

General Order # 1 2020 - 2021

SHRINE AND CIVIC PARADE REGULATIONS

SHRINE PARADE REGULATIONS

1. **Non-Shriners.** Other than the police escort, dignitaries, distinguished guests and Shriners Hospitals for Children patients and any necessary caregiver, only Shriners are permitted in Shrine parades.
2. **Cadence.** Marching cadence will be 110 steps to the minute, except for specialized units which may require a different cadence.
3. **Interval.** Intervals of not over 80 feet between temples and 40 feet between units are to be constantly maintained.
4. **Impersonations.** No impersonations of ethnic groups, females, or political figures are allowed in parades.
5. **Vehicle Equipment.** No motorized vehicles shall engage their emergency sirens or lights.
6. **Safety Laws.** Motorcycles, scooters, and other motorized vehicles shall obey local laws regarding speed, prudent operation and the use of hard helmets. In states where helmets are not required, the temple Potentate may direct helmet use for safety reasons instead of fezzes.
7. **Throwing Objects.** No candy or other objects shall be **HANDED OR THROWN** from any vehicle in the parade. A Shriner may walk along the edge of a parade route and hand out Shrine information or other appropriate objects.
8. **Discharge of Firearms.** No explosives or discharge of firearms of any type are permitted.
9. **Demeaning Displays.** No demeaning displays or other items that may be considered in poor taste are permitted.
10. **Alcoholic Beverages.** Members of participating units shall not drink any alcoholic beverages before or during any parade, and they shall be circumspect in the use of soft drinks in public places so as not to give the impression they are drinking alcoholic beverages.
11. **Reviewing Stand.**
 - (a) At Imperial Session parades, a reviewing stand is reserved for the exclusive use of the Imperial Potentate, Imperial officers, Past Imperial officers and such guests as invited by the Imperial Potentate.
 - (b) At the reviewing stand during Imperial parades, temple divans will give the hand salute and must not stop to salaam. The Imperial Potentate (or ranking Imperial officer) receives the salute. When temples from an Imperial Officer's state or province pass in review, that officer receives the salute of these temples along with the Imperial Potentate.
 - (c) At association of temples parades, the ranking Imperial officer along with the association President or Potentate (as appropriate) receives the salute of all temples. Other Imperial officers and association officers will follow the same procedure as above.

(d) At association of temples parades, the temple Potentates may leave their cars and accept the salutes of their units.

12. "Country" Flags. No "country" flag shall be lowered or dipped when passing the Reviewing Stand or elsewhere.

13. Enforcement. Parade marshals shall enforce all Shrine parade regulations and they shall report any violator to the Potentate of his temple. Failure on the part of a temple Potentate to cooperate with parade marshals shall be reported in writing to the Imperial Potentate.

14. Potentate Responsibility. Each Potentate is personally responsible and accountable for knowingly permitting any violation of parade regulations. Temple Potentates are required to review parade regulations with their temple marshal, the Parade Marshal, and their unit heads.

CIVIC PARADE REGULATIONS

1. Shriners Only. Notwithstanding the provisions in §335.11, in parades of temples at annual Sessions of Shriners International, unless written dispensation is received from the Imperial Potentate for the annual Session during his term in office, or in local Shriners parades or exhibitions under the auspices of temples or Shrine associations, only Nobles shall participate.

2. Civic Parades. In civic parades, and non-Shrine public appearances, Nobles, their ladies, children and masonic related or sponsored organizations may participate, with the approval of the Potentate. Only Nobles may perform or compete in any vehicle, ride vehicles with fewer than four wheels, or operate any vehicle while parading, including participation with any of the clubs or units parading.

In those situations, where a specific license is required by a state, due to the size, weight or passenger carrying capacity of a vehicle to be used in a parade, and should there be NO MEMBER NOBLE PROPERLY LICENSED TO OPERATE SAID VEHICLE, the temple may hire a properly licensed driver with proof of the proper license required, and verifying that the driver has an acceptable driving record according to any applicable insurance carrier(s). This driver MUST be added to the insurance policy, and accepted by the insurance company, PRIOR to his/her operating ANY vehicle on behalf of the temple.

3. Musical Groups. In civic parades and functions, Shrine musical groups may, with the approval of the Potentate, allow guest musicians to participate. The guest must be significantly and substantially distinguished from the Nobles in dress.

4. Regulations. Shrine Parade Regulations 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 apply to civic parades as well.

The above parade regulations must be strictly followed. A violation of the regulations can result in disciplinary action against the unit, club, President, Director, Rabban, or Chairman.

Participation in the parades listed on the approval form after approved by the Potentate implies the adherence to and accepting of responsibility by the President, Director, Rabban, or Chairman to abide by the Parade Regulations.