



SOMERSET COUNTY GUY FAWKES CARNIVALS ASSOCIATION

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY FOR ALL SEVEN COUNTY CARNIVALS & MIDSOMER NORTON CARNIVAL

(Please note by submitting an entry form you are agreeing to all the conditions below)

IMPORTANT. It is essential all mounted entries entering any of the above carnivals are required by law to hold a valid and current Vehicle Special Order (VSO) licence issued by the Vehicle Certification Agency (VCA) and be taxed and insured for use on the public highway.

1. The seven **County Carnivals** consists of Bridgwater, Burnham on Sea; Weston Super Mare; North Petherton; Shepton Mallet; Wells & Glastonbury. Midsomer Norton are an Associate Member.
2. **Age restrictions** - Please note that all entrants in the carnival with the exception of a fully mounted entry should be 5 years or over. If entering classes 6, 8, or 12 entrants should also be under 17 years on the 1st November of the carnival year. All ground crew must be 18 years of age or older.
3. All **mounted & walking entries** must comply with the following maximum measurements whilst in procession:
Height: 5 metres; Width: 3.5 metres; Length: 30.5 metres. Floats failing to comply with the permitted measurements will be directed away from the procession assembly by a marshal.
4. All **mounted/mechanised entries** must have an accessible towing eye & pin at the front of the towing vehicle, to enable a second vehicle to be attached if necessary.
5. **Mounted entries** failing to comply with instructions to rectify faults with their entry may be disqualified.
6. **Competitive entries** only will be accepted in classes 1 – 16. Trade entries will not be accepted in any of these classes. Entries can only enter one class with exception of classes 14 & 15.
7. The **towing vehicle driver** must be available to remove the entry from the assembly area as directed by a marshal or police officer.
8. Definition of **Tableau**. A motionless representation of some scene or event. No deliberate visible movements (or illusion of movement) is permitted.
9. **Gaps** are the bane of everyone and apart from upsetting the audience do absolutely nothing to enhance the processions. Judges & Marshals are asked to report any offenders so consideration can be taken if points should be deducted.
10. In **classes 7 – 13** for judging purposes and for compliance all entries that are encased in a prop it will be considered as both a costume and a prop.
11. For exact definition of **entry requirements** for the S.C.G.F.C.A. County Cups, Classes, Rules & Judging Categories see the table in this document that applies to all the above carnivals.
12. On **submitting your entry** you confirm that you have obtained all necessary licences and your entry will not infringe any copyright, racial or decency issues, you accept that any infringement of the aforementioned is the responsibility of the entrant and not the carnival you are entering and that the carnival committee will not accept any responsibility for any action taken for infringement by your entry.
13. A **rest area** (at the committee's discretion) will be clearly identified. There will be no judging in this area. Mounted entries must keep moving. Walking entries without vehicles, who may pause, must not hinder the other entries and remain in their position in the procession.
14. You are advised that **excess advertising** or words of thanks on your entry could result in point's deduction. No advertising is allowed on any part of your entry that you wish to be judged, i.e. between your entry numbers front and back.
15. The committee's reserve the right to **refuse entry**, withhold prize or appearance money, deduct points or disqualify an entry at any time.
16. Any entry which is considered to be of an **inappropriate or objectionable** nature and likely to cause controversy will be refused.
17. If the **procession halts** for more than two minutes entries shall be permitted to relax until the procession restarts.

18. Personnel in procession must not be under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances, neither of which are to be consumed in procession; smoking is discouraged and applies to all entries, helpers, marshals and officials.
19. We reserve the right to **refuse entry** to any entry which constitutes a Health & Safety risk, any special effects should be cleared by the relevant committee and be accompanied by a Risk Assessment.
20. All entries take part in the procession at their **own risk and responsibility**. Each entry needs to ensure they have adequate insurance cover in place to protect their personnel as well as the general public should a claim arise. All vehicles should be insured for carnival use and for mounted entries a minimum five million public liability cover is required. The committees accept no responsibility for an entry's non-compliance with this condition!
21. Any entries **failing to abide by these Conditions of Entry** or not following the instructions of the marshals will not be allowed into the procession. It is a requirement that each mounted entry sends a representative to the Chief Marshals meeting held annually prior to the carnival season commencing; dates are advertised.
22. All entries must **complete the whole route** to qualify for prize/appearance monies and county points unless cleared with the committee prior.
23. Competitors **littering the Highway** in any way will be automatically disqualified. All mounted entries should carry a spill kit in case of liquid spills. Entries will be responsible and charged for any cleaning, including oil spills which may arise. The throwing or spraying of liquids will result in Points Deduction or Disqualification. No objects of any kind should be thrown from your entry.
24. No live **animals or pushchairs** will be permitted into the procession as any part of the entry or with Ground Crew, excluding Guide Dogs.
25. No **counter marching** or static displays are allowed.
26. The committee's reserve the right to **postpone or cancel** the whole or part of the event which would only be done as a last resort or the situation is beyond their control.
27. The committees are not responsible if you enter in the **wrong class**, if you enter online you should check your entry is correct after you press submit, details of what you have entered will then appear on the screen which you can print off as a receipt your entry has been received. No change of class allowed after the 1st October.
28. All **judging** will take place on the route between the start and finishing points specified in your assembly instructions. Classes 1 to 6 will be judged on the content of their entry between the front and the rear procession numbers which should be on the nearside front and back. It is your responsibility to ensure that your numbers are positioned to show what you want to be judged. This does not affect judging for the Best Dressed Towing Vehicle Driver.
29. If after submitting an entry you find you have to **withdraw** you should advise the relevant committees without delay.
30. Once an **entry is in motion** personnel for their own safety must be prevented from entering the gaps in the train.
31. All **results** announced on the night are provisional and subject to a final check.
32. To qualify for **prize/appearance money** standards of entry must meet the judging requirements.
33. All **cups & trophies** awarded are the property of the relevant committee and should be returned as instructed. Any damage or loss to the aforementioned should be reported immediately.
34. The county and some carnivals award a trophy for the **Best Decorated Generator**; to qualify for these awards your entry must be a train of three, i.e. the generator must be on its own trailer, not part of the cart.
35. Any proposed imposition of **penalties and any disputes** resulting from the imposition of penalties will be enacted in accordance with the current SCGFCA recommended disputes procedure, copy available online.
36. Two **scrutineers** identified by a different colour tabard will be positioned on the procession route at each carnival to check the above rules are complied with. The recommended number of **road crew** minimum age 18 years old in classes 1 – 6 are: for a 1 part entry between 5 – 7; for a 2 part entry between 7 – 9 and for a 3 part entry between 9 – 13 should you (subject to your club's risk assessment) choose to exceed these numbers please be aware that this may affect the ability for the judges to fully and fairly judge your entry.
37. The **closing date** for all carnivals is the 1st September each year.
38. If **further information** is required please contact the Entries Secretary for the carnival town in question.
Town specific information such as prize/appearance money and trophies etc. are located on another page which can be downloaded from the County website.