

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS – Snake Saturday Parade 2026

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

1. Please submit one application per parade entry. All information requested on the application is required. Please ensure you are registered in the proper parade category. **No entries will be accepted after Friday, February 20, 2026.**
2. Each entry must designate one person as its Responsible Party. Each Responsible Party is required to ensure that all rules, regulations, and procedures are followed by all entry participants at all times. Each person in your parade entry is participating at their own risk and each person agrees to indemnify all entities and individuals associated with the parade and festival, and to hold all such entities and individuals harmless from any and all damages and/or liabilities of any kind, that entities and individuals may incur as a result of your group and its individual's participation in the parade and/or festival.
3. Parade staff and volunteers reserve the right to disallow, at our sole discretion, any lewd, offensive, crude or tasteless floats, themes, signs or behavior.
4. By entering in the parade, you agree to designate two people to carry a banner in front of your entry if requested. Typically, less than 10% of entries are required to carry a banner. Said entries are designated the day of the parade, during the staging process.
5. Entry commentary may be edited by the parade committee.
6. Islands have been installed on Armour road. Parade entries will need to split the islands going to the right or left of the islands. Additionally, the turn radius from Armour to Howell has been changed, please ensure your entry can make that turn, most trucks and trailers can make the turn but we suggest double checking yourself.

SAFETY

1. **Safety is our first priority and it should be yours, too.** We reserve the right to disallow, at our sole determination, any float or entry for safety reasons.
2. Pursuant to the Ordinances of North Kansas City, no alcohol is allowed and will

not be tolerated. Consumption of alcoholic beverages at any time while participating in the parade will be cause for immediate entry removal, disqualification from awards competition and automatic exclusion from entry into the following year's event(s).

3. **Throwing and/or distributing items of any kind from floats is strictly prohibited.** Entries may distribute **prepackaged candy** and other give-aways HAND-TO- HAND by walking along the parade route next to spectators.
4. No one may step on or off a vehicle or any motorized entry until it is at a complete stop. Once the parade has started, no entry or exit from an entry is permitted, except in the case of an emergency.
5. Parade Marshals are posted along the parade route. They will enforce rules and keep spacing between units consistent. Parade Marshals hold the right to disqualify any entry from judging or returning based on participant behavior.
6. A minimum of 5-pound fire extinguisher must be on all floats.
7. No Sirens are allowed within 100 yards of any microphones, which are in use at the corner of Armour and Swift and at the Emcee Grandstand.
8. The green line painted on the pavement along the parade route and metal barriers are provided for spectator safety. Spectators are required to stay behind the line, per North Kansas City Police Department.
9. Any violation of parade rules may disqualify any eligible prize money/awards.
10. A Safety Meeting will be conducted via ZOOM on March 10, 2026, the Tuesday before the parade. Each entry is required to have someone on the ZOOM meeting. This meeting will be directed by the Parade Director, NKC Police, and the NKC Fire Department.

VEHICLES

1. All vehicles participating in the parade must be properly licensed and have insurance as required by the State of Missouri. By operating the vehicle in the Snake Saturday parade, the owner/operator warrants that the vehicle is properly licensed and insured and is in sound mechanical condition with no known defects or safety concerns.
2. Vehicle entries: All operators of motorized vehicles must be 25 years of age and have a valid driver's license and insurance minimum limit of \$1,000,000 (umbrella and auto must add up to \$1,000,000). Certificate of insurance must be provided to Northland Festivals 1520 Clay Street, Suite F1, NKC MO 64116, no later than one week prior to parade.
3. Floats or entries must not be higher than 14' above the road surface and **must easily execute 90-degree turns**. Trucks with trailers cannot exceed 48 feet. 10 feet maximum width on vehicles.
4. No portable toilets are allowed on floats.
5. Any maneuvers by motorized vehicles during the parade must be cleared in advance with 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. All Rainbow Entries are required to upload their 501c3 documentation with parade entry application.
NOTE: 501c3 organizations must be community oriented (not discriminatory) and not specific to an individual group, i.e. traveling sports organizations. Organizations falling in this category should register as FOGY entry. If you have questions about your status, please contact the parade chairperson Rodney Hawkins at 913-563-2343 .
3. A maximum of two vehicles per entry is allowed. Any more than two vehicles must have prior written approval from the parade chairman or will be turned away on the day of the parade. A truck pulling a trailer is considered one vehicle.
4. Forward motion must be maintained by all units during the parade. Stopping on the parade route is not permitted.
5. By entering the parade as a 501c3 organization (Rainbow Entry), we need your help. Each Rainbow organization must designate two volunteers, some will be utilized as banner carriers and some will be designated as parade marshals along the parade route.

FOGY (Families, Organizations, Youth Groups) ENTRIES

Entry Fee \$50

1. All entries in this category are eligible for prize money and awards.
2. A maximum of two vehicles per parade entry is allowed. Requests to enter more than two vehicles must be approved in writing by the parade chairman prior to the date of the parade. A truck with an attached trailer is considered one vehicle.
3. Forward motion must be maintained by all units during the parade. Stopping on the parade route is not permitted.

PERFORMANCE AND BAND ENTRIES

Performance Entry (\$100)

1. All Performance entries are eligible for prize money. Band and Performance entries are eligible for awards.
2. Entries are judged on a 90-second performance performed in front of the judges stand (not the emcee grandstand). Do not exceed 90 seconds. Stopping along the parade route at any other location is not permitted.
3. Participants walking with performers (family, coaches, etc.) must walk behind the performers, not on either side.
4. A maximum of two vehicles per parade entry is allowed. Requests to enter more than two vehicles must be approved in writing by the parade chairman prior to the date of the parade. A truck with an attached trailer is considered one vehicle.
5. Performers are required to break formation to let motorcycle police or parade official golf carts pass when approached.

SCHOOL SPIRIT ENTRIES

Entry Fee \$50

1. Parade entries in this category are competing for prize money and awards.
2. A maximum of two vehicles per parade entry is allowed. Requests to enter more than two vehicles must be approved in writing by the parade chairman prior to the date of the parade. A truck with an attached trailer is considered one vehicle. Forward motion must be maintained by all units during the parade. Stopping on the parade route is not permitted.
3. Participants in the School Spirit category must be affiliated with local area schools.

COMMERCIAL ENTRIES

Entry Fee \$350

1. Entries in this category are eligible for awards but not prize money.
2. A maximum of two vehicles per parade entry is allowed. Requests to enter more than two vehicles must be approved in writing by the parade chairman prior to the date of the parade. A truck with an attached trailer is considered one vehicle. Forward motion must be maintained by all units during the parade. Stopping on the parade route is not permitted.
3. Although this is an opportunity for a business to advertise, ALL ENTRIES MUST BE DECORATED TO MEET THE PARADE THEME.
4. Commercial entries are allowed to distribute flyers or other marketing materials (not exceeding 4x6 inches) by hand to parade guests. Entries may not throw items of any kind to anyone along the parade route. This rule is strictly enforced by NKC Police for the safety of all.

MOTORCYCLE ENTRIES

Entry Fee \$100

1. Entries in this category are eligible for awards but not prize money.
2. A maximum of six Motorcycle Entries are allowed in the parade each year.
Entries are admitted on a first come, first served basis.
3. A maximum of 75 motorcycles per entry is allowed.
4. Motorcycle groups who also have a float must enter it separately in the FOGY or Rainbow Category and pay an additional entry fee. However, the two entries will be staged together in the parade.
5. Motorcycles must ride three abreast.
6. Stunt or reckless driving (burnouts, wheelies, etc.) is not permitted. Entries may not throw items of any kind to anyone along the parade route. This rule is strictly enforced by NKC Police for the safety of all. Forward motion must be maintained by all units during the parade. Stopping on the parade route is not permitted.

AUTOMOTIVE ENTRIES

Entry Fee \$250

1. Entries in this category are eligible for awards but not prize money.
2. A maximum of six Automotive Entries are allowed in the parade each year.
Entries are admitted on a first come, first served basis.
3. A maximum of 24 vehicles per entry is permitted. Failure to follow this limit will result in expulsion from future parades.
4. Automotive groups who also have a float must enter it separately in the FOGY or Rainbow Category and an additional entry fee is required. However, these two entries will be staged together in the parade
5. Automotive clubs/groups are allowed ONE Automotive entry.
6. Vehicles must drive two abreast throughout the entire parade.
7. Entries may not throw items of any kind to anyone along the parade route. This rule is strictly enforced by NKC Police for the safety of all. Forward motion must be maintained by all units during the parade. Stopping on the parade route is not permitted.

POLITICAL ENTRIES

Entry Fee \$500

1. Entries in this category are NOT eligible for awards OR prize money.
2. Entries in this category must be running for a federal, state, or local office within the northland.
3. A maximum of ONE vehicle per parade entry is allowed. A truck with an attached trailer is considered one vehicle. Forward motion must be maintained by all units during the parade. Stopping on the parade route is not permitted.
4. Although this is an opportunity to advertise a person for an office, ALL ENTRIES MUST BE DECORATED TO MEET THE PARADE THEME.
5. Political entries are allowed to distribute flyers or other marketing materials (not exceeding 4x6 inches) by hand to parade guests. Entries may not throw items of any kind to anyone along the parade route. This rule is strictly enforced by the Police for the safety of all.

MEDIA ENTRIES

1. **MEDIA ENTRIES:** Entries in this category are eligible for awards but not prize money.
2. Although this is an opportunity for a radio/news station to advertise, all entries must be decorated to meet the parade theme.
3. Media entries are allowed to distribute flyers or other marketing materials (not exceeding 4x6 inches) to parade guests by hand. Entries may not throw items of any kind to anyone along the parade route. This rule is strictly enforced by NKC Police for the safety of all.
4. Forward motion must be maintained by all units during the parade. Stopping on the parade route is not permitted.