

PACIFIC COAST JUDGES ASSOCIATION
PROFESSIONAL JUDGES FOR ALL AREAS OF MUSIC AND PAGENTRY

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
FLOAT RULES

1. Float entries must remain in the same category as originally entered throughout the parade season.
2. Floats may compete in each parade only once. Making modifications to a float that has gone through the parade route does not qualify it as a different entry.
3. Float Judging will be done by members of the Pacific Coast Judges Association or the National Judges Association. Judges decision is final
4. Judging stands will be located on the right side of the line of march as indicated on the parade route map
5. Floats will be ready for prejudging at the designated time. If not ready, floats will be judged “as is” or disqualified.
6. Floats will be judged by either: A. PARTIAL PREJUDGING, or B. PREJUDGING IN ENTIRETY SUBJECT TO PENALTY POINTS INCURRED DURING PARADE. Refer to Item 16 for clarification of these methods of judging.
7. Floats will be penalized 5 points for starting time delay at the beginning of the parade route.
8. Floats maintain forward motion during a parade. A distance in spacing of approximately 50 feet shall be maintained. Inoperative floats **will** be pushed to the side at the parade director’s discretion to clear the route for other participants. HOLD UP OF A FORWARD MOTION PARADE = 10 POINT PENALTY.
9. Entries must complete the entire parade route or be disqualified.
10. Individuals, groups or organizations entering floats in the parade shall provide protection for their own floats. The sponsors of the parade will not be responsible for any loss or damage whatsoever to any float or properties used in the parade. The (the sponsors) reserve the right to call a truck to push/pull disabled floats off/through the parade route. A PENALTY OF 10 POINTS WILL BE GIVEN ANY FLOAT THE NEEDS ASSISTANCE OF THIS NATURE, OR ANY FLOAT THAT DOES NOT FINISH THE PARADE UNDER THE POWER WITH WHICH IT STARTED THE PARADE.
11. Units with sound or unusual noise will maintain a volume at a level low enough so as not to interfere with other parade units. Marshals will monitor this and request reduction in noise level if required. PENALTY OF 10 POINTS WILL BE GIVEN IF THE REQUEST OF THE MARSHALS IS NOT FOLLOWED.
12. **Nothing** shall be thrown, handed out, sprayed, or discarded by participants to the viewers. FAILURE TO COMPLY CAN RESULT IN **DISQUALIFICATION** and further action by the Sponsoring Organization.
13. Floats containing or associated with animals **must** maintain control over these animals. No one under six (6) years of age may appear on a float unless accompanied by someone over 18 years of age. Drivers must have some visual contact with the parade route.

14. Radio communications are provided along the parade routes by most sponsors. Any infraction of float rules shall be transmitted to the parade directors or committee and subsequently transmitted to the judges.
15. The sponsors of the parade are to provide float entrants with a map designating the area to be used for setting up the float and the area for dismantling. These areas shall take into consideration: height, width, length and ground clearance.

16. JUDGING:

<u>A. PARTIAL PROJUDGING:</u>		<u>MAXIMUM POINTS</u>
1.	Pre-parade	
	DESIGN: Balance ... Arrangement	
	Artistic Imagination	
	Color Combination	20
	MATERIALS: Kinds used, workmanship	
	& Maintenance, Costuming	
	personnel	20
	THEME: Presentation of Float Topic	
	(Not necessarily Parade Theme)	10
PRE-JUDGING PENALTIES		
	Uncovered Towbar	2 points
	Exposed tail lights	2 points
	Exposed License plate	2 points
	Undecorated parts	2 points
	Exposed generator	2 points
2.	Enroute Judging (While on Parade Route)	
	PROPULSION: Self-propelled	10
	Towed by decorated vehicle	1 to 6
	Towed by non-decorated vehicle	0
	ANIMATION	10
	B. GENERAL EFFECT AND OVERALL APPEAL	30

PRE-JUDGING IN ENTIRETY:

Judging points will be the same as listed under "PARTIAL PREJUDGING:" However, the results or awards made under this method are subject to completion of the parade route without penalty points. If the penalties incurred result in a change of the awards the sponsoring city or association is to notify participants and the news media of the change. Penalty points can be incurred while on the parade route due to float breakdown causing delay in the parade; not maintaining the 50' distance from the preceding unit; failure to obey parade marshals; not completing parade route, etc.

NOTE: In addition to the above "Float Rules," all Parade Rules of the Sponsoring Organization are applicable and shall be followed or disqualification or point reduction may occur.

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 The rules above have been excerpted from the Pacific Coast Judges Association Rules and Regulation and prepared for participants in the Morgan Hill Independence Day Celebration, Inc., Fourth of July Parade.
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Floats

Floats are judged on design, included balance, artistic imagination and the effectiveness of color combinations. Materials and workmanship are considered, as well as the presentation of theme and overall appeal. The manner of propulsion (i.e. towing vehicle, self-propelled) is regarded as part of the float's appeal, as well as the personnel and costuming that enhance its presentation.

Music

Parade Music judging is an authoritative evaluation of a unit's performance. The general aspects of music adjudication are performance, musical quality, effectiveness and entertainment value. Qualities considered include tone, intonation, musicianship, precision, articulation, balance, expression, dynamics and appeal.

Visual and Marching Units

The visual judge evaluates the performance of color guards, drill teams, musical marching organizations and their auxiliary units. The primary areas evaluated are content and design of the routine, excellence of execution and technique, the effect of the presentation and the entertainment value.

Baton Twirling and Drum Majors

Baton twirling and drum major entries are judged on the excellence of presentation, including variety, difficulty and routine construction. Performance qualities such as technique and accuracy are considered, as well as entertainment value and showmanship. Precision and uniformity of style are assessed in group entries. In addition, Drum Majors are judged on leadership skills.

Novelty and Miscellaneous Entries

The primary criteria for novelty and miscellaneous entries, including automobiles, is entertainment value and appeal as parade entries. Care in the entry's preparation, community involvement, consistency of theme, personnel and costuming are all considered.