

Uckfield Bonfire and Carnival Society

Float Safety and Conditions of Entry



Revised - June 2022

Float Safety and Conditions of Entry

Uckfield Bonfire & Carnival Society [UBCS] take the safety of their members, the participants and the general public very seriously. These safety and conditions of entry have been produced to ensure the floats can be a safe and enjoyable part of Uckfield's oldest tradition.

On behalf of the organisation / group entering, the nominated float organiser is responsible for ensuring that these safety messages and conditions of entry are read, understood and complied with. The UBCS Float Entry form must be completed and signed by the organiser on behalf of their organisation/group confirming acceptance of these conditions.

Float safety

The vehicle and any trailer forming part of the float must comply with section 40a of the road traffic act 1988.

A float, vehicle or trailer must be mechanically sound and suitable to perform the job for which it is intended, not be suffering from corrosion or defects that could lead to failure.

With a towed entry the tow bar must be supervised to ensure that no-one crosses between the vehicles or rides on the tow bar. A secondary safety device should be fitted (i.e. A strong chain).

Any equipment carried on the vehicle or trailer should be secured and substantial enough for the purpose. Anything carried on or bolted to a vehicle or trailer must be such that at all times it remains safe.

No passengers may be carried on a carnival float to and from the carnival, except on large floats (over 30' long) where an attendant may be carried to assist the driver.

Participants must be seated securely or if standing provided with suitable restraints and be provided with hand holds or a strong safety rail should be provided around the side of the float.

All floats should carry a fire extinguisher.

Insurance

A certificate of insurance must be in force covering the use of the vehicle as a float in the carnival.

If carrying people on the float the organisation should also have Public Liability insurance in place if required by the vehicle provider or their insurance company.

These documents must be available for inspection by UBCS on request.

The procession

Floats are required to assemble in Bell Lane, Uckfield (enter from the TR Fastenings end and join the queue facing the Halfords end) by 6.45pm on the day of the procession. Any changes to times or of the location for the formation of the floats will be communicated by UBCS prior to the day.

Once formed up the driver and organiser MUST follow any instruction given by the UBCS Float Marshall. This may include rectifying any visible safety issues with the float or the equipment installed.

Each float must be under the supervision of a named person who will accompany the float at all times. This person should have a means of communication between themselves, the driver of the vehicle and the passengers on the float during the procession.

If at any point the UBCS Float Marshall deems a float to be unsafe or the float participants are failing to follow instructions, then the float will be asked to leave the procession and must exit the carnival procession route under direction of the marshals at the first available road closure point.

No one shall climb on or off a float unless it is stationary and there is contact with the driver. At the end of the procession choose a safe location to stop and unload the passengers.

During the procession the float may only proceed at walking pace and must remain within 10m of the float in front to ensure that gaps that spectators may use to cross are not created.

Items, such as flyers, may only be handed out by walkers and not by people on the float. Collection tins must not be used from floats. Only walkers may collect, using approved collection buckets issued by UBCS.

Contact Us

For any queries before carnival day please email secretary@uckfieldcarnival.co.uk

The contact for our Event Manager during carnival day is 07540 981951.