



## PARADE GUIDELINES

### 1. IMAGE

The SFTR is trying to convey a positive image with regard to horses and horse related activities.

The parade team should be responsible, uniform in appearance and demeanor, and organized.

The participants should be clean, well groomed and uniformly dressed.

### 2. CRITERIA

The parade committee will accept applications for participation in parades. Attached to the application will be a list of parade dates for you to look over and return. This is for us to see what parades will be attended.

All participants must have filled out an application before entering a parade. No participant can just show up without notifying us in advance. Parades are not “rides” or social events.

All participants, like in any organization, will have certain responsibilities and obligations which must be adhered to in order to participate in any parade.

All participants need to notify a member of the Parade Committee in advance of a parade if they are unable to attend a parade they have committed to attending. This is, of course, unless any unforeseen emergencies arise. We all know that happens to horse people.

All participants, rider and ground crew, must follow our dress code consisting of:

- a. Well groomed, clean, neat appearance
- b. Black pants, costume shirt designated by SFTR (no tees or casual shirts), clean black or brown boots, black socks, if you are wearing shoe boots or low boots, straw colored western hat. Pants must not be worn or faded looking. (Hint: you can dye jeans black with Rit dye). Ground crew may wear sneakers or walking shoes, preferably dark colors.
- c. **All horses must wear the SFTR bridle, breast collar and saddle blanket.** The breast collar will be purchased from SFTR. Any tail streamers will be provided by the SFTR. No other tail streamers or adornments will be allowed. We all have to look alike.

## **PARADE GUIDELINES**

d. All horses shall be groomed as follows:

1. Bathed, clipped (bridle path and muzzle) and brushed. If your horse does not have a bridle path, you are not required to clip it.
2. No manure, urine, grass or other obvious stains.
3. Hoof polish (not required) - black or clear or even Hoof-flex, something to shine them up.
4. No glitter allowed. We might possibly use spray glitter on their manes and tails. The parade chair will have the glitter if we are going to use it.
5. No other decorations allowed.

e. The complete outfit will be required in order to participate in a parade. If you show up at a parade and are missing any item you will be excused from participating or be put at the back of the line up.

f. Saddles & pads must be basic brown or black, Western or English. All tack must be clean. If English, your saddle must be able to attach breast collar and be in parade uniform.

g. Cart or buggy horses must wear a black or brown harness (black preferred). People in cart should be in parade uniform.

As in all of our parades **we need to keep a one horse space between you and the horse in front** of you. Otherwise we look awful all bunched up. When we are at a standstill, please attempt to keep your horse as straight as possible in the line up. We may do a waterfall drill pattern if we have enough room.

### **3. COMMITMENTS**

We are asking you to commit to at least 4 parades a year to receive your year end award. If this is not possible, sign up for as many as you can. You do not have to bring your horse to every parade. You may be a side walker, banner carrier or drive the truck.

Participants will sign an agreement acknowledging the right and responsibility of the parade committee to supervise and manage the parade team with the discretion of removing any participant or horse for causing any liability to the SFTR.

Our parade team is a job that will take a lot of dedication, hard work and discipline to make us the best we can be.

### **4. PARTICIPATION BY CHILDREN**

Children under 16 years of age must wear a helmet and be accompanied and supervised by a parent or other designated adult. If the child is accompanied by a designated adult, written authorization must be provided to the parade committee before the scheduled event.

## **PARADE GUIDELINES**

### **5. SAFETY**

The safety of spectators at our parades is the utmost importance.

If your horse is nervous, we will place it beside a quieter, calmer horse. We will work with you and your horse. Ask us for any help you need.

If a horse is acting dangerously, please take it out of the parade immediately at the nearest possible exit. We don't want anyone to get hurt. A side walker may take control of your horse.

Keep in mind that people on the sidelines are not accustomed to being around horses and are ignorant. This can create a dangerous situation if they run out at our horses.

Children may not side walk with parents in the parades. They may carry the banner or join the poop crew.

Riders must stay together at the same pace from the parade parking to the staging area and at the end of the parade proceeding back to the trailers as a group.

If you have any suggestions to improving the parade team even more, please contact the parade chairman and we will take it into consideration.

Thank you for participating in the South Florida Trail Riders Parade Team.

