GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS – 2027 Snake Saturday Parade

The Awards Ceremony will be held at 3:00 p.m. on parade day at the North Kansas City YMCA. All awards and prize money will be presented and distributed at the ceremony. Please designate a representative to attend and accept your entry's award. Prize money is awarded in the Rainbow, Family Organized Groups and Youth (FOGY), School Spirit, Performance, and Drill Team categories. Additional honors include Best of Parade, Mayor's Choice, Best Musical Presentation, the Mickey Finn Grand Marshal Award, and Best Performance.

1. Submit one application for each parade entry and complete all required fields. Be sure to register in the correct parade category. **Entries will not be accepted after Friday, February 19, 2027.**
2. Each entry must name one Responsible Party who will ensure that all participants follow every rule, regulation, and procedure at all times. Each participant takes part at their own risk and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless all entities and individuals associated with the parade and festival from any damages or liabilities arising from the group's or participant's involvement in either event.
3. Parade staff and volunteers may, at their sole discretion, reject any float, theme, sign, or behavior they consider lewd, offensive, crude, or tasteless.
4. By entering the parade, you agree to provide two people to carry a banner in front of your entry if requested. Typically, fewer than 10% of entries are assigned a banner, and those entries are selected during staging on parade day.
5. The parade committee may edit entry commentary.
6. Traffic islands have been installed on Armour Road, so parade entries must pass to the right side of them. The turning radius from Armour to Howell has also changed. Confirm that your entry can make the turn; most trucks and trailers can, but we recommend checking in advance.

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

1. **Safety is our highest priority and should be yours as well.** At our sole discretion, we may reject any float or entry that presents a safety concern.
2. North Kansas City ordinances prohibit alcohol, and violations will not be tolerated. Consuming alcohol at any time while participating in the parade will result in immediate removal, disqualification from award consideration, and automatic exclusion from the following year's event(s).
3. **Throwing or distributing any item from a float is strictly prohibited.** Entries may distribute prepackaged candy and other giveaways only by hand, using walkers beside spectators along the parade route.
4. No one may board or leave a vehicle or other motorized entry unless it is fully stopped. After the parade begins, no one may enter or exit an entry except during an emergency.
5. Parade Marshals stationed along the route will enforce the rules and maintain consistent spacing between units. Based on participant behavior, they may disqualify an entry from judging or from returning to future parades.
6. Every float must carry a fire extinguisher rated at least 5 pounds.
7. Sirens may not be used within 100 yards of active microphones at Armour and Swift or at the Emcee Grandstand.
8. The green pavement line and metal barriers along the parade route protect spectators. As required by the North Kansas City Police Department, spectators must remain behind

the line.

9. Any parade-rule violation may result in the loss of prize money or awards.
10. A safety meeting will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, March 9, 2027, before the parade. Each entry must have a representative attend. The Parade Director, North Kansas City Police, and North Kansas City Fire Department will lead the meeting.

VEHICLES

1. All parade vehicles must be properly licensed and insured as required by Missouri law. By operating a vehicle in the Snake Saturday Parade, the owner or operator confirms that it is properly licensed, adequately insured, mechanically sound, and free of known defects or safety concerns.
2. Vehicle entries: Operators of motorized vehicles must be at least 25 years old and hold a valid driver's license. Each entry must carry at least $1,000,000 in combined auto and umbrella insurance. A certificate of insurance must be submitted to Northland Festivals, 1321 Burlington Street, Suite B7, NKC, MO 64116, no later than one week before the parade.
3. Floats and other entries may not exceed 14 feet above the road surface and **must** be able to make 90-degree turns easily. Trucks with trailers may not exceed 48 feet in length, and vehicles may not exceed 10 feet in width.
4. Portable toilets are prohibited on floats.
5. Any motorized-vehicle maneuvers performed during the parade require advance approval from the parade committee.

ANIMALS

1. Animals participating in the parade entries must be listed on the entry application.
2. All animals must have updated vaccinations, be in good medical health and be able to cope with crowds and other animals.
3. In consideration of the other units in the parade, all participants with animals must immediately clean up any animal waste along the parade route. Northland Festivals, Inc., parade staff and volunteers and the City of North Kansas City are NOT responsible for picking up animal waste.

Please ensure all participants in your entry are aware of these rules. Violations may result in sanctioning by the Northland Festivals, Inc. Board of Directors and/or deductions on the judges scores.

RAINBOW PARADE ENTRIES

Entry Fee $50

1. All entries in this category are eligible for prize money and awards.
2. Rainbow entries must upload their 501(c)(3) documentation with the parade application.
   NOTE: Eligible 501(c)(3) organizations must serve the community, be nondiscriminatory, and not be dedicated to a single group, such as a traveling sports organization.
   Organizations that do not meet these criteria should register as a FOGY entry. For questions about eligibility, contact Parade Chairperson Rodney Hawkins at 913-563-2343.
3. Each entry may include no more than two vehicles. Additional vehicles require prior written approval from the parade chairman or will be turned away on parade day. A truck pulling a trailer counts as one vehicle.
4. All units must continue moving throughout the parade; stopping on the route is prohibited.
5. Each 501(c)(3) Rainbow organization must provide two volunteers. Volunteers may be assigned as banner carriers or parade marshals along the route.

FOGY (Families, Organizations, and Youth Groups) ENTRIES

Entry Fee: $50

1. All entries in this category are eligible for prize money and awards.
2. Each entry may include no more than two vehicles. Additional vehicles require the parade chairman's written approval before parade day. A truck with an attached trailer counts as one vehicle.
3. All units must continue moving throughout the parade; stopping on the route is prohibited.

PERFORMANCE AND BAND ENTRY RULES

Performance Entry Fee: $100

1. Performance entries are eligible for prize money; Band and Performance entries are eligible for awards.
2. Entries are judged on a performance of up to 90 seconds at the judges' stand, not the emcee grandstand. Do not exceed 90 seconds or stop elsewhere on the parade route.
3. Family members, coaches, and others accompanying performers must walk behind them, not beside them.
4. Each entry may include no more than two vehicles. Additional vehicles require the parade chairman's written approval before parade day. A truck with an attached trailer counts as one vehicle.
5. When approached, performers must break formation to let police motorcycles or parade-official golf carts pass.

SCHOOL SPIRIT ENTRY RULES

Entry Fee: $50

1. Entries in this category compete for prize money and awards.
2. Each entry may include no more than two vehicles. Additional vehicles require the parade chairman's written approval before parade day. A truck with an attached trailer counts as one vehicle. All units must keep moving; stopping on the route is prohibited.
3. School Spirit participants must be affiliated with local schools.

COMMERCIAL ENTRY RULES

Entry Fee $350

1. Entries in this category are eligible for awards, but not prize money.
2. Each entry may include no more than two vehicles. Additional vehicles require the parade chairman's written approval before parade day. A truck with an attached trailer counts as one vehicle. All units must keep moving; stopping on the route is prohibited.
3. Although businesses may advertise, every entry must be decorated to match the parade theme.
4. Commercial entries may hand out flyers or marketing materials no larger than 4 × 6 inches. Throwing any item along the route is prohibited and strictly enforced by NKC Police for everyone's safety.

MOTORCYCLE ENTRY RULES

Entry Fee $100

1. Entries in this category are eligible for awards, but not prize money.
2. The parade accepts up to six motorcycle entries each year on a first-come, first-served basis.
3. Each entry may include no more than 75 motorcycles.
4. A motorcycle group with a float must enter it separately in the FOGY or Rainbow category and pay an additional fee. The two entries will be staged together.
5. Motorcycles must ride three abreast.
6. Stunt or reckless driving, including burnouts and wheelies, is prohibited. Do not throw any items along the route; NKC Police strictly enforce this rule. All units must keep moving, and stopping on the route is prohibited.

AUTOMOTIVE ENTRY RULES

Entry Fee $250

1. Entries in this category are eligible for awards, but not prize money.
2. The parade accepts up to six automotive entries each year on a first-come, first-served basis.
3. Each entry may include no more than 24 vehicles. Exceeding this limit will result in exclusion from future parades.
4. An automotive group with a float must enter it separately in the FOGY or Rainbow category and pay an additional fee. The two entries will be staged together.
5. Each automotive club or group may submit only one automotive entry.
6. Vehicles must travel two abreast throughout the parade.
7. Do not throw any items along the route; NKC Police strictly enforce this rule. All units must keep moving, and stopping on the route is prohibited.

POLITICAL ENTRIES

1. Floats or entries affiliated with any political party or politician are not allowed in the parade or on the festival grounds.

MEDIA ENTRY RULES

1. **MEDIA ENTRIES:** Entries in this category are eligible for awards, but not prize money.
2. Although radio and news stations may advertise, every entry must be decorated to match the parade theme.

3. Media entries may hand out flyers or marketing materials no larger than 4 × 6 inches. Throwing any item along the route is prohibited and strictly enforced by NKC Police for everyone's safety.
4. All units must continue moving throughout the parade; stopping on the route is prohibited.