

**BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND'S
234th ANNUAL CIVIC, MILITARY AND FIREMAN'S PARADE**

PARADE RULES AND REGULATIONS

July 4, 2019

1. Participation in the Bristol Fourth of July Parade is by invitation only. Any individual or group attempting to participate without the permission of the Parade Committee will be ejected by the Parade Chairman. This rule also applies to uninvited guests who march or attempt to march in the Parade under the guise of a unit that has permission to march.
2. No entry and/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 1st.
3. 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 Any circumvention of the policy may result in the organization's invitation being withdrawn.
4. 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. Officials holding such position are also not permitted to advertise a candidacy.
5. Political candidates for elective office shall not use the Parade as a means of promoting their candidacy or that of others. Any electioneering materials may only be distributed before the Parade begins or after it ends, and not while any candidate is participating in the Parade.
6. Only clergy from religious organizations that are members of the United Council of Churches and that have received a written invitation from the Fourth of July Committee may march in the Parade.
7. No one under age 10 years of age may appear as part of an entry unless accompanied by an adult.
8. All motorized vehicles are subject to inspection by the Bristol Police Department. 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 are required to carry a "certified" fire extinguisher.
9. 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.
10. Drivers must remain with their vehicles at all times prior to and during the Parade.
11. 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.
12. Sound-equipped entries must specify type of equipment, sound, and repertoire of songs to be used. Sound must be maintained at a volume low enough so as not to interfere with bands/drum corps and other marching units. The Division Coordinators will determine appropriate volume.

13. THE SHOOTING OF CANNONS IS NOT PERMITTED WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE BRISTOL FIRE CHIEF AND BRISTOL POLICE CHIEF. Violators will be removed from the parade.
14. THE SOUNDING OF HORNS, WHISTLES, AND SIRENS IS STRONGLY DISCOURAGED.
15. There will be no distribution or fundraising by any entry. No objects of any kind may be thrown, sprayed, or otherwise distributed to spectators from any entry (*including but not limited to* candy, silly string, snappers, advertisements, pamphlets, etc.) Failure to comply will result in immediate removal from the Parade. POSSESSION OF OR USE OF “CANNED CONFETTI”, “SILLY STRING” or similar products on the Parade route is also a violation of the Bristol Town Code and could result in arrest, conviction, and/or fine.
16. There are no authorized 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. All Division Coordinators will have authority to exercise this regulation. There will be no exceptions.
17. 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 this rule.
18. 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.
19. Units must complete the entire Parade route or be disqualified. In the event of disqualification, awards and/or payment may be forfeited.
20. The Committee will keep in mind the health, safety, and welfare of all participants. Special considerations will be made when the heat index is above 90 degrees including, upon request, allowing vehicles to travel as 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.**
21. Failure to observe the above Parade Rules and Regulations may result in denial of future marching privileges and immediate removal from the Parade Formation Area and/or Parade route.
22. All control of the Parade is vested in the Parade Chairman and the Bristol Police Chief. Parade Committee personnel, Bristol Police, and Deputies are authorized to enforce any and all Parade Rules, Regulations, and Orders. The Parade Chairman has absolute authority to deny entry and/or remove a unit from the Parade for non-compliance with Parade Rules, Regulations, and Orders. All regulations will be strictly enforced. The Parade Chairman has the last word in interpreting the Parade Rules, Regulations, and Orders.

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