# 2026 Hamilton Santa Claus Parade

# Participant Rules

**Welcome to the 2026 Hamilton Santa Claus Parade. We look forward to having you and your group participate in our yearly parade. With participation comes some rules that all float riders, walkers, and people assembling their floats must follow.**

- There is only **one Santa and Mrs Claus** that all the spectators are coming to see. Please ensure that there is no Santa or Mrs. Claus as part of your group, as they will be asked to change out of their costume(s) or leave the parade.
- There will be no stopping along the parade route for performances or interviews. This applies to **ALL Entries.**
- **Smiles and waves are mandatory**.
- Only parade entries with an approved application will be permitted to participate in the parade.
- No banners or signs can exceed 2'0 x 8'0.
- There will be no solicitation, either in the staging area or along the parade route.
- No vendors are permitted, unless approved by the Parade Co-ordinator, either in the staging area or along the parade route.

**Float Safety Rules:**

- Any parade entry which, at the sole discretion of the Parade Co-ordinator or their designate, is deemed unsafe will be denied entry into the parade.
- Anyone standing on a float must have a secure support system attached to the float.
- No one is to be within 18 inches of the edge of a float unless railed in.
- No one is to get on or off a float once the parade starts. **No exceptions**.
- You are required to provide a minimum of 2 spotters who will walk with your float to make sure these rules are being followed.
- People walking with a float must stay at least 3 feet from the side of a float.
- Any entry that has animals is fully responsible for cleaning up after them. We have many walkers in the parade so this is mandatory. **No SCOOP NO ANIMAL!**

**Rules for handing out marketing materials to promote your group:**

- **Nothing is to be thrown into the crowd.**
- Distributed items must be primarily for the entertainment and enjoyment of those watching the parade.
- Materials are only to be distributed between the official start and finish of the parade route.
- The participants handing out the materials must keep up with the parade's pace.
- You should have sufficient items so that they can be distributed along the entire route.
- Edible items are to be individually wrapped or packaged.

For more information or questions, please contact us through email at hscpentry@gmail.com