

# Mardi Gras Southeast Texas

## 2019 MOTOR PARADE

### A Public Entry Parade

**Sunday, March 3, 2019**

Line up: Seawall 1:00 PM  
Parade Starts at 4:00 PM

Parade Entry Fee: \$ 150

Float Rental Fee : \$ 1000

*No generator provided*

Golf Cart, ATV, Fee: \$ 25

**NO REFUNDS - NO EXCEPTIONS**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization : \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail : \_\_\_\_\_ Overall Length: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Entry: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Application deadline is **Feb 15, 2019** and must be returned in person to the Mardi Gras Office
2. Vehicles / trailers/ Golf Carts, ATV, Etc. must be decorated with a Mardi Gras décor / theme
3. Applicant agrees to abide by the City of Port Arthur Ordinance
4. Proof of proper vehicle insurance in accordance with state law, \$ 300,000 minimum coverage required
5. Sufficient traditional Mardi Gras throws required per rider for a two-mile parade - No candy permitted
6. Maximum clearance for all entries is 16 feet
7. Float walkers required for all floats – minimum 6, must be 14 yrs of age or older and able to handle the crowd.
8. No refunds on entry fees or float rental - no exceptions

**ENTRY  
FORM**

**PARADE  
RULES**

### VEHICLE RIDER(S) LIABILITY RELEASE

The undersigned hereby releases and discharge MGSET, Inc. and its members, agents, officers and employees (collectively, the "Released Party") from any and all liabilities, claims, demands, suits and causes of action for damages or cost or expenses for any bodily injury or property damage arising out of or related to riding in parade or on parade floats, golfcart, atv, etc. operated by or under the control of the Released Party. The undersigned hereby agrees to Indemnify and Hold Harmless and Defend the Released Party from any and all claims, demands, undersigned and the undersigned's heirs, successors and assigns. This Release is binding on the under-signed and the undersigned's heirs, successors and assigns. If signed by a parent it is effective to release any claim of that parent's minor children.

**I HAVE READ THE MARDI GRAS RULES AND REQUIREMENTS AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THEM. I ASSUME PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY AND ALL DAMAGES TO FLOAT(S) RENTED FROM MGSET, INC.**

**RESPONSIBLE  
PARTY  
SIGNATURE**

**Sign Here:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mardi Gras Official:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mardi Gras Southeast Texas, Inc. reserves the right to accept or decline any application.**

RETURN APPLICATION,  
PROOF OF INSURANCE AND  
ENTRY FEE TO:

Mardi Gras of Southeast Texas  
3830 Hwy 365 Port Arthur, Texas 77642  
Phone: 409 / 721-8717 Fax: 409 / 721-8700  
Web: [mardigras.portarthur.com](http://mardigras.portarthur.com)

**NO REFUNDS - NO EXCEPTIONS**



# CITY OF PORT ARTHUR PARADE REGULATIONS

as presented by the Port Arthur Fire Department

## *Parade Floats*

**FLOAT - a special event conveyance not subject to normal travel and licensing on public streets including a towing vehicle.**

### **ON ALL FLOATS THERE SHALL BE:**

**FIRE EXTINGUISHER:** A portable (2A10BC type) fire extinguisher permanently mounted on each float and located within reach of the driver. The driver shall have a working knowledge of the use of that fire extinguisher.

**2ND FIRE EXTINGUISHER:** In the event decorations or any objects prevent the driver from quickly exiting, a second extinguisher equal to the first shall be placed on the float as required by the Fire Official.

**HEAT PRODUCTION:** All heat producing devices (i.e. flames, generators, smoke machines, flares, etc.) shall be approved by the Fire Official. Generators shall be located in the tow vehicle, no suv, camper, or enclosed area allowed. No riders allowed in the bed of truck.

**LADDERS:** Each float or platform shall have sufficient number of ladder, 22" minimum width, to allow riders and emergency workers quick access and egress of said equipment.

**SAFETY CHAINS:** There shall be at least one safety chain with tensile strength on all trailer hitches to prevent loss of control of the float in the event the hitch becomes disconnected from the towing vehicle. State law.

**IF STANDING:** A. SAFETY RAIL: All locations on floats and vehicles that provide a standing site for revelers, shall have a rail with a minimum diameter of 1 1/4" with the top bar not less than 32" above the standing platform. The rail shall be secured in a manner to support a weight of 250 lb. *Exception - Floats providing riding pits, a minimum of 32" deep need not have rails*

OR B. SAFETY HARNESS: Any float not having proper rails or pits shall have attachments for safety belts at each standing location. A piece of rope attached to the float, hooked to the waist, must be secured to the revelers at all times when the float is moving.

**SEATED RIDERS:** Chairs or benches will be securely fastened to the deck of the float to insure they can not tip over. Safety belts are to be used to prevent falling or standing.

**FLOAT GUARDS:** All floats shall have a safety crew on the ground walking every 10' along the side of the float. Minimum age for float guards is 14 years or older. Must be able to handle the crowd.

**DECORATION:** Certificates stating a *flame spread rating of 0-25 and a smoke rating of not more than 450* shall be provided to the Fire Official at time of float/vehicle inspection for all decorations. This may in the form of a letter from person decorating float stating it has been treated with fire retardant or decorated with fire retardant material.

**GOLF CARTS, ATV, ETC.:** Must be driven by licensed driver and children accompanied by adult. Registration required.

**MINI FLOAT:** Shall not be longer than 20'. This includes lowboy trailer or other vehicle that has had a platform built over the railings or any other type of structure to change its original use. It shall carry no more than nine revelers and will conform to the regulations for floats.

### **LOWBOY TRAILER REGULATIONS:**

Lowboy trailers with no structures will be allowed up to 6' X 20' using inside dimensions. There will be one person allowed per seven (7) square feet of surface area.

Chairs or benches will be securely fastened to the deck of the float to insure they cannot tip over. When positioning chairs on the lowboy a sufficient landing shall be provided for the loading and off loading of the participants.

**Ground Crew -** All lowboys shall have two (2) escorts. One on each side positioned by the trailer hitch.

Ladders - Due to height of lowboy trailer frames, no ladders are required. Exception: Any lowboy trailer having been altered to raise the height above normal shall be required to have a ladder provided.

Standing is prohibited on all lowboy trailers unless safety rails with a minimum diameter of 1 1/4", with the top bar not less than 32" above the standing platform. The rail shall be secured in a manner to support a weight of 250 pounds.

**CONTACT FIRE INSPECTOR AT 983-8741 FOR DISCUSSION OR INSPECTION.**



# Mardi Gras Southeast Texas

3830 HWY 365, PORT ARTHUR, TX 77642  
(409) 721-8717  
mardigras.portarthur.com



## Motor Parade Rules

**ELIGIBILITY** - Only registered floats and vehicles are eligible.

**CITY ORDINANCE** - It is required that riders comply with Port Arthur Parade City Ordinance. (Attached)

**FLOAT CAPTAIN** - The float Captain is in charge of all float activities with emphasis on **safety**. Responsibilities include securing the vehicle to pull the float, driver, trailer hitch, ropes, float guards, cleanup, getting float to designated areas and costume coordination. **CLEAN UP IS MANADATORY!**

**COSTUMING** is encouraged; need not be elaborate, just fun and festive.

**GATE ADMISSION** – Ticket required for all float riders and parade participants wishing to enter the entertainment area after the parade.

**DRIVER INSTRUCTION** - The lead float will set the pace. Do not allow excessive gap. Maintain a reasonable safe distance from float ahead (Approximately 50 feet). If your vehicle becomes immobile, ask the vehicle behind you to pass by. Do not stop unless for emergency or safety reason. Keep careful lookout for spectators especially children approaching your vehicle.

**RIDER INSTRUCTION** – Riders are prohibited from getting on or off the float while the float is in motion. Riders are restricted to the float floor space only. Sitting or climbing on props or railings is prohibited.

**SEAWALL** – Line up entrance gate will be locked 1 hour prior to parade starting. All vehicles not used in parade are to be moved in advance, no exceptions. Driving off the seawall onto the levy is strictly prohibited and may result in expulsion and/or fine by order of the PA Police Dept.

**THROWS** - It is required that customary throws, such as cups doubloons, beads be thrown from floats. Sufficient amounts are necessary. Candy is prohibited. To ensure spectator safety, toss the throws a reasonable distance from the float. Do not throw to front and rear of float. If the float stops discontinue throwing.

**BEVERAGES** - Only plastic and paper containers allowed. No glass containers allowed.

**FIREARMS** are prohibited in lineup area and on float.

**ADVERTISING / SIGNAGE** - limited to registered organization or MGSET approved sponsors.

**TRASH** - Is your responsibility to pickup your trash and dispose of properly.

**FAMILY EVENT** – Behavior not consistent with the family affair philosophy of MGSET is prohibited and may result in expulsion. City ordinance as well as MGSET prohibits encouraging spectator nudity, indecent attire and characterization.

Revised Mardi Gras 2017

# FLOAT CAPTAINS CHECK LIST

FLOAT CAPTAINS ARE REQUIRED TO SEE THAT FLOAT  
IS LEFT CLEAN AND TRASH FREE

**FIRE EXTINGUISHER FOR FLOAT**

**FIRE EXTINGUISHER FOR TOW VEHICLE**

**FLOAT GUARDS (minimum of 4 required, 14 years or older)**

**GENERATOR IN TOW VEHICLE**

**EXTRA GASOLINE FOR GENERATORS**

**REMIND FLOAT RIDERS ABSOLUTELY NO PARKING ANYWHERE ON  
SEAWALL OR ALONG 4TH STREET. VEHICLES WILL BE TICKETED AND  
TOWED**

**SOUND SYSTEM FOR FLOAT**

**BROOM AND TRASH BAGS FOR CLEAN UP**