

Guidelines for Horses

Washington State Fair Western Rodeo Parade

The following guidelines have been established to ensure the well being of horses and the safety of parade participants and watchers in the Washington State Fair Western Rodeo Parade.

Safety is the primary concern; therefore it is required that all participants be experienced parade riders. There will be no exceptions!

Participants are asked to follow these guidelines in order to protect horses and people in the parade from injury. Parade officials will ensure compliance with these guidelines. Any rider or animal deemed unsafe will be removed from the Washington State Fair Western Rodeo Parade.

Drivers of all wagons, carriages, stages, hitches or other vehicles pulled by horses may be required to take training classes, if deemed necessary by parade officials.

- Due to safety concerns, no tossing of candy or other items to spectators.
- All units must maintain a forward motion.
- All horses must be properly trimmed or shod.
- Only experienced riders who have previous experience riding on their own horse in another parade will be permitted in the parade.
- Horses must be in good condition for the possible heat, and the long walk.
- Horses must be sound, with no evidence of lameness.
- A veterinarian must be on call to immediately respond to any injuries.
- Mistreatment, rough handling or abuse of horses will not be tolerated.
- Any overly excited person or animal will be removed from route by parade officials.
- Only walking or trotting is allowed. Rearing, cantering, bucking and galloping are not acceptable, and rider and horse will be asked to leave the parade if they do not comply.
- No stallions are permitted in parades.
- Mounted riders are not allowed to pick up spectators during the parade.
- Only one rider per horse is permitted with the exception of pack horses which are allowed as long as the pack horse has its rein attached to the saddle of the lead horse and rider.
- Horses should be kept a minimum of six to ten feet from spectators.
- During the parade, participants should never get closer than ten feet from preceding parade participant.
- Anticipate that horses may become excited or spooked by loud music, marching bands, explosive devices, wind-blown paper or streamers.
- The use of cigarettes, alcohol or illegal substances are forbidden.
- No profanity along the parade route.

Horses Not Allowed In or Near Rodeo Stables

Horses participating in the parade will only be allowed in the Purple Parking Lot, staging area, and along the parade route. The only horses allowed in or near the rodeo stables are those of Wranglers going immediately from the parade to work in the rodeo.