

Gulf Coast Carnival Association
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RULES FOR PARTICIPATION IN MARDI GRAS PARADE

- GENERAL** The Gulf Coast Carnival Association encourages your participation in the public participation parade. This parade makes it possible for you to join in the revelry and entertain the parade watchers. You may enter as a float, marching group, or as an individual. The Association reserves the right to limit the participation (on a first-come, first-served basis) of private floats to the extent that the parade route will allow. This determination will be made by the Captain of Carnival and his appointed Parade Chairman. Only floats (flatbed truck or trailer) fully decorated will be allowed in the parade.
- REGISTRATION** All participants must be registered with the office of Gulf Coast Carnival Association, no later than **January 14, 2015.**
- LIABILITY** As consideration for participating in the parade, each entry must sign an agreement to indemnify the Gulf Coast Carnival Association and release any claim for property damages and/or bodily injuries sustained while enroute to, during and from the parade.
- INSURANCE** Each private float must show proof of liability insurance as required by the Gulf Coast Carnival Association. Medical payments coverage is encouraged.
- SMOKING** Not permitted.
- ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** Not permitted.
- CONDUCT** Must be in good taste--no obscene pictures, gestures, language, characters, etc. **This includes throws and music.** Those not adhering will be asked to disband from the parade.
- PRIZES** Floats participating in the parade will be eligible for cash prizes as follows:
- | | |
|--------------|-------|
| First Place | \$200 |
| Second Place | \$100 |
| Third Place | \$ 50 |

Judging will take place one hour prior to the parade (12:00 p.m.) in the staging area. Judging will be based on theme portrayal, originality, design and beauty, group spirit and costumes (10 points maximum for each of the four categories). Floats with obscene or inappropriate pictures, characters, or throws will not participate in the parade. Theme 2015 "Coastal State of Mind", copy of poster included.

COSTUMES

All participants must be appropriately costumed or dressed. Inappropriate costumes or dress will be asked to leave the floats and not participate in the parading.

THROWS

Must be approved by the Captain of Carnival. No hard or sharp objects allowed! **No obscene throws will be allowed, especially beads.**

PRIVATE FLOAT RULES

In addition to the above, all corporate or private floats must:

- 1) Have one approved fire extinguisher (foam or dry chemical).
- 2) Have a safety rail along all sides of the float.
- 3) Have some type of restroom for sanitary and safety reasons.
- 4) **Have only the name of the organization displayed. Any other advertising will require a fee of \$500.**
- 5) Make some effort to adhere to the GCCA theme, which is required for participation in cash prize awards.
- 6) Supply GCCA with the name of a float coordinator who will be responsible for the safe operation of the float and the conduct of its participants.
- 7) Submit application to GCCA no later than January 14, 2015.
- 8) Agree that any or all drivers will submit to a breathalyzer test prior to the parade if deemed necessary by the parade or public safety officials. This test will not be used for punitive purposes.
- 9) Send a representative to the float riders' party. **January 14, 2015
Donald Snyder Community Center, Biloxi. Doors open 6:30; meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.**

MANAGEMENT AND ADHERENCE TO RULES

The Gulf Coast Carnival Association's parade committee and the various law enforcement officers have authority over all aspects of the parade. At their discretion, they have the absolute right to refuse participation in, or removal from, the parade of participants whether during the line-up portion or the parade itself. Failure to provide advance registration or to comply with the Rules as stated above will be considered sufficient reason for refused entry or removal from continued participation in the parade. All participants must yield to the directions of the parade committee members who work for the good of all but also do their best to keep Mardi Gras safe for all.