



ALAN ROSS TEXAS FREEDOM PARADE RULES

SUNDAY, JUNE 2nd, 2024 – 2:00 PM – 4:30 PM

APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE ONLY AT [DALLASPRIDE.ORG](https://dallaspride.org)

**PLEASE NOTE: THESE RULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED OF ANY CHANGES OR ADJUSTMENTS.**

1. General

- a. Each applicant must agree to all the rules herein and are responsible for informing all applicant affiliates of these rules.
- b. All the applicant's contact information must be complete. Incorrect contact information may delay or prevent the processing of the application.
- c. If two or more applicants would like to be placed together, they must contact Dallas Pride. All reasonable attempts will be made to accommodate such requests but are not guaranteed. Each applicant must still have an individual contact. Each application must have separate fees. Applicant placement is assigned at the sole discretion of Dallas Pride.
- d. Applications that are paid for with a credit card will have an immediate postmark date when they are submitted. Applications that are paid via paper check will be postmarked the date on the envelope the check was sent, not the application submission date.
- e. The parade line-up is assigned in the order of each application's paid date and time. The application must be **PAID** to be included in the line-up.
- f. Entries are encouraged to display their identity through a variety of visual media such as signs, banners both in front and on the sides of the entry, balloons, flags and/or t-shirts so that judges and spectators can easily identify the entry.
- g. All Parade participants should be aware of the possibility of heat exhaustion and/or stroke. The temperature on parade day could be in excess of 90 degrees. Entries are encouraged to bring plenty of water and replenishing fluids for participants. **Coolers will only be allowed to be brought in through Gate 12, the staging entrance with your entry.** Coolers for the general public are not permitted.
- h. Dallas Pride does not assume or accept responsibility for the health, well-being, or safety of any participant.
- i. **All motorized entries must carry a "Type ABC" fire extinguisher as required by the City of Dallas Fire Marshal.** Parade entries lacking such fire extinguishers, by the start of the Parade, cannot participate.
 - i. Parade representatives have the right to enter any entry at any time to inspect and ensure compliance with Parade rules.
- j. All vehicles to be driven in the parade must provide proof of insurance if asked by a Dallas Pride Committee member, Dallas Police Department, or Fair Park staff.
- k. Only vehicles intended as part of the parade entry will be allowed in staging.
- l. All vehicles in the Parade must be able to navigate the entire parade route and make all turns and clearances without difficulty. Floats are generally professionally made or made by participants, normally constructed on a large truck, flatbed or trailer or over a small pickup or car. Dimensions of all floats must not exceed the following: 40 feet in length, 12 feet in width at the wheelbase with a maximum of 15 feet in height. It is the responsibility of each driver/entrant to see to it that their float clears all obstacles. Enclosed cars, jeeps, convertibles, small pickups and animals are not considered floats for judging but are welcome for greater participation from the community.
- m. All entries must have someone with a key to the vehicle (if applicable) and is able to move the vehicle in the event of an emergency.



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2. Packet Pick Up

- a. **A parade entry representative must pick up the parade packet at our PRE-PARADE meeting, approximately two weeks prior to our event. THE DATE IS TO BE DETERMINED AND YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED BY E-MAIL FOR CONFIRMATION OF DATE AND LOCATION OF THE PARADE MEETING. (You will be notified well in advance of the date in order to make arrangements for a representative to attend the meeting)**
- b. **Your packet will contain materials needed for the day of the event.**
- c. Enter through Fair Park **Gate #12 at Gaisford St. & S Fitzhugh Ave**
- d. **Sponsors**
 - i. Your parade packet may be mailed to you if you are unable to pick up your parade packet on this day.
- e. If you are not able to pick up your packet at the Pre-Parade meeting (date to be announced), they will also be available at Festival Set-up on Friday, May 31st and Saturday, June 1st.

3. Parade Packet

- a. Two (2) entry numbers per 50' of parade space allotted. **Each vehicle in your entry must have an entry number placed on the dashboard to enter staging** and remain visible to the announcers during the parade. If your entry includes a float, only the pulling vehicle will need an entry number. If more entry numbers are needed, please email sherrell@dallaspride.org ASAP to be placed in your parade packet.
- b. Your specific staging times.
 - i. These will be sent out earlier if available.
- c. Staging Maps
- d. Copy of these Parade Rules
- e. Parade Line-up

4. Parade Staging

- a. **ALL Physical Parade entries, i.e., floats, vehicles**
 - i. The Parade staging area will open be Sunday, June 2nd from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
 - a. We will be staging in time blocks; your staging time block will be in your parade packet.
 - ii. Enter through Fair Park **Gate #12 at Gaisford St. & S Fitzhugh Ave.**
 - iii. **You will need your parade entry number displayed to be allowed entry.**
 - iv. **All PHYSICAL parade elements must be in position by 12:00 PM on June 2nd. Entries not in place by 12:00 PM will be denied participation.** This only applies to vehicles, floats, or other large entry items.
 - v. **Early Placement**
 - a. The Parade staging area will also be open on Saturday, June 1st. If you would like to place your parade entry on this day, please make arrangements with Dallas Pride prior to Saturday, June 1st.



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- b. Dallas Pride does not assume or take responsibility for entries placed early on Saturday, June 1st.
- c. There will be 24-hour security.

b. General Participants & Walking Groups (without a vehicle entry)

- i. You may park in any general parking lots located at Fair Park and enter through any gate
- ii. We strongly suggest utilizing ride share or [DART](#) for any of your parade entry participants.
- iii. **All participants must be in position no later than 1:30**

c. Sponsors & VIP participant parking

- i. Enter through Fair Park **Gate #3 at Parry Ave & Washington St.**
 - a. **Parking pass required.**

d. Parade Space

- i. It is the responsibility of each entry to ensure that all elements will fit in the space allotted.
- ii. Any tents, vehicles, trash, and other items must be cleared from your allotted space when the parade starts.
- iii. **General Entry**
 - a. Each entry will be allotted up to 50 ft x 12ft of line up space. All portions of the entry (float, vehicles, etc.) must fit into this space. An extra 50ft of space is available for purchase.
- iv. **Sponsors**
 - a. Your allotted space will be determined by your sponsorship agreement.

5. Parade Route

- a. Entries are encouraged to perform along the parade route if the performance is in a continuous forward motion. **There will be NO Stopping along the parade route to perform.**
- b. Any group wishing to perform a standing routine must do so during pre-parade at 1:30 PM.
- c. There will be a designated area and time on the parade route where performances can take place, but must be coordinated, scheduled and approved in advance with the Dallas Pride. Those pre-parade performances will be judged and scored by the judges and still be eligible for trophies and recognition.
- d. Entries will be judged as they pass along the parade route for:
 - i. Best Performance
 - ii. Best Walking Group
 - iii. Best Costume
 - iv. Best Local Business Entry
 - v. Best Non-Profit Entry
 - vi. Alan Ross – Judge's Choice
 - vii. Best Interpretation of the Parade Theme: "Live Out Proud"
- e. There will be a designated time and date set for the presentation of parade awards.



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6. Parade Script

- a. Any entry wishing to be announced along the parade route must send a script that can be read in 20 seconds or less
 - i. **Due by Thursday, May 16th** at midnight, emailed to sherrell@dallaspride.org
 - ii. **Example:** AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) is a global nonprofit committed to providing cutting-edge medicine and advocacy regardless of ability to pay. AHF currently serves over 1.5 million clients in the United States, Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America/Caribbean.

7. “Throwing”

- a. **General Entry**
 - i. May be purchased as an additional fee for \$200.
- b. **Sponsors**
 - i. Included in ALL sponsorships.
- c. The items allowed for “throwing” include, but not limited to glow sticks, stress balls, key chains, plastic cups, temporary tattoos, beads, clothing, koozies, 3” frisbees and hats. Items thrown should have some intrinsic value, providing enough enticement for spectators to keep the items rather than throwing them on the ground.
- d. Condoms, dental dams, and personal/sensual lubricants may be handed to persons 17 years of age and older. The above items should not be thrown randomly to the spectators.
- e. Items deemed sexually explicit (i.e., items shaped as a penis) will not be permitted as “throwing” items.
- f. Refrain from throwing items until you are on the **Parade Route**. Conserve “throw” items so that they last the length of the parade route. Hand items across the barricades or throw items to the back of the crowds and be sure they clear the barricades. Entries throwing items should have walking members to gather dropped items and be sure they clear the barricades and go into the crowd.
- g. **Stickers, literature, glitter, confetti, streamers, coins, tokens may not be thrown or distributed by any Parade participant. Only pre-packaged food items may be thrown (i.e., chips, candy bars)**
- h. Any participant in the Parade discovered to be throwing items not in line with the above listing is subject to a charge for clean-up costs and/or suspension from future parade participation.

8. Alcohol and Illegal Substances

- a. No individual under the influence of alcohol or an illegal substance will be allowed to drive any vehicle participating in the Parade. Any participant violating this rule will be ejected from the Parade and his/her group’s entry will be removed from the Parade by the Dallas Police Department.

9. Prohibited Items

- a. Open flames. This includes but is not limited to fuel or charcoal grills of any type; camping stoves (i.e., Coleman stoves); and any other flame producing device or equipment. Items such as cigarette lighters and matches are excluded.
- b. Staking of any kind. This includes tent stakes.



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- c. Parking on the grass or driving through any portion of the Event area unless permission has been given by Dallas Pride.
- d. Glass Containers.
- e. Securing or hanging anything from the trees, shrubs, and lamps located throughout Fair Park.
- f. Distribution of alcoholic products of any type.
- g. Distribution of items deemed sexually explicit (i.e., items shaped as a penis).
- h. Selling food or beverage items is prohibited. Only approved food vendor applicants may sell food or beverage products.
- i. Water guns or water cannons.

10. Dress & Behavior

- a. Dallas Pride encourages all applicants to appear in attire that celebrates true LGBTQ Pride. The goal of the Dallas Pride is to promote not only the pride, but also the unity and appreciation of diversity. Dress or conduct displayed by any applicant or individual participant contrary to this ideal or that is intentionally demeaning to any other group will not be tolerated. No exceptions to this rule.
- b. Dallas Pride encourages all applicants to show respect for all genders, ages, races, cultures, lifestyles, faiths and sexual orientations. All applicants are asked to display an attitude that promotes pride in the LGBTQ community. Applicants may not use profanity, vulgar music, obscene gestures, or show other improper conduct toward any other group or individual participant or spectator.
- c. If any individual participant or group of protestors heckles any individual or group represented at the Event(s), applicants are encouraged to ignore the situation and NOT respond to the protestors.
- d. In accordance with the City of Dallas public nudity ordinance, applicants must not expose genitalia, buttocks, or female breasts.
- e. As it is impossible to anticipate every situation that may arise, no conduct that violates any statute of the State of Texas or any ordinance on the City of Dallas will be tolerated. Any applicant violating applicable law will be prohibited from participating at the Event(s) and will be removed from the Event(s).
- f. In accordance with State of Texas obscenity law, sexual paraphernalia, real or simulated sex acts and genital or phallic representations are prohibited from the Event(s)

11. Clean-up

- a. To limit clean-up costs, each applicant is required to be aware of trash/items accumulated by the applicants' participants before, during and after the Event(s). Applicants in violation of this provision are subject to being assessed a portion of the clean-up costs.

12. Extreme Weather Policy

- a. In the event of extreme weather, including but not limited to rain, Dallas Pride reserves the right to cancel the Event(s).
- b. **In the event of a cancellation, application fees will not be refunded in whole or part.**



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13. Rules Enforcement

- a. The above rules and regulations are subject to the interpretation of the Parade Committee and will be enforced by Dallas Pride. These rules are created not to inhibit your celebration in any way, but rather to protect and enhance both the experience of the participant and the spectator. It is in respect for the 95% who follow the rules and participate in a positive manner that we enforce these rules. In addition, many of the restrictions or limitations set here are in response to local and state laws governing parades and rallies.
- b. Dallas Pride and the Parade Committee reserve the right to remove any Parade participant for non-compliance with any of the rules stated herein.
- c. Only registered and approved entries may participate in the Parade. Any individual or group not adhering to set rules or not registered and approved by Dallas Pride will be removed from the Parade by the Dallas Police Department and/or could be subject to arrest (if deemed uncooperative) or suspension from future participation.
- d. Dallas Pride retains the right to assess additional repair or clean-up costs for any entry causing damage, generating excessive litter or abandoning refuse.
- e. Dallas Pride reserves the right to refuse any application.

These rules are subject to change. All reasonable attempts will be made to notify Parade participants of any changes.