



General Parade Conduct Guidelines

PARADE DECORUM

- A. Participation in parades is a **privilege** and not a right. Membership in the Inter Krewe Council (IKC) does not guarantee participation in the Gasparilla Day Parade, Gasparilla Children's Parade, Sant Yago Illuminated Knight Parade or the Rough Rider St. Patrick's Parade. Participation in these activities is by invitation only by the sponsoring Krewe. Inappropriate conduct viewed by the sponsoring Krewe's Parade Officials is noted, invitations are not guaranteed and there is no appeal process for denial. This #1 Rule should be kept in mind in your conduct before, during and after a parade. Parade Officials are not always recognizable and are often incognito. Always follow the sponsoring Parade Official's, as well as our Krewe marshals, directives and instructions and abide by their restrictions. What you may consider to be acceptable social conduct may be viewed by Parade Officials as inappropriate. Therefore, err on the side of caution, behave civilly in a manner that does not bring dishonor, disrespect or reproach upon the Krewe. One person's conduct could exclude the entire Krewe from participating in future parades.
- B. Have fun and keep your conduct within the bounds of decency.

GENERAL CONDUCT RULES

- A. Exposure of breasts, buttocks, and/or sexual organs will immediately be halted, the violating Krewe member will be required to leave the parade/event/function and will be removed from active membership.
- B. Do not make any obscene sexual gestures or any hand gestures.
- C. **ALCOHOL:** In regards to liquor/beer/wine consumption, know your limits! Stay in the middle! If you do not drink alcohol at all or do not drink alcohol on a regular basis and decide to partake of the same on the day of the parade, you need to practice at home first and know your limitations! Do not get "three sheets to the wind" to the point of losing your senses and becoming so intoxicated that you are a danger and/or an embarrassment to yourself and the Krewe. There is a fine line between "having a good time" and "drunk and disorderly".
- Absolutely NO GLASS BOTTLES will be allowed on the float or at the parade sites!
 - No consumption of identifiable alcoholic beverages in cans or bottles may be consumed while participating in parades.



- D. **SMOKING:** During staging, please stand away from the float if smoking. The float could catch on fire due to inadvertent smoking near or on the float as the float materials are **HIGHLY FLAMMABLE.**
- E. **DRUG USAGE:** For any prescribed drug, please follow the recommended dosage and adhere to its warning and restrictions. All prescribed medications must be in its pharmaceutical container. **NO ILLEGAL DRUG or UNPRESCRIBED CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE** use will be tolerated and any violator will be removed from the parade/event/function and removed from active membership.
- F. **PROFANITY:** Watch your language! Do not direct any profane utterances to any Parade Official or law enforcement officer. Please belay and avoid undue harsh, coarse or vulgar language directed at each other or Krewe Officials that can be taken as a personal insult, criticism, humiliation or embarrassment. Please keep your comments directed toward each other in the spirit of levity, civility and comradery. Laugh with each other and not at each other. Also, please try not to be hypersensitive about casual language spoken in the spirit of revelry.
- G. **TRAFFIC DELAYS AND/OR BUS DRIVERS:** Please refrain from making unwarranted negative comments about the route the bus drivers are required to take to the staging area of the parade event or when leaving after the parade. The driver is required to follow law enforcement and Parade Official's instructions and/or Krewe Officer's directives. Although you may know a quicker or shorter route to a destination that does not mean the driver can take that route. Further, please remember that there are many people trying to get into and/or leave one area that will be congested and there will be traffic delays. Have patience!
- H. **BEADS AND BEADING:** Do not bead Parade Officials or law enforcement officers unless they expressly consent to the same. If they do accept them, hand them to them and do not throw beads unless they indicate otherwise. Law enforcement personnel are required to keep their arms and chests free so as not to impede the performance of their duties and many will refuse to accept the beads. Some security agencies strictly prohibit their personnel from wearing beads.
- I. **BODILY FLUIDS:** If you need to relieve yourself, do so in the restrooms or in an approved bathroom facility. **NOT ANYWHERE ELSE!!** The "defense of necessity" does not apply here! Do not regurgitate on anyone. If you are feeling ill, please advise someone to inform one of the Krewe officers and stay close to the restrooms onboard the float.



GENERAL SAFETY RULES

- A.** ALWAYS stand clear of the float and the tow vehicle while it is moving!!!!
- B.** Do not ever get between the tow vehicle and the float while it is moving. Krewe members can be hurt, ran over and/or delay the movement of the float.
- C.** Stay several feet away from the tow vehicle and float while it is in motion so that it does not catch any clothing and drag you down. For the night parades, there may be streetlights that protrude and extend from the sides of the float, and if you are not clear, you will be knocked down and could be seriously injured. The driver cannot keep an eye on the members and cannot stop if someone gets in trouble. The float must keep moving so pay attention and do your part to help the driver deliver us all safely to the end of the route.
- D.** Exiting from side stairs is not permitted at any time during the parade. Your clothing could get caught on the float and you could be dragged down and seriously injured. Please utilize the rear stairs to get on/off the float during the parade. Side stairs are to only be used during staging.
- E.** ABSOLUTELY no smoking on the tow vehicle.
- F.** Control your liquor/beer/ wine consumption. Please keep in mind that the float is a moving vehicle with frequent starts and stops. Do not become so inebriated that you are falling against other Krewe members. Like the deck of a ship, the float moves without notice. If you are unsteady, try to hold on to something stable. No grabbing of other Krewe members, intentional pushing or shoving will be tolerated.
- G.** Each participant must sign the liability release waiver.
- H.** **BAGGAGE ON THE FLOAT:** Do not bring large bags (i.e. Suitcases, gym bags, duffle bags, etc) on the float. There is no room to store them. Please limit all bead bags to a minimum size (air travel carry on size) as appropriate. Do not place bags close to lights (fire hazard) or place them where it will impede foot traffic on the float. We are recommending that you use bead belts. If you want to bring more beads than one belt can handle, bring a second belt as necessary. You may hang these belts on the exterior railing under the rope lighting of the float.
- I.** Please arrive promptly for bus departures to staging. We cannot wait for you for more than ten (10) minutes. If you miss the bus, you must make alternative arrangements to get to staging on time before the parade steps off.
- J.** **FLOAT OR TOW VEHICLE BREAKDOWNS:** The tow vehicle may become inoperative during a parade near the float. Another tow vehicle will normally come and hook up to the float and then leave very hastily. Be observant and pay attention to the Krewe officer's instructions as to a rapid departure. Walkers may have to run to keep up with the float.



- K.** The float cannot voluntarily stop during the parade to allow a Krewe member to exit the parade to mingle with the crowd, family members or friends. There are barricades keeping the crowd out of the street and you cannot, for any reason, cross these barricades absent a medical emergency with appropriate medical personnel.
- L.** Once the parade route is completed, the float must quickly move off after the parade to avoid bottleneck congestion. Gather your things quickly off the float, as there will be more floats coming behind ours. Heed all warnings given to collect your personal items and property. After the parade has ended, the buses may be waiting several blocks away. Please walk with other Krewe members to the buses according to the Krewe officer's instructions. For safety reasons, we do not want you wandering off alone trying to find the buses. Stay with the group and do not set off by yourself.
- M.** MEDICAL NECESSITIES AND/OR EMERGENCIES: Please advise a Krewe officer or director of any medical necessities/emergencies immediately. EMS personnel will be notified if you have to be taken off of the float. Normally, you will be transported to the nearest appropriate hospital, if warranted. If you are simply ill and refuse treatment, a seating place will be provided for you on the float. Advise Krewe officers of any prescription medications that you are taking. Several members of the Krewe are EMT, paramedics, and nurses or have some type of medical training and will normally provide the first response. There is a first aid kit on the float.
- N.** There is to be no pillaging or thievery amongst the Krewe. Do not throw anyone else's beads unless you expressly have their consent. You are responsible for your own personal items and effects. Keep track of your own money, cell phones, keys, credit cards, identification cards, etc. or do not bring anything on the float that you cannot afford to lose. There are numerous individuals coming on and off the float and Krewe founders & officers are not responsible for thefts.
- O.** Please treat each other with the dignity and respect that each person deserves. Incivility and discourtesy toward each other only creates hard feelings. We are all trying to have a good time and enjoy ourselves.
- P.** The Krewe Official's are trying to direct the activity and are fielding questions from numerous individual and sometimes, due to extraordinary circumstances, may not be as informative as you desire, especially during parades and/or social events. Sometimes the Officials cannot explain why those things have to be done a certain way, only that it has to be done now. Please comprehend that the Krewe founders & officers are the Krewe representatives and they must comply with the Parade Official's instructions. Any commands given by the Krewe officers or directors are to be followed without retort.



SPIRIT OF CIGAR CITY KREWE GENERAL PARADE CONDUCT GUIDELINES FOR THE 2019-2020 PARADE SEASON CONFIRMATION

PLEASE FILL OUT AND SIGN THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT LETTER CONFIRMING YOUR RECEIPT OF THE SPIRIT OF CIGAR CITY KREWE GENERAL PARADE CONDUCT GUIDELINES FOR THE 2019-2020 PARADE SEASON.

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO KREWE PRESIDENT.

NO RENEWAL FORMS OR FEES WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT THIS ACCOMPANYING LETTER.

KREWE MEMBER NAME

KREWE MEMBER SIGNATURE

KREWE MEMBER EMAIL

DATE