



R.O.P.E. Rules of Parade Entry

By participating in the parade, your group and all of its members must comply with the instructions presented in this document, as well as those provided in the time leading up to the parade and on the date of the parade itself. Please read through the below rules carefully; it is your responsibility to understand and communicate this information to participating members of your group. Failure to adhere to these rules may result in dismissal from the Parade.

All permits remain the sole property of Pride Toronto and may be reclaimed by Pride Toronto at any time. All participants in the Pride Parade will adhere to the terms and conditions outlined in Pride Toronto's Parade Terms and Conditions document.

All participants in the Pride Parade are subject to all municipal, provincial and federal laws and/or by-laws. Alcohol and all other controlled substances are not permitted on the parade route. Any individual, group or float found with alcohol or prohibited substances will be removed immediately.

There will be a **mandatory** information session for all group organizers (or their delegate) to attend. This session will explain the route, ensure that all participants are aware of the rules and regulations, and answer any questions participants may have.

Rules and Regulations

Registration

- If your entry wishes to be near/beside another entry, both entries must indicate the request in their applications. Although not a guarantee, we will do our best to accommodate such requests
- Non-registered, unapproved groups will not be permitted to join the parade on the day of the event
- Please complete the registration form as thoroughly as possible, and ensure that your group has access (the username/password) to your application on the registration site so that you can update your permit requests, number of marchers, vehicle length, etc.

Parade Order and Day-of Activities:

- All groups will be given a separate arrival time for their vehicle and marchers (if applicable).
 - Vehicles should aim to arrive as close to their scheduled time as possible; too early or too late can cause significant issues with parade order.
 - Marchers should arrive within 30 minutes of their scheduled time; please do **not** instruct your marchers to arrive earlier than the indicated time, as this can cause issues in the waiting area, and may also result in your group waiting for several hours before marching

- Vehicles and marchers will line-up in different areas, which will be communicated to all participants in the lead-up to the parade. Those riding on the float **must** be on it before it leaves the staging area. **No one will be permitted to board their vehicle at the parade start line; this must be done in the vehicle holding area.**
- In advance of the Parade date, you will receive permits for your vehicle and/or marchers, including an alphanumeric order code. If you have both a vehicle and marching contingent, these codes may seem out of order, but please be aware that Parade organizers have designed the system to ensure that your float and marchers will meet up at the same time and proceed down the route together
- **All floats and marchers must proceed down the Parade at a steady pace. Please work to keep gaps between all groups as tight as possible.**

Logos and Theme:

- **No group may display logos other than their own.** No third-party branded sponsorship of any kind is permitted on the parade route. Any group bearing a third party logo (such as on a vehicle or on signs) will be prohibited from proceeding down the route.
- Non-registered groups will not be permitted to join the parade on the day of the event.
- Your entry should reflect the theme of the year
- Floats must not present images or messages promoting or condoning violence or hatred of any persons or groups and must be consistent with The City of Toronto and Pride Toronto's anti-discrimination policies.
- Sale of any kind of goods or services to the crowd along the parade route is strictly prohibited.

Vehicle Safety:

- Please think about safety when deciding how many people will ride on your float. Each person must have a solid object to hold onto. Once the parade is underway, riders are NOT permitted to jump on or off the float. Remember that many trucks cannot come to a stop immediately, and that a sudden halt could cause serious injuries for those on board
- Each float **MUST** have a dry chemical extinguisher on board. Failure to have this will result in removal from the parade
- We highly recommend that you bring an emergency repair kit with tape, glue, wire, fuses, tools, etc.
- Each float must know how to get hold of a towing company appropriate to the size of its vehicle

in case of Parade Day breakdowns – Pride Toronto do not have tow trucks on hand

- The use of pyrotechnics and open flames are **strictly prohibited**
- No animals are allowed in the Parade, for their safety and yours. The exception to this are service animals—please contact the Parade Team at least a month beforehand if your group will have these in the Parade
- Each float built on a flatbed truck over 8 feet long **MUST** have the rear wheels covered with wood panels
- Floats must not be higher than 13ft from the ground (to avoid **live** streetcar cables) and cannot be wider than 9ft (one traffic lane wide). Floats that go beyond either of these measurements will not be permitted to proceed down the route
- Please use paper streamers in place of confetti – confetti is very challenging to clean up post-parade
- Upon completion of the parade route, floats will be ushered by into an immediate de-staging area where they will need to be dismantled to road-ready form within 5 minutes. We request that you take this into consideration when building your float. *Road-ready vehicles are vehicles deemed to be safe on public roads in accordance with the Highway Traffic Act.*

Marching Safety:

- It is each group's responsibility to provide adequate food and water for its marchers. Temperatures on Parade day can exceed 30 degrees Celsius and marchers can expect to take several hours to get from start to finish
- In addition to the heat, the UV Index can be very high—marchers should bring plenty of sunscreen and be prepared to reapply it multiple times. This is especially important for marchers who plan to eschew the majority of their clothing articles when they march
- Masks, body suits and any other article that covers a participant's face are allowed, as always. However, for safety reasons, all participants must be prepared and willing to show their faces to Parade Organizers and officials if requested
- **Unbranded** helium balloons are welcome, provided they are tied down and no higher than 13ft from the ground
- Bubbles are welcome as well, and frankly have been far too absent from parades past
- Feathers attached to costumes are welcome, but feathers should not be thrown or treated like confetti



- **Unbranded** signs and flags—with messages consistent with Pride's mission and this year's theme—are encouraged. Note that anything held up cannot go higher than 13ft
- Puppets, boats, and dragons (marionettes) that are carried by performers inside the body of the creation are permitted. Remember to keep the structures lightweight and avoid top heaviness as this may cause balance problems.
- Water guns are absolutely encouraged provided they are filled with **water and water only!** It is suggested that water guns are tested on the Parade Organizers at the start of the route, in order to ensure that they function properly and also to keep the Organizers cooled down on a hot day
- Groups with **sampling permits** may hand out items to the crowd, but no items may be *thrown* at any time.
- Handing out food and water is prohibited, due to health and safety issues. Any groups doing this will be removed from the Parade

Accessibility

If you have individuals with accessibility needs please contact our Accessibility Team at accessibility@pridetoronto.com

One final note: we endeavour to make your 2019 Pride Parade experience a fabulous one – if you have any questions, we want to hear from YOU!

Have a safe and Happy Pride 2019!

Parade Team Leads
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