation in the Bristol Fourth of July Parade is by **INVITATION ONLY**. Any individual, group, vehicle, or float attempting to participate without the permission of the Parade Committee will be ejected by the Parade Chairman. This rule applies to uninvited guests who march or attempt to march in the Parade under the guise of a unit that has permission to march. Also only clergy from religious organizations that are members of the United Council of Churches and that have received written invitation from the Fourth of July Committee may march in the Parade.
2. No entry, individual or organization, will be permitted to participate in the Parade without a **signed Waiver of Liability** being executed and returned to the Committee no later than May 1.
3. Only individuals who hold elective office in Federal, State, and/or Local government and have received a written invitation from the Fourth of July Committee may march in the Parade. Officers holding such position are also not permitted to advertise candidacy. No handouts will be permitted.
4. No one under the age of 10 years of age may appear as part of an entry unless accompanied by a parent/or designated adult.
5. All motorized vehicles are subject to inspection by the Bristol Police Department and must provide proof of valid insurance, copy of current driver's license, and updated registration (proof to be mailed to the Parade Chairman PO Box 561, Bristol, RI 02809 by May 1). All vehicles must be approved by the Parade Chairman and are strongly encouraged to carry a "certified" fully charged fire extinguisher that is easily accessible. Please note that all floats must carry an approved, fully charged **fire extinguisher** that is easily accessible.
6. Drivers **MUST** remain with their vehicles at all times prior to and during the parade.
7. Vehicles are limited to one sponsorship sign that must be located in rear of the vehicle. The dimensions of the sign shall NOT exceed 3 feet by 5 feet. Only permanently affixed or painted signs, indicating ownership of the vehicle, may be on the side.
8. Control must be maintained at all times where approved entries involve vehicles or animals. **UNITS THAT INCLUDE ANIMALS MUST PROVIDE WASTE REMOVAL (POOPER SCOOPERS) AT THEIR EXPENSE.**
9. Sound-equipped entries must specify type of equipment, sound and repertoire of songs on application. Music, or other sounds projected must be consistent with the Parade's Patriotic Theme. Sound must be projected from sides only and maintained at a volume low enough so as not to interfere with bands and other marching units participating. The Committee has the right to reserve and limit the number of entries with sound.
10. **THE SHOOTING OF CANNONS, FIRING OF MUSKETS, AND OPEN FLAMES ARE NOT PERMITTED WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE BRISTOL FIRE CHIEF, BRISTOL POLICE CHIEF, AND PARADE CHAIRMAN.** Violators will be removed from the Parade.

11. No entry and/or organization will be permitted to use their participation to promote the winner of a pageant/contest/organization. The current-reigning Miss Fourth of July, Little Miss Fourth of July and their respective courts are the only pageant winners allowed to participate in the parade. Any circumvention of the policy may result in the organization's invitation being withdrawn.
12. Horns, Whistles, and Sirens of any kind are **not permitted**. Candy or items may not be thrown or distributed into the crowd.
13. There will be NO unauthorized stops permitted in the Parade. There will be no stopping allowed for the purpose of performing at either the television cameras or the reviewing stand, unless requested by the Parade Chairman or Reviewing Stand Coordinator. No entry (musical, float, marching unit, etc.) will be allowed to stop and perform for any reason. Violators of this rule may be removed from the Parade line of march and may forfeit payment, if applicable. PARADE CHAIRMAN AND DESIGNATED DIVISION COORDINATORS will have authority to exercise this regulation. There will be no exceptions.
14. The reviewing stand is at the end of the Parade route. Bands/drum corps may half-step through the Reviewing Stand area. Stopping to play or perform is NOT permitted by any entry. Only the Parade Chairman or Reviewing Stand Coordinator can make exceptions to the rule.
15. **The official END of the PARADE route is at the corner of High and State Streets.** Units must continue past State Street before coming to a halt.
16. Units must complete the entire Parade route or be disqualified. In the event of disqualification, awards, or/or payment may be forfeited.
17. The Committee will keep in mind the health, safety, and welfare of participants. Special considerations will be made when the heat index is above 90 degrees including, upon request, allowing vehicles to travel as the back-up with marching units. **However, ultimate responsibility for the safety of participants, including the decision to withdraw from the Parade if necessary, lies with the participants themselves.**
18. All control of the Parade is vested in the Parade Chairman and Bristol Police Chief. Parade Committee personnel, Bristol Police, and Deputies authorized to enforce any and all Parade Rules, Regulations, and noncompliance with Parade Rules, Regulations, and Orders. All regulations will be strictly enforced.

CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN THE PARADE FORMATION AREA AND ON THE PARADE ROUTE IS ILLEGAL BY ORDER OF THE BRISTOL POLICE DEPARTMENT

AT THE END OF THE ROUTE THERE IS A COOLING STATION AVAILABLE