



# HYACK INTERNATIONAL PARADE

May 25, 2024

## Parade Planning Info Kit

Thank you in advance for making the Hyack International Parade the best it can be! The Hyack Parade is 53 years old, and we strive to improve it each year. We hope that you have fun!

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### 1. PARADE TIPS: Making your entry memorable

Participants are encouraged to smile, wave, sing, dance, laugh and have a good time. The community will be attending to see you and engaging them makes the experience more fun for everyone.

Since you can't see your entry, we offer these tips to make your entry more visually appealing and memorable to the spectators!

- **COSTUMES & COLOUR.** Have more impact with the spectators
  - Consider a uniform look with everyone wearing the same colour or colours.
- **ACCESSORIES.** Use funny hats, sunglasses and T-shirts.
  - There are many inexpensive options available at PartyCity, the Dollar Store and online.
- **PROPS.** There are many ordinary things that can be used
  - Balloons, umbrellas, lunch kits, baby buggies, rolling luggage, lawnmowers, walkers, briefcases, vacuum cleaners, shopping carts can all be used. Have fun being creative!
- **USE HUMOUR.** It will make your entry stand out!
  - Everyone has a good time when they are laughing
- **MARCHING STYLE.** Spectators love synchronized marching routines.
  - Simple mini dance routines or synchronized marching routines make you stand out.
  - Routines don't have to be lengthy. A few moments when everyone does the same thing looks great.
- **MAINTAIN LINE FORMATIONS.** They look sharp and make you stand out
  - Make a plan to walk in lines and assign someone to monitor how you look.



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- **STAY IN THE CENTRE OF THE ROAD.** It is easy to wander to one side of the road
  - Use the centre line as a guide and monitor yourselves.
- **SMILE AND WAVE, REST AND REPEAT.**
  - It is fun and fulfilling for everyone when you smile and wave to the spectators.
- **ENGAGE THE SPECTATORS.** Clap and the spectators will join in.
  - If you have music, periodically clap to the music to engage the spectators.

## 2. Costumes, Formation & Props: Standing out



*Colourful costumes and props*



*Co-ordinated colours*



*Line formations create good visuals*



*Wearing Canadian Forces Snowbirds aircraft props*



*Silly sunglasses for fun*



*The Idaho Red Hot Mamas using walkers as props*



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Alaska Airlines Dance Drill Team



*The Idaho Red Hot Mamas wearing hats and using walkers as props*



*The Old Orchard Beach Lawnmower Drill Team*

### 3. PARADE PACE & GAP MONITORING: The logistics of a parade

Parades are fun for the participants and the spectators. Producing a really good parade requires that the participants have an awareness of several important factors.

#### 1. NO STOPPING TO PERFORM. When a parade stops, it is hard to get it restarted.

- Restarting a parade is difficult because all the entries behind it must start up again too, and there is a time lag. This is much like starting a train. It takes a lot of time to get it going.

#### 2. MAINTAIN A CONSISTENT PACE. Large gaps create dead-spots.

- You must maintain a gap of 30 feet or 10 metres from the entry in front of you
- A consistent pace is required to avoid “dead spots” in a parade.
- When an entry gets too far from the entry in front of them, the entry behind must run to close the gap. For marching bands, it is not always possible to close a gap.
- The gap must be monitored and adjusted throughout the parade

#### 3. NO BUNCHING UP. When entries get too close, the parade goes too fast.

- If the entry in front of you stops, you must stop immediately to maintain the gap!
- When entries bunch up, the parade goes too fast. The announcers don't have enough time to read the scripts and the spectators don't have enough time to enjoy the entries. When this happens, the participants are not fully appreciated either.



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#### 4. NO SPREADING OUT. Stay compact to avoid diluting your entry and creating a dull spot

- When entries spread out it creates a dull spot, which also slows the parade and makes too long.
- All participants must be sufficiently fit to maintain the parade pace. If your entry spreads out because there are walkers that cannot keep up, the entry behind you will hang back and create a gap. Those walkers that cannot keep up must withdraw from the parade and watch from the sidewalk.

### 4. RULES & REGULATIONS: An orderly and safe parade

1. **ALL PARTICIPANTS** must adhere to the Rules and Regulations to participate in the parade. These rules have been designed to ensure the safety of the participants and spectators and to ensure the best presentation of the parade participants. The Hyack Festival Association reserves the right to approve or deny entry of any participant.
2. **PARADE OFFICIALS.** Participants must heed the instructions of the Parade Marshal and the Street Marshals. Any refusal to follow instructions or abuse will not be tolerated and officials may remove your entry from the parade if this should occur.
3. **PARADE ORDER.** All participants must remain in parade order. The announcing scripts are synced to the parade order and there isn't enough time to re-sort them when the parade is in motion. Parade numbers must be displayed on the right side of your entry so that you can be readily identified.
4. **HANDOUTS.** The City of New Westminster Bylaws prohibit the throwing of candy or other items to spectators for safety reasons,
  - a. Any handouts to the spectators must be preapproved by Hyack **by April 30, 2024**,
  - b. Edible treats are discouraged and must contain no allergens.
  - c. Any pre-approved handouts **must be handed directly to the spectators** and the parties handing out the items must **walk beside the curb** to ensure that children do not run out. This also discourages spectators from leaving the sidewalk.
5. **POLITICAL MESSAGES.** No political messages or literature are allowed.
6. **CHILDREN.** All children under 10 must be closely supervised at all times.