**Fire & Safety Regulations for Floats**

**SIZE**

By Oklahoma law (47 OS § 14-103), floats on single vehicles may not exceed forty-five feet (45') in length, thirteen and one-half feet (13½') in height, and eight and one-half feet (8½') in width. The combination of a towing vehicle plus a towed float may not exceed sixty-five feet (65') in length, and is subject to the same width and height restrictions.

**COMBUSTABILITY OF DECORATING MATERIALS**

Decorative materials shall be non-combustible or flameproofed in accordance with the information presented in "FLAMEPROOFING SOLUTIONS."

**SMOKING**

*No smoking* restrictions shall be observed in the vicinity of outdoor decorations during the periods of construction, use, and demolition of a float.

**ELECTRICAL SAFETY**

All wiring, controls, lights, appliances, or other electrical equipment used as a part of or in conjunction with decorations shall be of a type approved for outdoor use, installed in an approved manner, and of sufficient capacity to accommodate the electrical load imposed. There shall be no open splices, frayed wiring, cracked insulation, defective equipment, or other indications of weakness permitted in wiring. All exposed light bulbs, spotlights, floodlights, etc. shall be guarded. No light source shall be permitted to be in contact with any surface and such devices shall be securely anchored in place to prevent accidental upsetting if struck and so-positioned that heat from the device will not create a hazard.

**USE OF OPEN FLAMES**

Open flames are prohibited.

**FLOAT BASE OR TOWING VEHICLE**

Any vehicle on which a float is constructed, unless it is a non-powered towed vehicle, shall be provided with an exhaust pipe extension to prevent accumulation of carbon monoxide or other toxic fumes below the float. Exhaust pipes shall have suitable fine-mesh screens on their ends to prevent sparks from possible backfires from igniting the float material. All exhaust equipment, including temporary extensions, shall be clear of combustible materials and leak-tight.

**PASSENGER SAFETY**

Escape routes of sufficient size, strength, and number shall be provided for all persons riding on, in, or under floats. Each person not provided with a permanent seat attached to the vehicle shall instead be provided with a security device to which they must be secured while the float is in motion (this device may be a waist-stand or handhold and must be securely attached to the vehicle or decoration framework). All riders shall be informed of the escape route(s) provided.
FIRE CONTROL EQUIPMENT

At least one ten-pound (10#) capacity ABC all-purpose, dry chemical, portable fire extinguisher in proper working order shall be provided on each float; two such extinguishers shall be provided on floats longer than twenty-five feet (25'), and shall be located at opposite ends of the float. Extinguishers may be concealed, but must be readily accessible from the ground alongside the float. All riders shall be advised of the location of all extinguishers.

Note: Extinguishers for use on floats must not be removed from the sponsoring organization's residence house or hall; rather, they may be drawn from "spares" maintained by the organization or procured from a rental or sales vendor.

COSTUMES

Costumes made of flimsy or gauze-type material must be flameproofed in accordance with the information presented in "FLAMEPROOFING SOLUTIONS."

Floats which are part of a University-sanctioned contest or activity shall be inspected in accordance with guidelines established for that event; a copy of the inspection form follows. The University Fire Marshal will be asked to assist in inspecting floats for compliance with these regulations; floats found to be not in compliance may be eliminated from the event if immediate corrections cannot be made to the satisfaction of the inspector.

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