

Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce & Los Vigilantes  
77<sup>th</sup> Annual El Centro Christmas Parade

*The Gingerbread Village Christmas Parade*

Saturday, December 2, 2023



Administrative Fees: Regular: \$35 through November 22, 2023  
\$100 for Elected Officials, those in public office or running for public office  
No fee for Elementary & High School Marching Bands, Sports, or Cheer/Drill Teams  
\*All fees are non-refundable\*

\*\* Deadline to submit entry form & all attachments is 12:00 p.m. on November 22, 2023 \*\*

ANY APPLICATION RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE IS SUBJECT TO A  
\*\*\* \$200.00 LATE ENTRY FEE \*\*\*  
ABSOLUTELY NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 12:00PM on November 22, 2023

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Must be present day of event and explain all rules to participants)

Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
DAYTIME MOBILE

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (required): \_\_\_\_\_

I/We wish to enter the Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce/Los Vigilantes Christmas Parade

1. Our Entry is a: (mark only one)

- FLOAT:  **Would you like your float to be judged?** YES / NO
- EQUESTRIAN GROUP:
- QUEEN: *(Queen must provide own transportation)*
- CAR/MOTORCYCLE *(limit of six cars per entry):*  Individual  Car Club
- BAND:  Marching  OR  On a Vehicle
- BATON / FLAG GROUP:
- MARCHING GROUP/ DRILL TEAM:

2. Our Group is a (please mark only one)

- Business  School / Youth Organization  Service Organization
- Public Service Organization  Religious Group

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Division# \_\_\_\_\_ Entry # \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Insurance \_\_\_\_\_ Waiver \_\_\_\_\_ Description \_\_\_\_\_

**3. ONLY Christmas music may be played in the Parade:**

Will your entry have music?    Yes  No

**4. Will your entry be participating with another parade entrant?**    Yes  No

*If yes, please provide name of another entrant:*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**5. PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE a description of your entry for the Parade Announcers (*this is what will be said as your entry travels along parade route*). This must be completed and submitted to be accepted as an entry into the Christmas Parade. **200 word MAXIMUM; anything in excess will be edited as needed and at the discretion of the Imperial Valley Regional Chamber.****

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**6. To be considered for the Parade, you must also provide the following:**

- o Your signature (below) stating you have read and will abide by the Parade Rules
- o A signed 'Liability Waiver' with signatures of all participants (page 6 of this application)

**OR**

- o A 'Certificate of Liability Insurance' naming the *Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce, Los Vigilantes and the City of El Centro* as additionally insured.

Your signature on this form is evidence that you agree to the Parade Rules and will abide by these rules. Further, your signature on this entry form indicates that you agree to indemnify, hold harmless, and to release the Imperial Valley Regional Chamber, Los Vigilantes, the City of El Centro, and all those organizations' volunteers, employees, contractors, and agents, from all responsibility for loss, damage, or injury to any person or property relating in any way to participation in the Parade.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

**I am the person responsible for this entry and I will be present at the Parade with a copy of the Rules and Regulations.**

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## **LIABILITY WAIVER**

Please read this entire document. Insert the name of your organization as indicated. Instruct each person associated with your entry (parent or guardian, for a minor) to complete and sign in the appropriate spaces at the bottom. Return the signed and completed form(s) with the rest of your Parade Entry Forms.

IN CONSIDERATION of being granted a position as an entrant and/or permission to participate in the Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce & Los Vigilantes Christmas Parade, (the "Parade"), or on behalf of a minor child, the undersigned agrees, and states as follows:

1. The undersigned is aware of and understands the inherent risks, hazards and dangers associated with parade participation (which are printed below and incorporated herein as though appearing above the signature of the undersigned) and, notwithstanding that the actual conditions at the Parade may pose more or less risks, hazards and dangers than those so enumerated, the undersigned nevertheless elects, voluntarily, to enter and/or participate in the Parade on the terms, conditions and covenants set forth herein. In this regard, the undersigned, for himself/herself/itself and for his/her/its heirs, successors, assignees, personal representatives and next of kin, hereby releases, waives, discharges, covenants not to sue and agrees to hold harmless the Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce & Los Vigilantes Christmas Parade Committee; all Parade volunteers, employees and/or representatives; the City of El Centro; the Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce; the County of Imperial; and each of them, as well as their officers, directors, agents, volunteers and employees; from all liability for any and all causes and claims of every type and nature whatsoever, including but not limited to property damage, injury to person and/or death, or otherwise, without limitation, arising out of or alleged to be arising out of the conduct of the Parade, the pre-Parade formation, staging, placement, judging, organizational meetings, post-Parade ceremonies and any other Parade event sanctioned by the Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce & Los Vigilantes Christmas Parade Committee.
2. The undersigned hereby promises that the state of his or her physical health (if this release is on behalf of an individual), or the physical health of the persons representing the undersigned in this Parade (if this release is on behalf of an organization) will, on the day of the Parade, be sufficiently sound to permit such person(s) to safely participate. If such person(s) will be handling any animal, motorized vehicle, apparatus, device, firearm, or other thing in the Parade, he/she/they is/are possessed of sufficient experience in doing so that the life, limb or property of self and others will not be exposed to unreasonable risk of harm.
3. THE UNDERSIGNED HAS READ AND UNDERSTANDS THIS RELEASE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE IN ITS ENTIRETY AND VOLUNTARILY SIGNS SAME, without reliance on any representations, statements, or inducements, express or implied, made by any party whomsoever.
4. **RISKS, HAZARDS AND DANGERS ASSOCIATED WITH PARADE PARTICIPATION**  
Parades involve inherent risks, hazards and conditions that may be dangerous to life, limb and property and that can arise in an incalculable variety of unforeseeable or foreseeable ways which may include (as examples, but not necessarily as a complete list) the following: The presence and use of horses and other animals, motor vehicles, machinery, firearms, floats, fireworks, acrobats, projectiles, aerial demonstrations, baton twirling, wind, rain, hail and other forces of the elements, and other threats to life and limb, such as the possibility of slipping and falling and complications associated with weather conditions and physical exertion (such as heat stroke, fainting, collapse, exhaustion or other more serious complications).

***See the next page for the Liability Waiver Signature Form.***  
**\*\*THE ATTACHED FORM MUST BE COMPLETED IF INSURANCE IS NOT PROVIDED\*\***



# PARADE RULES & REGULATIONS

**This document is to be kept by the Parade Entrant**

The primary focus for the Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce / Los Vigilantes Christmas Parade is to provide a safe, enjoyable & quality parade in/on the streets of El Centro. It is also to launch the Christmas shopping Season to merchants throughout the Imperial Valley, by officially welcoming Santa Claus to El Centro. In its 77th year, the Christmas Parade is a hometown tradition. We thank you for your interest in participating in this year's Parade.

## GENERAL RULES:

- **No Throwing Candy or Gifts** – candy may be handed out, **BUT NOT THROWN!**
- No shooting spectators with silly string or water (Super Soakers, etc.).
- If there is inclement weather on Parade Day, the parade will be cancelled. There is no rain date for the Parade.
- It is the responsibility of parents and/or guardians with children participating in the parade to make necessary arrangements to have children met and picked-up at designated points.
- **Only Christmas music may be played. NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- All parade entries must be decorated to reflect the theme of the parade, “*The Gingerbread Village Christmas Parade*” with the exceptions of Marching Bands, Drill/Flag Teams and Cheer Squads.
- **NO LIVE Santa Clauses allowed.** The “*real*” Santa Claus will conclude the Parade.
- No alcoholic beverages are allowed on any parade entry at any time before or during the parade. Any entry found with any alcoholic beverage will be removed from the parade immediately.
- Once you enter the line of march there is **ABSOLUTELY NO STOPPING** for any reason.
- You are required to always keep a 20 ft. separation from the entry in front of you.
- There **must** be an adult on any entry that has children. We ask that all adults, children, and walkers be in costume or theme pertaining to their entry and/or parade theme.
- For safety purposes, it is required that helmets be worn by all riders of bicycles, skateboards, inline skates, scooters (motorized or not), motorcycles, etc.
- The ‘Responsible Person’ with each entry must have a complete list of names of all participants in their unit with them during the Parade.
- Parade entrants are responsible for all vehicles connected with their entry.
- The Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce reserves the right to restrict, limit, accept or reject any unit application.

- Any entry **violating rules or behaving in an unsafe manner will be subject to immediate removal from the parade** by Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce Staff, a member of Los Vigilantes, any law enforcement officer or parade worker/volunteer.
- Failure to comply with any of these rules may affect the entrant's involvement in future parades.
- In any interpretation of parade rules, the **Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce and/or Los Vigilantes' decision shall be final.**

## **SPECIFIC ENTRY TYPE RULES**

### Pertaining to **FLOATS**:

- Float Judging will take place at 8:45 am in the staging area with or without your entry in position. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- Floats will be judged on originality, adherence to the theme of the parade: "*The Gingerbread Village Christmas Parade*" and the floats overall quality.
- Floats can be no taller than eleven (11) feet above street level.
- Floats should be constructed with fire resistant materials.
- The organization's name must be clearly displayed on both sides and the rear of the float. *If the judges cannot identify an entry, it will not be judged.*
- **All drivers must be licensed.**
- No one may get on or off a float or entry once it has started down the parade route.

### Pertaining to **CARS & MOTORCYCLES**:

- Cars/Motorcycles may not weave during the Parade.
- Cars/Motorcycles should be Christmas decorated.
- Cars/Motorcycles must always maintain a safe distance and speed.
- Commercial Entries are limited to three vehicles that should be Christmas decorated.
- Car/Motorcycle Club Policy: Six vehicles max - three rows of two cars abreast.
- Additional Car Club members may only participate as a separate entry and pay separate fees.

### Pertaining to **MARCHING GROUPS, BATON GROUPS AND DRILL TEAMS**:

- Marching and walking entries must be preceded by marchers carrying a banner or sign to indicate the name of their organization.
- **Marching Groups must keep moving in the Parade.** Marching Groups may perform along the route, *but they may not stop to perform.*

### Pertaining to **EQUESTRIAN GROUPS**:

- Horse Entry Policy: All entries must be people and crowd experienced and safe for all concerned. They must wait at the parking lot next to Auto Zone for instructions by Los Vigilantes. Equestrian groups must provide their own pooper scoopers.

**YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR ENTRY FOLLOWING THESE RULES**