



Official Parade Rules & Regulations

Parade Date:

Friday, July 4th, 2026

Parade Start Time:

10:00 AM

Information:

Parade Line-Up and Staging Information will be sent to accepted entries 5-7 days prior to the parade.

Parade Application Deadline:

June 1st, 2026 @ 11:00 PM *unless pre-approved

Check-In and Prep Times on day of Parade:

Check-In – 7:30 AM – 9:00 AM

Ready to Move – 9:30 AM

Parade Start – 10:00 AM

Weather:

The event is rain or shine. No refunds will be given for inclement weather.

Financial Terms:

1. Registration Fees –

\$1,200 for commercial entries

\$500 for non-profits/all other entries

2. Any unit which displays, promotes, or acknowledges any business entity or sponsor is commercial. Each commercial entity displayed on one unit will pay \$1200. Marching bands exempt.
3. The application is PRE-REGISTRATION, you will pay an entry fee once application is approved.
4. NO REFUNDS ONCE PAYMENT GOES THROUGH.

Float Regulations:

1. A commercial float is one which displays, promotes, or acknowledges any business entity or sponsor. Only one commercial name may be displayed per entry fee.
2. If an application is submitted incomplete (no script, no fee, not signed) it may be delayed.
3. A sketch or picture of the float and all banners or signage on the float MUST be submitted with the application.
4. **ALL FLOATS ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE RECORDED OR LIVE MUSIC.**
5. Floats must be self-propelled, decorated in red, white & blue and have their theme wording facing forward.
6. All float decorations must be fire retardant and meet the Huntington Beach Fire Department requirements.
7. A float may have up to 8 support staff for each entry or fee.
8. An entry with several sections will be considered as several entries and additional fees will be required.
9. Units are not allowed to hand, throw out, or propel anything on to the street or into the crowd. *Unless pre-approved.
10. Units are NOT ALLOWED TO STOP at any point along the parade route. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
11. Parade Entry has 14' height limit (all entries will be checked by Fire Department prior to parade)
12. No parade floats may feature any type of political campaign signage nor

promote the candidacy of any political candidate running for elected office, including sitting elected officials up for re-election. Current elected officials who represent a voting district in the City of Huntington Beach may be acknowledged in parade float signage with only their current elected position listed alongside their name.

13. In addition, no parade signage may promote any political slogans, policy positions or other political language whatsoever, any signage found to be in violation of these rules will be confiscated by Parade Officials.

14. I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL PERSONS PARTICIPATING IN THIS PARADE AS PART OF MY ENTRY. I AGREE TO FOLLOW AND ENFORCE ALL THE RULES & REGULATIONS STATED ABOVE IN ADDITION TO DIRECTIVES GIVE TO ME BY A PARADE OFFICIAL.

Float Judging:

1. Float judging will be based on Execution of Theme, Originality of Design and Spectator Appeal.
2. Floats must be in position for judging by 8:00 AM. Key Riders should be on float for judging.
3. *Decisions of the judges will be final.* Standard Parade Rules will govern.

Equestrian Rules:

All equestrian units are required to have a "clean-up" crew following their parade entry.

All Entry Guidelines:

1. Check-in booth opens at 7:30 AM and closes at 9:15 AM.
2. Parade begins promptly at 10:00 AM at PCH & Main. All units are to be prepared to move forward by 9:30 AM.
3. **No one under the age of 8 years old*** can WALK the parade, riding in the parade is allowed.
4. Identification banner is **REQUIRED** for all entries.

5. **FORWARD** motion must be maintained throughout the parade route. **NO STOPPING TO PERFORM OR FOR ANY OTHER REASON.**
6. All participants must be uniformed, costumed, or appropriately attired.
7. At no time is any unit allowed to hand out, throw, or propel anything along the parade route. ***Unless pre-approved**
8. No shooting of firearms, no sirens or other loud noises that interfere with other units will be permitted.
9. Noise levels of each entry should be so that each entry can be heard. **NO** vehicle honking or air horns permitted.
10. Submitting a completed application does not imply acceptance into the parade. ***Unless pre-approved**

Official Rules:

1. Parade Application Deadline is June 1st @ 11 PM*.
2. All entries must be approved and accepted by the **Independence Day Board.**
3. **Discrimination Prohibited:** No applicant or participant shall discriminate against any vendor, customer, event participant, or other people by reason of race, color, creed, handicap, age, sex, religion, national origin, ancestry, marital status, or other forms of discrimination prohibited by the laws of the State of California or United States of America. No applicant or participant in the parade shall use the Parade to mock, discriminate, degrade, or otherwise disparage any people by reason of race, color, creed, handicap, age, sex, religion, national origin, ancestry, marital status, or other forms of discrimination prohibited by the laws of the State of California or United States of America. The Parade organizers reserves the right to reject any entry should they violate or be found to intend to violate the provision.
4. All entries should have a positive theme which respects diversity, is non-controversial and does not advocate any political candidate, proposition or position.
5. All units must meet Huntington Beach Fire Department requirements.
6. **BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS, MOTORCYCLES, ATV'S, WAGONS, or**

STROLLERS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO ENTER THE PARADE OR PARADE ROUTE. NO E-BIKES OR E-SCOTTERS WILL BE PERMITTED. *Unless pre-approved

7. ROLLER BLADES & ROLLER SKATING ENTRIES WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A LIABILITY WAIVER PER PERSON.

8. DOG ENTRIES must have all dogs on a float, car, or cart. NO DOG will be permitted to walk the parade route.

9. The Independence Day Board cannot guarantee television coverage.

10. All entries must provide a complete list of wording for all signs and banners at the time of application.

11. Any parade entry in violation of any parade rules will have to be reevaluated and reconsidered for future events.

12. All decisions are made by the Independence Day Board and all decisions are final.

*Unless pre-approved