

# Warwick Fire Department

## 2008 Parade Rules

Apparatus Judging .....10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon  
Line Up .....1:00 PM  
Step Off ..... 2:00 PM

### **General Rules:**

1. Each Marching unit will consist of a Color Guard, an Officer and a minimum of five (5) firefighters on the street with a total of six (6) to be in competition for a trophy.
2. Members of a Firematic Color Guard must be uniformly dressed, but the uniforms may be different than the unit they represent.
3. The Color Guard must consist of three (3) or more members with the American Flag guarded on both sides. The American Flag may be guarded with or without arms or firematic tools.
4. The lack of an American Flag, Color Guard or colors not guarded, will automatically disqualify any fire company.
5. The American Flag will be unfurled at all times except in rainy weather.
6. The American Flag will not be dipped in a salute at any time.
7. Proper flag etiquette shall be followed at all times.
8. The Judges Award will be at the discretion of the Parade Judges.
9. Best Overall trophy for the parade, will be awarded based on total points for Color Guard, Firefighter Marching Unit and Apparatus.

### **Miscellaneous:**

1. In the event of an alarm or emergency call while the parade is in progress, all units must move to the right side of the road upon the approach of any emergency vehicle.
2. The decisions of the Judges are final.

## **Firefighters Rules:**

1. To be counted in the line of march, all members must wear the same matching uniform (except color guard – see General Rule #2). Shoes must be the same color loafer or tie shoe with matching socks. Gloves are optional, but if used, all must wear them. Gloves are optional for drivers of apparatus.
2. Military service uniforms are allowed in line of march within the marching body of firefighters or Firefighter Color Guard.
3. There will be no demerits for long hair or facial hair, however all participants are expected to be clean and neatly groomed.
4. Wearing of watches and rings is allowed, other jewelry items will be cause for demerits.
5. Company members in uniform must carry department or company banners.
6. A unit with forty (40) or less members in the line of march behind the company officers may march two (2) abreast. Forty one (41) or more must march three (3) abreast.
7. Any company may use a drill instructor or drill sergeant. This individual will be counted in the line of march and also judged for marching ability.
8. Any unit or individual within a unit, conducting themselves during the parade in such a manner as to bring discredit against the volunteer fire service as a whole, shall subject the unit to disqualification.
9. The officer in charge must salute the reviewing stand.
10. Any company or department that supplies fire police for the parade will have these persons included in the count of members in the line of march. The Officer in charge is responsible for contacting the parade committee with a count prior to the start of the parade.
11. There will be no sounding of sirens, ringing of bells or any other noises in the line of march. Any unit doing so will be disqualified.
12. All members riding in apparatus and cars must be in full dress uniform.
13. Emergency Flashing Lights must be ON and operating during the parade.
14. Windows must be down in all vehicles in the line of march.
15. No more than two (2) firefighters shall ride on the apparatus, including the driver and the one next to the driver.
16. No more than two (2) cars are permitted per unit. All persons riding in personally owned cars must wear seat belts.
17. All apparatus will be judged in the line of march. The first apparatus in the line must be judged prior to the parade to be eligible for best overall trophy.
18. All apparatus must be company or department owned and in service to be judged for competition.
19. Each company is limited to two (2) fire apparatus. Chief's vehicles will not be counted as an apparatus.
20. In the event that there is an open trophy, the judges may award this trophy to an apparatus that was not judged prior to the parade, however, this will not count toward any Overall Parade Trophy.

## **Rules for Auxiliaries:**

1. Officer in charge must salute the reviewing stand.
2. No demerits will be given for not having a Color Guard or banner.
3. There must be a minimum of 5 members marching to qualify for a trophy.
4. Members riding in a vehicle must be in full dress uniform.
5. All footwear must be uniform.
6. Other demerits will be the same as firefighters rules.

## **Demerits: 5 each**

1. Dipping of the American Flag.
2. Colors out of place, soiled or worn flag, finials on flag not facing front.
3. Officers out of place.
4. Wrong Division.
5. Failure of officer in charge to salute the reviewing stand.
6. Maneuvers hindering the forward motion of the parade.
7. Non-firematic equipment being carried on apparatus (water coolers are permitted).
8. Failure to have arms or firematic tools on the same shoulder/arm when guarding the American flag.

## **Demerits: 3 each**

1. Excessive spacing of color guard, band, officers, members or vehicles.
2. Excessive number of persons on apparatus (driver and passenger only).
3. Members on the rear, sides or hose bed of apparatus.

## **Demerits: 1 each**

1. Non-uniform pairs of shoes or socks.
2. Non-uniform use of gloves.
3. Out of step.
4. Spacing front to back or left to right.
5. Unkempt hair or beards.
6. Non-uniform use of buttons, badges, ties or flags on uniforms.
7. Talking, waving, smoking, chewing, spitting, laughing or turning.
8. Non-precision of movement, poor carriage of body.
9. Poor alignment of hat, cocked at angle.
10. Non-prescription sunglasses.
11. Earrings and excessive jewelry (watches and rings are allowed).
12. Unkempt or soiled / mixed uniforms.
13. Open buttons.

# Parade Formation

## General Information:

1. A Division shall march a distance of 50 feet behind the Grand Marshal or the preceding division.
2. Units shall follow each other at a distance of approximately 50 feet.

## Fire Company Formation:

- Music - 20 foot interval
- Color Guard - 10 foot interval
- Banner (If Used) - 10 foot interval
- Chief or officer in charge - 10 foot interval
- Clergy - 10 foot interval
- Assistant Chiefs - 10 foot interval
- Ex-Chiefs - 10 foot interval
- Company Officers
- Firefighters

## Auxiliary Formation:

- 10 foot interval behind firefighters
- Color Guard - 10 foot interval
- Banner - 10 foot interval
- Officer in Charge - 10 foot interval
- Auxiliary Members - 10 foot interval

## Vehicle Formation:

- 20 foot interval between all vehicles
- Civilian cars
- Chiefs Vehicle
- Antique Apparatus
- Apparatus