



IMPERIAL VALLEY **REGIONAL** CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE

El Centro Mardi Gras Light Parade Entry Application

Saturday, February 24, 2024, at 6 p.m.

Fees:

Regular Entry: \$35

Elected Officials (currently in public office or running for office): \$100

***There is no fee for school marching bands, sports, cheer/drill teams.**

Application deadline for all entries is February 15, 2024 @5 PM. All late entries are subject to review before acceptance and a \$50 late fee if accepted. All fees are non-refundable.

Organization: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Contact person: _____

I/We wish to enter the Imperial Regional Chamber of Commerce/Los Vigilantes Mardi Gras Light Parade

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

1. Our entry is a:

Float/trailer

*Float entries have the option to be judged for the chance to win an award. Please circle one: **yes/no**

Equestrian Group

Queen (must provide own transportation)

Vehicle/Motorcycle (Limit six cars per entry)

*Please indicate if this entry is part of a car club by circling one: **yes/no**

Band - *Will band be marching or on a float/trailer? Please circle one: **yes/no**

Baton/Flag Group

Marching or Walking Group/Drill Team

2. ONLY Mardi Gras music may be played in the parade:

Will your entry have music? Please circle one: **yes/no**

3. Our entry is a: (please mark only one)

- Business
- Car Club
- Religious Group
- School/Youth Group
- Non-profit Organization

4. Will your entry be participating with another parade entrant? Please circle one: yes/no

If yes, please provide the name of the other entrant below:

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 Mardi Gras Light Parade. **200 word MAXIMUM; anything in excess will be edited as needed and at the discretion of the Imperial Valley Regional Chamber.**

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.

SPECIFIC ENTRY TYPE RULES

Judging will take place at 4:45 p.m. in the staging area with or without your entry in position. NO

EXCEPTIONS! General staging begins at 4 p.m.

Pertaining to **FLOATS**:

- o Floats can be no taller than eleven (11) feet above street level.
- o Floats should be constructed with fire resistant materials.
- o 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.*
- o **All drivers must be licensed.**
- o No one may get on or off a float or entry once it has started down the parade route.

Pertaining to **CARS & MOTORCYCLES**:

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

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

- o Marching and walking entries must be preceded by marchers carrying a banner or sign to indicate the name of their organization.

- o **Marching Groups must keep moving in the Parade.** Marching Groups may perform along the route, *but they may not stop to perform.*
- o **Immediately** after turning left onto Main Street from 8th Street, the formation must change to fit through slightly narrowed space. The formation change should be no more than three columns.

Pertaining to **EQUESTRIAN GROUPS:**

- o Horse Entry Policy: All entries must be people and crowd experienced and safe for all concerned. They can park your trailers at 8th and Vine in the dirt lot next Old Ray’s Market. They must wait for instructions by Los Vigilantes. All equestrian entries must have their own individual immediately following the entry to collect waste materials.

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR ENTRY FOLLOWING THESE RULES

ANY VIOLATION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO A \$100 FINE.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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. 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 Mardi Gras Light 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 Mardi Gras Light 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 Mardi Gras Light 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).

****THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED IF INSURANCE IS NOT PROVIDED****

EACH INDIVIDUAL IN EACH ENTRY MUST SIGN BELOW:

NAME OF ENTRY: _____

DATE	SIGNATURE By my signature, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the Liability Waiver. (Parent, if signing for a minor)	PRINT NAME	NAME OF MINOR (If applicable)

RETURN WITH ENTRY FORM. ADDITIONAL SHEETS MAY BE USED IF NEEDED.

PARADE RULES & REGULATIONS

The primary focus for the Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce/Los Vigilantes Mardi Gras Light Parade is to provide a safe, enjoyable, and quality parade in/on the streets of El Centro. Mardi Gras Light Parade is a hometown tradition. We thank you for your interest in participating in this year's parade.

GENERAL RULES:

- o **No Throwing Candy or Gifts** – candy may be handed out, **BUT NOT THROWN!** If you are handing out candy or other items, it is your responsibility to continue moving through the parade. You are not to stop to give items to parade goers for extended periods of time.
- o No shooting spectators with silly string or water (Super Soakers, etc.).
- o If there is inclement weather on Parade Day, the parade will be canceled. There is no rain date for the parade.
- o 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.
- o **Only Mardi Gras music may be played. NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- o All parade entries must be decorated to reflect the theme of the parade, "*Mardi Gras*" with the exceptions of Marching Bands, Drill/Flag Teams and Cheer Squads.
- o 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.
- o Once you enter the line of march there is **ABSOLUTELY NO STOPPING** for any reason.
- o You are required to always keep a 20 ft. separation from the entry in front of you.
- o 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.
- o For safety purposes, it is required that helmets be worn by all riders of bicycles, skateboards, inline skates, scooters (motorized or not), motorcycles, etc.
- o The 'Responsible Person' with each entry must have a complete list of names of all participants in their unit with them during the parade.
- o Parade entrants are responsible for all vehicles connected with their entry.
- o The Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce reserves the right to restrict, limit, accept or reject any unit application.
- o 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.
- o Failure to comply with any of these rules may affect the entrant's involvement in future parades.
- o In any interpretation of parade rules, the **Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce and/or Los Vigilantes' decision shall be final.**

This document is to be kept by the Parade Entrant