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## General Rules and Regulations

**Application Deadline:** Please return your completed application by November 12, 2024. All entries must complete a parade application.

**Notification of Acceptance:** Applicants approved by the parade committee will be notified via email. Additional information on the parade will be distributed to all accepted participants.

**Theme:** All units must include lights as part of their decorations. Float contest entries will be judged based on the following criteria: (a) incorporation of the 2024 Huntington Christmas Parade of Lights theme; (b) creativity and originality; (c) float design and workmanship. **The only Santa Claus in the parade will be the Huntington Christmas Parade's official Santa Claus. No other Santa Clauses will be allowed.** Participants may wear Santa hats.

**Start Time:** Line-up will begin at 5:00 pm and the parade will step off promptly at 6:30 pm. Along with your written confirmation you will be assigned a line-up time and space number. Please bring this information with you to the parade. Staging areas will be marked by signage or directed by Parade staff.

**Parade Assembly:** All parade vehicles must enter the line-up area at 16<sup>th</sup> Street (Hal Greer Blvd.) and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue (side roads will be blocked off.) The participants will then proceed down 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue to their respective staging area. Once participants are placed in the lineup, changes will not be made to the parade order. All float riders and other parade participants will only be allowed in the line-up area on foot. Parents, drivers, etc. will not be allowed to drive participants to their position. This is strictly ENFORCED. NO VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE LINE-UP AREA UNLESS THAT VEHICLE IS IN THE PARADE, DECORATED ACCORDINGLY. Only one vehicle per unit will be allowed in the line-up (unless already registered.) Only **three** (3) vehicles will be allowed per business. NO LATE ADDITIONS WILL BE ALLOWED. Floats and trucks must be loaded in the correct staging area. No floats or trucks carrying riders will be allowed in the line-up area. This a safety hazard. Horse trailers, buses and other large vehicles will be permitted to park on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Street. In front of Double Tree Hotel, please do not block the entrances of the hotel.

**Parade Route:** At 6:30 pm, the parade will start at 12<sup>th</sup> Street and proceed on 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. to 8<sup>th</sup> Street, turning right on 8<sup>th</sup> Street to 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., turning right on 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., ending at the DoubleTree hotel.

**Walkers:** If you would like to hand out candy during the parade, you are more than welcome to have up to five representatives walk beside your vehicle/float to **hand out** candy to people lining the parade route. Walkers must be able to keep up with the motorized vehicle. Due to the safety of all persons involved, throwing candy from parade vehicles and floats **WILL NOT** be allowed.

**Not Accepted:** No advocacy of political or social issues will be allowed. Units doing so are subject to removal from the parade and may be barred from participation. No political candidates will be allowed in the parade. Current office holders are welcome, but no reelection signage or material will be allowed.

**Signage:** Names of groups will only be announced by the MC if units have a large legible sign on the front of side of their vehicle.

**Horses:** Horses in the parade should have marched in a previous parade or be familiar with crowds. We require that horses wear diapers.

**Dress Code:** Parade units look their best when everyone is dressed alike. If your group has uniforms, we request that you wear them for a unified appearance.

**Parade organizers reserve the right to reject any entry at any time. All decisions are final.**

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