

2024 PENSACOLA GRAND MARDI GRAS PARADE RULES AND REGULATIONS



This year's parade will be for Saturday, February 10, 2024, beginning at 2:00p.m. LINE UP begins at 10:00! **ALL ENTRIES** will enter line up area at **Main and Spring.**

1. You must maintain complete control and take responsibility for your entire Krewe.
2. Motorized vehicle liability waiver on the vehicle application must be completed for each vehicle prior to February 10, 2024. If you are in a car or motorcycle club, make copies of the vehicle application and have it with you on parade day.
3. Parade begins at 2:00p.m. sharp! Entrants must be on their floats and ready to move.
4. **THROWS.** In keeping with Mardi Gras tradition, we ask all participants to provide some kind of "throw" (trinkets, beads, candy, promotional items, etc.) ALL throws must follow the City of Pensacola's Code of Ordinance. Please visit their site at <http://cityofpensacola.com>. Throws will not be allowed to be dropped off in the line up area. **No vehicles, other than official parade entries are allowed on the line up area.** Unauthorized vehicles cause a hazard in the line up area to not only the participants, but also pedestrians.

ALL PARADE PARTICIPANTS MUST WAIT UNTIL THEIR FLOAT IS AT THE BARRICADED AREA (GARDEN AND PALAFOX) PRIOR TO THROWING ANY ITEMS TO THE CROWD. NO ITEMS ARE TO BE THROWN IN THE LINE UP AREA (Line up area consist of Spring Street from South of Garden to Main Street.)

5. **WALKERS (SPOTTERS)** are mandatory for your float/vehicle. PMGI requires participants to have 1 walker per wheel (including pulling vehicle). The walkers are to maintain a position alongside the float/vehicle near the wheels and prevent participants and/or spectators from being struck or run over. Walkers must also be able to notify their driver of any problems that may require immediate action for the safety of all. Walkers are not allowed to carry or throw beads, but are allowed to hand off loose beads to the crowd. PMGI does not require a minimum age for walkers, but instead requires all walkers to be of sufficient age to appreciate the dangers of operating motor vehicles and parade floats in close proximity to people. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all walkers meet these requirements.

6. **STRUCTURES.** The maximum built height can be no more than 13 feet above the street to accommodate the lowest traffic light. The maximum width recommended for your float is no more than 10 feet. The maximum length is 30 feet or less. The Parade route consists of a U turn at Wright and Palafox Streets and your float must be able to make that turn.

State law requires each operator of a towing vehicle be responsible for seeing that their trailer is property secured and safety chains are provided (Florida Statute 316.530).

All flatbed trucks or trailers must have secure solid railings or balusters with at least 42" above the float platform.

7. A minimum of one 5-pound dry chemical fire extinguisher of the multi-purpose ABC style is required on each float.

8. Entries are not allowed to stop on the parade route. NO COUNTER-MOTION! Stopping voluntarily on the route causes gaps and disruption in the flow of the parade. If it's determined your entry is engaged in this type of behavior, you will be asked not to return next year.

9. FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS of Police and event volunteers (Marshalls) at staging and during and after the parade.
10. Maintain a minimum distance of 50 feet in front of your entry.
11. All drivers should be familiar with the maneuverability of their float/entry, be able to negotiate right hand turns and the U turn at Wright Street and be familiar with the parade route.
12. **ALL AMPLIFIERS AND PA SYSTEMS** must be sounded so as not to interfere with other musical units and bands during the line up.
13. **FLOAT RIDERS.** It is the responsibility of the float participant/sponsor/captain to arrange for pick up of float riders and throws. **No vehicles, other than official parade entries are allowed on the line up area.**
14. Pensacola Mardi Gras, Inc and the City of Pensacola are not liable for injury to parade participants or spectators; or for damage to floats; or for damage to vehicle and personal property. *(see rules #25 and #28)*
15. Pensacola Mardi Gras, Inc reserves the right to exclude/remove any participant whose conduct or entry violates the purposes and policies of the event.
16. **APPLICATIONS.** Will all be considered but NOT GUARANTEED entry into the parade. Make sure to fully complete the application. Your approval will be made by a phone call and / or email from a PMGI representative. By making application for your Krewe, Business or Group you are assuming responsibility for your Krewe, Business or Group and release PMGI and the City of Pensacola from any claim or expense of whatever kind or nature arising out of activities as a parade participant.
17. **ENTRY INFORMATION.** Although the parade is fun for those in the parade, the purpose of the parade is to entertain. It is a stage and each participant is a performer on that stage. The parade stage should remain PG rated: the parade will have viewers of all ages. It is NOT a stage for any form of nudity or public intoxication.
18. **VEHICLES:** All vehicles must be operable for the entire route. Each vehicle and component (trailer, flatbed, etc) should be listed on your application with a description of design and decoration.
19. Groups in the non-motorized category should provide a description of performance and any components that will be pulled or ridden along the route. If your group has a motor in some part or portion of your Krewe, it is **NOT** a walking Krewe.
20. Be Creative! Find the right theme for your group to bring the fun to the street!
21. Priority is **NOT** given to past participants, or for early applications. All applications, sketches, photos, etc. become the property of Pensacola Mardi Gras, Inc.
22. **PARADE FEES/DESCRIPTION.**
 - A "Krewe" is a group of people coming together to participate in the Grand Mardi Gras Parade. Each "Krewe" should have a name.
 - \$445 (FIRST FLOAT) – A "Float" is a decorated motorized vehicle usually pulling a trailer. Floats contain up to 50 passengers and must have spotters.
 - \$375 (ADDITIONAL FLOAT) – Additional floats are more than one Float. Each float after the First Float will be charged this fee.
 - \$625 (TANDEM FLOAT) – A float being pulled by a vehicle with an attached float
 - \$355 (WALKING KREWE) – A "Walking Krewe" is a group limited to 20 participants that marches in the parade. Walking Krewes are required to have 4 spotters.

\$155 (ADDITIONAL WALKING KREWE) Additional walking Krewe is more than 20 participants. Each additional 10 Walking Krewe participant will be charged this fee.

\$155 (EACH SMALL MOTORIZED VEHICLE) – A small motorized vehicle consists of Motorcycles and go-carts. All small motorized vehicles must be approved by Pensacola Mardi Gras, Inc and have ALL proper insurance information prior to application deadline date. (Minimum of 4 and a maximum of 10). Pictures of each entry will be sent in with Application.

23. **APPLICATION DEADLINE.** All entries are due by **February 2, 2024**. This date is crucial to having a smooth parade day. If your entry is not completed by the February 5th deadline, Pensacola Mardi Gras, Inc. will incorporate a late fee of \$125.00. It is the discretion of Pensacola Mardi Gras, Inc. to allow you to submit an application after the application deadline date.

24. **LINE UP.** Pensacola Mardi Gras, Inc. will decide the placement of your entry. Entries will not know their spot in the parade until Parade Day. All Parade entries will enter at Main and Spring Street for directions. Please be sure to ask our gate keeper where your float is located. Block Captains will have full and complete say so when it comes to where your float will be located.

25. **PARADE PARTICIPANT.** Parade Participants agree to forever indemnify, hold harmless and release from any and all liability Pensacola Mardi Gras, Inc., its directors, agents (actual or apparent), employees, successors, attorneys, administrators, insurers, representatives, and volunteers from any injury to person or property arising out of or resulting from participation before, during, or after the Pensacola Grand Mardi Gras parade for any claim based on negligence, breach of contract, or any other legal theory, and accept full responsibility for any injury, death or damage that may occur.

26. **GOLF CARTS.** Golf carts **will not be** permitted on the parade route or line up area without the express permission of PMGI. If PMGI allows your cart to be permitted in the parade, the cart must stay in one location upon entering the line up area. YOU MAY NOT DRIVE IT AROUND. If you are found driving the cart around, PMGI will have you escorted off the line up area and you will not parade. There will be no refunds of your parade entry.

27. **PHOTO/AUDIO/VIDEO RELEASE.** By submitting an application to PMGI the applicant, and/or all Krewe, Business or Group participating in the parade hereby irrevocably agrees and consents that his/her photograph, picture, film, video digital or audio recordings, images, likenesses, comments and any reproductions thereof, taken or made by or on behalf of PMGI, may in any manner be used, published, displayed, dealt in and copyrighted by PMGI or its successors and assigns, and by any other person, corporation or association duly authorized by PMGI, with any restriction or limitation, for advertising and trade of every kind and any other purpose. This release is applicable now and, in the future, and cannot be revoked by applicant. It is understood and agreed that said photograph, picture, film, video, digital or audio recordings, images, likenesses, comments and any reproductions thereof, as well as any materials connected there with and the rights arising therefrom and thereunder, are the exclusive property of PMGI and will not be entitled to any revenues, credits, or royalties pertaining thereto. This release shall be binding upon heirs, next of kin and personal representatives.

28. **REFUNDS.** Pensacola Mardi Gras, Inc. does not give refunds for rain, shine, natural disaster, civil unrest, any public disaster, or personal matter.

29. A representative from each Krewe is required to sign the Parade Application accepting responsibility for the actions of the entire Krewe. By signing the Parade Application, the representative agrees to the 2024 Pensacola Grand Mardi Gras Parade Rules and Regulations. Representative further agrees that he/she has provided a copy of the 2023 Pensacola Grand Mardi Gras Parade Rules and Regulations to everyone in the Krewe including the driver of the tow vehicle.

