

2023 Homecoming Guidelines



To individuals with disabilities, please indicate if you need any accommodation(s) to participate in PSU Homecoming Committee facilitated activities by contacting Campus Activities in advance of the event at 620-235-4795 or campusactivities@pittstate.edu.

Welcome

The Homecoming Committee is excited for you to participate in Pittsburg State University's 2023 Homecoming! This packet is designed to inform participants of event guidelines and information. **Please note that any information not addressed in the Guidelines will be up to the discretion of the PSU Homecoming Committee to interpret.**

We invite you to attend one of our general information meetings on September 6 or September 14 in the Overman Student Center (OSC). Whether you are new to Homecoming or have a history of participating, this is a worthwhile opportunity to meet Homecoming Committee Chairs, ask questions, and receive important updates.

This year we invite royalty nominees to attend a candidate information session on September 6 in the OSC. This session is designed to help prepare candidates to submit their registration materials successfully. Campus Activities will be present to teach candidates how to create a solid co-curricular transcript. The Homecoming Committee will review the application and registration requirements.

Please be aware that all Homecoming Registration Forms for Organizations open **Monday, August 28 at 8 AM** and have two closing dates this year:

- All Royalty registration submissions are due **Tuesday, September 19** at noon on Gorilla Engage.
- Homecoming Registration form— Banner Decorating, Raft Races, Yell Like Hell, and Parade - are **due Tuesday, September 19** at noon on Gorilla Engage (Yell Like Hell music submitted via FormStack).

Homecoming Registration form for Individuals/Independents - Banner Decorating and Raft Races – open on Thursday, September 21, and are due at noon on Wednesday, October 4 on Gorilla Engage. All forms and supporting materials must be submitted by the deadline. No exceptions will be made.

We look forward to your participation in Homecoming 2023!

Go'Rillas!

PSU Homecoming Committee

Campus Activities
Email: homecoming@pittstate.edu
Phone: 620-235-4795

Facebook: Pitt State Campus Activities
Twitter: @pittCAC
Instagram: pittstatecac

General Guidelines & Reminders

Please see individual guidelines for comprehensive information.

Only current PSU students who are members of Registered Student Organizations or University Affiliated Organizations are eligible to participate in Banner Decorating, Raft Races, Yell Like Hell, Parade, Homecoming Champion and receive royalty nominations. Banner Decorating and Raft Races also have categories for individual/independent PSU students. All participants must be current Pittsburg State University students.

Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) are recognized through Campus Activities. Members must be listed on the Organization's Gorilla Engage roster; rosters must be up to date in Gorilla Engage by October 9.

University Affiliated Organizations (UAOs) exist outside of RSOs and are overseen, funded, and supported by Pittsburg State University. Members must be listed on the Organization's UAO roster as submitted by the Staff/Faculty member associated with them to homecoming@pittstate.edu by noon on October 9.

Registered Student Organizations and University Affiliated Organizations will, after this, be referred to as **Organizations**.

Complete guidelines for each event are available under the event heading below. All forms will be posted and submitted via Gorilla Engage. Forms can be accessed by logging onto Gorilla Engage > accessing the Homecoming Committee page > going to Forms > complete form. Please note that Yell Like Hell will also have a music submission on FormStack.

Judging Panels for Homecoming Royalty and events will consist of judges from the Pittsburg community, PSU faculty or staff, and/or PSU students. No event, competition, or royalty scores will be released.

The presence or suspected abuse of alcohol or illegal substances by a participant or participating/representing Organization in affiliation with Homecoming will result in disqualification from the activity and/or Homecoming involvement. This includes, but is not limited to, activities engaged in for preparation of Homecoming (i.e., Yell Like Hell practices, Float building, etc.). Any action that violates the Student Code of Conduct in affiliation with Homecoming activities may result in disqualification from Homecoming.

The Homecoming Committee reserves the right to disqualify any organization or individual in any event/activity based upon rule infractions, cheating, or anything deemed inappropriate. All decisions of the Homecoming Committee are **FINAL**.

Executive members of the Homecoming Committee are not eligible to participate in Homecoming events that correspond to their specific chair.

General members of the Homecoming Committee will serve as liaisons to any organization they are members of that are participating in Homecoming activities. General members may also choose to participate in any Homecoming event, except Royalty, but must provide volunteers from their organization to help the Homecoming Committee with any needs they might have due to their absence.

Any information not addressed in the guidelines will be up to the discretion of the PSU Homecoming Committee to interpret.

Prize Money Allocations			
Banner Decorating (Both Divisions) 1 st Place - \$50.00 2 nd Place - \$25.00	Raft Races (Both Divisions) 1 st Place - \$100.00 2 nd Place - \$75.00 3 rd Place - \$50.00	Yell Like Hell (All Divisions) 1 st Place - \$125.00 2 nd Place - \$100.00 3 rd Place - \$75.00	Parade: Large Float 1 st place - \$300.00 2 nd Place - \$250.00 3 rd Place - \$200.00 Parade: Small Float 1 st Place - \$125.00 2 nd Place - \$100.00 3 rd Place - \$75.00

Campus Activities will begin processing prize money transfers on the TUESDAY FOLLOWING HOMECOMING. Organizations will be contacted directly if additional paperwork or information is needed. All prize money must be collected prior to the Fall Semester finals week. Funds not collected by this date will not be disbursed.

Banner Decorating

DESCRIPTION: Organizations or individual PSU students decorate banners in a Pitt State theme. Spread PSU spirit in this fun and creative competition. Winners will be announced during Yell Like Hell. We strongly encourage participants to keep decorations up throughout Homecoming Week!

TIMELINE:

- Organization Registration is open on Gorilla Engage – from Monday, August 28, 2023, at 8:00 AM to Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at noon.
- Individual registration is open on Gorilla Engage – from Wednesday, September 21, 2023, at 8:00 AM to Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at noon.
- Banners will be provided by Homecoming Committee and will be available for pick-up from Friday, September 29, 2023 at 8:00 am to Friday, October 16th at 4:00 PM
- Picture submission for judging - Tuesday, September 20, 2023, at noon to Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at noon.
- Top 5 for each category will be displayed on campus Wednesday, October 25, 2023.
- Online voting for first and second place will open Wednesday, October 25th at 8 am and will close Thursday, October 26th at noon
- Winners will be announced on Thursday, October 26th, 2023, during Yell Like Hell.

REGISTRATION & ELIGIBILITY:

- Participants must complete the registration form on Gorilla Engage during the registration period.
- Organizations cannot partner to decorate one banner.
- Individuals may partner, but only the ONE registrant will receive the prize money distribution.
- Only one entry per Individual or Organization is permitted
 - Individual student entries cannot double for Organization entries.
- Banners that are to be decorated will be provided to organizations by the Homecoming Committee
 - Outside banners will NOT be accepted and not counted towards judging.

ENTRY:

- Register during your respective category's deadline *stated above*.
- The Banner Decorating Picture Submission Form will open on Wednesday, September 20 at noon and will close on Thursday, October 4 at noon.
 - **Both** categories will receive submission instructions from the Homecoming Committee via email.
- Registrants will submit up to 4 pictures of their decorated banner.
 - At least one picture must be a view of the banner with no people in the photo.
 - At least one picture must be a view of the banner with the decorator(s) in the photo.

JUDGING:

- The competition judges will prejudge banners in each category using submitted photos.
- Banner décor will be judged on the following (see scoresheet below):
 - *Pitt State Pride*: Promotes spirit and/or support for Pitt State.
 - *Quality*: Overall time, effort, and teamwork are evident. Objects are recognizable. Neat overall appearance.
 - *Originality*: Creative connection to PSU or Pittsburg; a unique/fresh idea or creative implementation is expected.
 - *Overall Rating*: Judge's preference on which banner had the best broad appeal considering the above categories.
- The top 5 banners in each category will then be judged online Wednesday, October 25, to determine the overall rating.
- Only decorations in the allowed dimension (banner size 53" x 75") will be considered for judging; banner decorations extending beyond 53" x 75" of the canvas will not be considered for judging.
- Banners will be displayed horizontally.

DECORATING YOUR BANNER:

- Organizations are required to paint only ONE side of the banner that is to be judged
- Organizations are allowed to only depict their OWN organization; violations to this will result in automatic disqualification from Banner Decorating event and Homecoming Champion.
- Individuals are allowed to only represent themselves and any violations will result in automatic disqualification.
- Banners that depict any images that violate University governing documents will be disqualified.
- It is recommended to use acrylic paint for decorating.

JUDGING CRITERIA (see below for scoresheet):

PRIZES:

Two cash winners per category; 3rd place will be recognized as an honorable mention.

- 1st: \$50
- 2nd: \$25

Banner Decorating Score Sheet

Name of Organization or Individual: _____

Judge Name: _____

Submission Type (circle): Organization Individual

Please no half scores (ex. 3.5). Zero points may be awarded in a category. If no points are awarded in a category, please indicate.

POOR

EXCELLENT

Pitt State Pride: 1 2 3 4 5

Quality: 1 2 3 4 5

Originality: 1 2 3 4 5

Overall Rating: Top Rated

5 4 3 2 1

Homecoming Royalty

DESCRIPTION: Homecoming Royalty are crowned at the Annual Yell Like Hell Celebration. Royalty is determined by the submission of written materials, personal interviews, and student votes on Gorilla Engage. Candidates are nominated by Organizations; those crowned will represent PSU at various functions for the following year.

ONLINE ENTRY FORMS:

- Organizations will designate royalty candidate(s) and submit a Statement of Support for each candidate via Homecoming forms.
- Each organization will complete the Gorilla Engage registration form, including the Statement of Support, by noon on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, and will receive subsequent information from the Homecoming Royalty Chair via email.
 - Failure to submit by the deadline will result in disqualification from Homecoming Royalty.
- The candidate(s) must submit materials on their own. A form must be submitted by the candidate(s), individually, which includes co-curricular transcript and cover letter .
 - Failure to submit by the deadline will result in disqualification from Homecoming Royalty.

ORGANIZATION QUALIFICATIONS:

- Organizations are allowed up to TWO candidate entries/nominations from their membership.
- An Organization nominating a candidate must register to participate in one additional event **OR** attend two events.
 - Participation includes **ONE** of the following: Banner Decorating, Raft Races, Yell Like Hell, or Parade (Float and/or Walking Group).
 - Attendance includes **BOTH** of the following: Raft Races **AND** Yell Like Hell, with a minimum of 4 members at **EACH** event.
- Organizations must provide a car or float in the Homecoming Parade for any candidate(s) who wishes to participate. Participation in the Parade is **mandatory** for the top 12 candidate pool and highly encouraged for all others.
 - All candidate transportation must include visible organization and candidate name signage.
- Candidate(s) failure to attend required events may result in the Organization losing the ability to participate in next year's Homecoming activities.

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS:

- Candidate(s) must be members of the Organization nominating them.
 - Homecoming will verify membership by the following:
 - Candidates nominated by a Registered Student Organization must list the nominating Organization on their co-curricular transcript.
 - Candidates nominated by a University Affiliated Organization must list the nominating Organization on their co-curricular transcript.

- Candidate(s) must be a full-time junior or senior student enrolled in a minimum of 12 undergraduate credit hours with:
 - A minimum of 48 hours successfully completed at Pittsburg State University,
 - A minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average, and
 - Good standing with the University.
- Candidates not meeting these requirements will be notified directly by a professional staff member of the University.
 - If there are concerns with a conduct record, the candidate will be given the opportunity to clarify concerns with the Review Panel. If the Review Panel determines the candidate is ineligible, the candidate will be contacted directly by a professional staff member of the University.
 - If a candidate is deemed ineligible, it is the candidate's responsibility to notify their Organization that they were not eligible.
- Any student who has previously been crowned PSU Homecoming Royalty are not eligible.
- Members of the Homecoming Committee are not eligible.
- A candidate's failure to attend required Homecoming events may result in dismissal from the Royalty process and/or forfeiture of awarded title.

CO-CURRICULAR TRANSCRIPT, COVER LETTERS, & PERSONAL INTERVIEWS:

- Any materials that do not follow requirements will not be submitted to the judges for review.
- **All files should be uploaded as PDFs; they must be named FirstnameLastnameItem (i.e., GusGorillaCCT or GusGorillaCover).**
- Co-Curricular Transcript (CCT):
 - Completed on Gorilla Engage and uploaded as a PDF within the candidate registration form.
 - The document should reflect student involvement experiences.
- Cover Letter (Cover):
 - Maximum 1 page typewritten, Times New Roman 12 pt. font, standard margins.
 - Spacing must not be larger than double-spaced and not smaller than single-spaced.
 - Must address the following (in no particular order):
 - Impact the Candidate has had on Pittsburg State University,
 - Impact the nominating Organization has had on the Candidate, and
 - Impact Pittsburg State University has had on the Candidate.
- Personal Interviews will be evaluated on:
 - Ability to communicate
 - Character
 - Intellectual response
 - Demeanor

CANDIDATE STATEMENT OF SUPPORT:

- The Statement of Support must:
 - Be written by a peer or group of peers from the nominating Organization; advisor/coach/instructor/etc. will NOT be accepted.
 - Uploaded and submitted by an Organization peer via Gorilla Engage by Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at noon.
 - Consists of 3 bullet points about why the Organization selected this individual to represent them.
 - Each bullet should be no more than two sentences.
- If an Organization nominates 2 individuals, two separate personalized statements of support must be submitted.

JUDGING:

- Co-Curricular Transcript and Cover Letter are reviewed for Top 24 selection and invitation to Personal Interview. This accounts for 30% of the overall score towards crowning.
- Personal Interview scores, in combination with written work scores, determine the Top 12 selection and advancement to online voting. Personal interview scores account for 30% of the overall score towards crowning.
- Statement of Support will not be provided to judges but may be used for script purposes if recognizing a candidate or in conjunction with the ballot.

CAMPAIGNING

- Should candidates make it to the Top 12 and be placed on the ballot, they are permitted to campaign.
 - Campaigning should focus on voting for the candidate and only contain the candidate's name and Organization.
 - Negative campaigning against other candidates/organizations will not be tolerated and will result in removal from the Top 12.
 - Candidates will be provided with an optional table at Kickoff Night for campaign use during the hours of the event.
 - Attendance at Kickoff Night is mandatory; campaigning is optional.
 - If a candidate wishes to pass out any items as part of their campaigning, they must submit them to homecoming@pittstate.edu before noon on Wednesday, October 18, for approval.

ROYALTY EVENTS (attendance is mandatory for all candidates unless otherwise noted):

- Headshots
 - September 20 & 21 – individual appointments to be scheduled.
 - 124 Whitesitt Hall
- Notification of Top 24: October 4
- Top 24 Interviews (only Top 24):

- October 15 – individual appointments to be scheduled.
- Overman Student Center
- Notification of Top 12: October 16
- Homecoming Kickoff (only Top 12):
 - October 23 – 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM. Candidates will be assigned a mandatory time for attendance within this time frame; optional campaigning during/at Kickoff Night.
 - Oval (Inclement weather location: Plaster Center)
- Yell Like Hell/Royalty Crowning (only Top 12):
 - October 26 – 6:30 PM check-in time.
 - Carnie Smith Stadium (Inclement weather site: John Lance Arena)
- Taste of Pittsburg (Crowned Royalty & Attendants):
 - This event subject to change.
 - October 27 – All details TBA.
- Parade (Crowned Royalty)
 - October 28 – 8:00 AM Royalty check-in time (see parade guidelines for float and organization check-in times).
 - Downtown Pittsburg (West 9 and Broadway)
- Parade (Mandatory for Top 12; optional for all other candidates)
 - October 28 – 8:30 AM in place with organization transportation.
 - Downtown Pittsburg
- Football Game Halftime (Crowned Royalty & Attendants)
 - October 28 – 1:00 PM – check-in instructions to be provided.
 - Carnie Smith Stadium

Cover Letter Rubric

Candidates are to type a 1-page cover letter addressing the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The impact you have made on Pitt State. ● The impact your Student Organization/University Affiliated Organization has made on you (The Organization that has nominated you). ● The impact Pitt State has made on you. 				
3		0		Score:
Content	Lists all components required. Content highlights applicant’s work while staying on task.	Most of the required components are missing. Information is NOT relevant to the task at hand.		
Organization	Information is easy to follow, and key points are clear.	Hard to understand, and information is scattered throughout, not following a clear path.		

Overall	Meets requirements. Cover letter is excellent. Free of grammatical errors.	Does not follow the requirements. Cover letter needs improvement. Has many grammatical errors.	
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Essay: 1-page, standard margins, single or double spaced, Times New Roman 12 pt. font

Co-Curricular Rubric

Off-Campus Involvement

3	Student demonstrates significant contributions to off-campus involvement. This could include service, philanthropy, civic engagement, conference planning, special projects, etc.
0	No off-campus involvement listed/demonstrated.

Recognition and Awards

5	List significant collegiate recognition/awards/honors – Leadership Awards Recognition, Scholarships, Departmental Awards, University Recognition, Significant Non-Pitt State Collegiate Recognition.
0	No recognition or awards listed.

Campus Involvement

For each point, you believe an applicant does/does not demonstrate, give them a “1”, “2”, or “0” in the column on the right. 1 point per involvement experience if involved with multiple organizations.

Maximum Points: 6	Points:
Candidate is involved in a Registered Student Organization (general member or titled position) (1 point each).	
Candidate is in an Honorary Organization.	
Candidate is involved in a University Affiliated Organization—including but not limited to: Advancement Ambassador, Ambassadors, Band, CARES Leaders, Cheer, Collegio, Crimson Club, Dance, Kanza, Peers Mentor Program, Sports Team, University Choir.	
Total:	

If an organization is not registered in Gorilla Engage or a University Affiliated Organization, membership will not count towards total score.

Raft Races

DESCRIPTION: The raft races are a competitive event. Organizations and Independent student teams construct a raft using materials specified in these guidelines and designate two members to race across the water.

TIME

- Rafts need to be onsite by 4:00 PM; drop-off area to be announced prior to the event.
- Check-in will be at 4:00 PM.
- The race will begin at 5:00 PM.
- Should inclement weather occur, the race will be re-scheduled for Friday, October 27th, 2023.
 - Time line for rain site is the same as actual race day.

TEAM REGISTRATION & ELIGIBILITY

- Organizations will designate a “team captain” to complete the registration form by noon on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, and will receive subsequent information from the Raft Race Chair via email.
- Independent Teams (those not participating for an Organization) will designate a “team captain” to complete the registration form between Thursday, September 21, 2023, and Wednesday, October 4, 2023.
- Only one entry per Organization or Independent Team is permitted.
 - Independent Teams cannot double or be swapped for Organization entries. Only the team submitted for the Organization may represent them.
- **All racers will present PSU ID to check in and complete a waiver onsite to participate.**
- Team members cannot race for more than one team.
- Multiple Organizations cannot partner to create one team.

APPROVED MATERIALS & CONSTRUCTION

- ONLY MATERIALS SPECIFIED IN THIS LIST ARE ALLOWED TO BE USED IN RAFT & PADDLE BUILDING:
 - Cardboard
 - Duct tape
 - Non-natural fiber rope
 - Pool Noodles
 - Flex Seal Spray – **FLEX SEAL MUST BE APPLIED NO LATER THAN 24 HOURS PRIOR TO EVENT**
- **ALL RAFTS & PADDLES MUST HAVE SMOOTH ROUNDED EDGES.**
- All paddles must be constructed from the approved materials list; no item originally intended to be a paddle, oar, etc., may be used.
- No motors or air tanks can be used to power rafts.

Any questions about materials/construction can be emailed to the Raft Race Chair at homecoming@pittstate.edu.

OPTIONAL START-UP KIT

- The below list of materials will be provided at no cost to teams. Start-Up Kits will be available for pickup in Campus Activities from Friday, September 29, 2023, at 8:00 AM – to Friday, October 13, 2023, at 4:00 PM.
- Start-Up Kit will include:
 - **4 pool noodles**
 - **1 extra-large roll of duct tape**
- Any additional approved materials needed to construct the raft will be the responsibility of teams to acquire.

EVENT REGULATIONS

- The order of teams competing will be selected at random.
- Rafts must be in their designated pits prior to the start of their heat. Any team not in their pit will not be permitted to compete in the race.
- Racers must wear **LIFE VESTS** provided by the Homecoming Committee; vests must be returned to the Homecoming Committee following each heat.
- **Racers must wear shoes with backs in the water.** Water shoes are preferred. No sandals allowed.
- Each team member must always remain within the designated boundaries during the race.
- If a raft fails to meet requirements, the raft will **NOT** be allowed to participate in the race.
- If a raft falls apart in the water, team members will be responsible for removing debris immediately.
- When the race is complete, all rafts, including debris, **MUST** be removed from the water and the surrounding area.
- **ALL TEAMS MUST TAKE RAFT HOME/DISPOSE OF THEIR RAFT FOLLOWING THE RACE; NO ITEMS ARE ALLOWED TO BE LEFT ON SITE FOLLOWING THE RACE.**

EVENT JUDGING

- The event will occur in timed heats. Event winners will be based on the quickest time across the water without their raft sinking.
- If individuals fall off a raft, they are encouraged to get back on and complete the course.
- The goal is to paddle from within the raft using the constructed oars for the duration of the event.
 - Any team that kick-paddles, swims, etc., from the **beginning** of the race, will not have their time recorded.
 - If a raft sinks or can no longer hold a team, swimming with the raft is acceptable, and the team will have their time recorded.
 - If this occurs, a team that swam across the water will not place above a team that successfully paddled from within their raft from start to finish.

Yell Like Hell

DESCRIPTION: Yell Like Hell is a celebratory event that includes Royalty Crowning and a spirited dance competition. Teams can consist of members from up to three Organizations.

Location: Carnie Smith Stadium

Inclement Weather Location: John Lance Arena – Weede Gymnasium

TIME

- 6:30 PM – Teams arrive onsite.
- 7:00 PM – Gates open for public entry.
- 7:30 PM – Event begins.

ONLINE ENTRY FORM & MUSIC

- Organizations will designate a “team captain” to complete the Gorilla Engage registration form & FormStack music submission form by noon on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, and receive subsequent information from the Yell Like Hell Chair.
 - *Music must be submitted via a separate FormStack Form (see below).*
- **When two or three Organizations are partnering, only one Organization must submit a registration and music form; all Organizations must be listed.**
- An MP3, fully edited, single-track and list of songs will be submitted for review on FormStack at https://pittsburgstate.formstack.com/forms/ylh_music_2023
 - All music must be combined into ONE MP3 file compatible with iTunes.
 - Music submission will not be accepted without a song list and artist.
 - No music substitutions will be allowed.
 - REMEMBER to allow a pause in the music for your yell, if needed.
- **Teams may be asked to change music selections at the discretion of the Homecoming Committee.** Only approved music will be used on the night of Yell Like Hell.
- Teams will **NOT** be responsible for providing the music files the night of Yell Like Hell.

TEAM QUALIFICATIONS

- Organizations are allowed one entry and must designate a division:
 - Small Division (5-30 people)
 - Large Division (31-60 people)
- There will be a chant category for smaller organizations.
 - This category will consist of one division (5-10 people).
- No more than **three** Organizations can partner to form one team.
- If you do not have the correct number of organization members according to your specified division, **deductions** will be made.

- All registered teams have until Tuesday, October 11, 2023, at noon to change their initial listed division size if needed; the music will remain the same. Following that date, teams will not be permitted to change, and deductions will be made as necessary.

PRACTICE NIGHT: Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 6:30 PM – Carnie Smith Stadium

- Team practice times will be assigned and announced one week before Practice Night.
 - Chant teams are required to be at practice night.
- Music technicians should be present at Practice Night.

SMALL/LARGE DIVISION PERFORMANCE REGULATIONS

- Each team is allowed five minutes to complete their performance, including yell and pyramid and/or stunt.
- Time ends when all members and props have left the field.
- When performances start, each team will be required to pay full attention to the lineup. It's the team's responsibility to know when it is their turn and be prepared to step out onto the field when they are called.
- Only members participating in the performance are to be on the field/court area.
 - "Coaches" cannot cross onto the field/court or obstruct the judges' views.
 - At the stadium, a maximum of three "coaches" will be allowed on the track in a space designated by the Homecoming Committee.
 - Space for coaches will be determined on practice night.
 - If inclement weather moves the event to the Weede, there may not be space for judges on the floor. A decision will be made that night.
- All teams provide a responsible individual to meet with the technical manager a minimum of 15 minutes before the scheduled start. That individual shall remain on-hand through their team's entire performance.
- The technical staff assumes no liability for non-compliance, quality of music, or improper timing due to any irresponsible parties designated by their team.
- Homecoming Committee will **NOT** be responsible for injuries. Please take necessary safety precautions.
- The Yell Like Hell Chair reserves the right to cut off the P.A./routine during any team's performance that uses racial, sexual, religious, or otherwise offensive gestures or language as determined by the Homecoming Committee.
- After all teams have performed, the candidates will enter the field, and royalty will be crowned. **NO RUSHING THE FIELD.**
- The announcement of the Yell Like Hell winners will commence **after crowning.**

CHANT PERFORMANCE REGULATIONS

- Each team is allowed 3 minutes total.
- Time ends when all performers and signs/banners have left the field.
- This is a chant ONLY. No music, stunting, or pyramids are allowed. Organizations are allowed to use signs and banners.
- This category is participation points only. There will be no crowning of teams.
- The regulations of what classifies as a chant can be found in the YELL regulations.
- All other regulations are the same as the Small/Large Division performance regulations.

PYRAMID/STUNT

- Each team is required to build/perform either a pyramid or a stunt.
- A pyramid is a structure in which individuals form a base and a second level. The pyramid(s) must consist of a minimum of five people. The pyramid will be no more than two people high. No person is to be extended above the head of the bottom person.
- It is up to the participating teams to justify what determines a stunt.
- Teams may contact the Yell Like Hell Chair if further clarification is needed.
- On the night of Yell Like Hell, teams will receive 5 points if a stunt or pyramid is visible in their performance. If not visible, a 5-point deduction will be given.

YELL

- A yell is classified as words combined in relation to the Organization or University, spoken with enthusiasm, at a loud level for all to hear.
- Yell MUST be related to Homecoming activities, but not necessarily the theme.
- **No music allowed.**

EVENT JUDGING

- Scores are calculated and deductions are taken from the calculated score.
- See "Yell Like Hell Score Sheet" for point breakdown and judging criteria.

10-POINT DEDUCTIONS

- Over or under specified division number of people allowed on the field/court.
- Each **30 seconds** the performance goes over the time limit.
- Other deductions are at the discretion of the Homecoming Committee.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

- **TOSSES ARE NOT ALLOWED.** This means no individual may be thrown into the air, out of arms reach.
- No profanity.

- Use of music or gestures that are racially, sexually, religiously, or otherwise offensive as determined by the Homecoming Committee.
- Inappropriate apparel, indecent exposure, or anything deemed offensive by the Homecoming Committee is not permitted.
- Glitter is allowed on signs, hair, outfits, etc., provided it is glued/adhered in a fashion so as not to come loose.
 - **If the event is moved to the Weede, NO GLITTER OF ANY KIND IS ALLOWED.** If signs or people have glitter, they will not be allowed onto the floor per Facilities requirements.
- Sand in any form (including but not limited to sandbags and buckets of sand) is not permitted.
- Any representative of a team or Organization who enters the field/court following Royalty Crowning before Yell Like Hell winners are announced will receive disqualification.
- Any music, stunting, or pyramids in the Chant Division will result in disqualification. If disqualified, no participation points will be awarded.

YELL LIKE HELL SCORING SHEET

Name of Organization(s): _____

Judge Name: _____

Division (circle): **Small** **Large** **Chant**

Please Circle each of the Following Categories out of a 5-point rating. No half scores please (ex. 3.5). If the team classifies under the Chant category, do not rank their performance. Please circle +2 points or +0 points (depending on disqualifications) at the bottom of the page.

Diction/Clarity of Yell (pronunciation of text, communication, loudness):

Poor					Excellent
1	2	3	4	5	

How the group appeals/impacts the crowd:

Poor					Excellent
1	2	3	4	5	

The group is well put together, has created a creative and original routine:

Poor					Excellent
1	2	3	4	5	

The group is prepared, enthusiastic, and spirited:

Poor					Excellent
1	2	3	4	5	

The group is synchronized through their formation, spacing, and rhythm:

Poor					Excellent
1	2	3	4	5	

Did this performance have a pyramid or stunt YES NO

Rate this performance from 1-5: (Only to be used to tie break)

Poor					Excellent
1	2	3	4	5	

Chant Category Participation Points

Did the team follow the Chant guidelines? YES (+2) NO (+0)

Parade

DESCRIPTION: The Annual PSU Homecoming Parade is a community event where organizations build floats to be judged and displayed.

Location: Broadway Street. ALL entries must report to the corner of 20th St. and Broadway and will be placed in order by the Homecoming Committee upon arrival. **No driving/parking will be permitted in the Walgreens parking lot.**

TIME

- 6:45 AM – Float entries may begin arriving; no early arrivals are permitted.
- 7:15 AM – All float entries and elements including walkers MUST be in place.
- 7:30 AM – Float judging and fire inspections begin.
- 8:00 AM – Candidate cars must be in place.
- 8:30 AM – Candidates must be in cars, walking groups must be in place, and the lineup lane closes.
- 9:00 AM – Parade begins.

ONLINE ENTRY FORMS

- Organizations will complete the Gorilla Engage registration form by noon on Wednesday, September 19, 2023, and will receive subsequent information from the Homecoming Committee via email.
- **Two/Three Organizations who are partnering need to submit ONE registration with all organizations listed.**

FLOAT QUALIFICATIONS

- Organizations are allowed one entry and must designate a division:
 - Large Float
 - Any float with an attachment.
 - Max dimensions: 9.5 ft. wide and 12 ft. high. Trailers may not exceed 35 ft. long, not including gooseneck or hitch. Floats exceeding these dimensions will be disqualified and will not be permitted in the Parade.
 - Small Float
 - Car, truck, or similar/smaller sized vehicle by itself without a trailer or other attachment
- No more than three Organizations can partner to form one entry.
- Float building site locations are due on the entry form.
- Due to a City of Pittsburg Ordinance, no candy is to be thrown from floats during the Parade at any time. However, walking groups may toss candy.
- Due to a City of Pittsburg Ordinance, all flammable elements of any motorized entry must be fireproofed (see [Section 319. Parade floats](#); see “Fire Safety” below).
- Decorations should demonstrate that effort was placed into the development and creation of the float; entries that demonstrate no effort may be eliminated from judging/placing at the discretion of the Homecoming Committee.

- Pre-printed banner and a few balloons would not showcase effort and may not be awarded a prize regardless of the number of competitors.

WALKING GROUP QUALIFICATIONS

- Walking groups must consist of 3 or more individuals.
- Organizations are allowed one entry.
- Walking groups may be a standalone entry or may be used to enhance the effect of a float; standalone groups are not judged.
- Standalone walking groups need identifying Organization signage.

FLOAT BUILDING & ACCOUNTS

- Large or Small Float entries will receive a balance at Broadway Lumber:
 - Large Floats will receive \$200.
 - Small Floats will receive \$100.
- Organizations will be notified when these accounts have been opened and may not “charge” to these accounts until they have been notified that the accounts are open.
- Float building may commence one week after Homecoming forms are due; building before Broadway Lumber accounts opens is at the discretion and cost of the Organization.
- If more than one Organization is working on a float together, they will only receive ONE account at Broadway Lumber.
- Only submitted names on the Parade form are able to obtain materials at Broadway Lumber. This member MUST have their student I.D. with them to pick up materials.
- Any funds charged beyond the allotted amount will be the responsibility of the Organization (s).
- If materials are charged from Broadway Lumber and a group does NOT participate in the Parade, materials must be returned to Broadway Lumber, or the Organization will be held financially accountable for any balances.

SITE CHECKS

- Site checks may occur anytime between the designated start of float building and the Homecoming Parade and may or may not be announced.
- Organizations MUST build at the site listed on their entry form. If floats are built at a location not listed on the entry form, an entry may be disqualified.
- The Homecoming Steering Chair MUST be informed of changes concerning building locations within 24 hours.
- The following MUST be on site when organizations are float building. Failure to have these items may result in disqualification:
 - Fire extinguisher,
 - First aid kit,
 - Appropriate clear lighting, and
 - Access to water.

EVENT JUDGING

- Entries MUST be fire inspected before they can enter the Parade.
- Floats will only be judged once before the Parade; there will be no judging when the parade is in motion.
 - Judging includes special effects. The organization should strive to create effects that are capable of performing more than one time for parade attendees to enjoy.
- Float winners will be awarded their prize ribbon before the parade begins.

JUDGING CRITERIA (see below for scoresheet)

- *Originality*: Creative connection to PSU or Pittsburg; a unique/fresh idea or creative implementation is expected.
- *Craftsmanship*: Overall time, effort, and teamwork are evident. Objects are recognizable; letters are legible from the curb. Solid construction. Neat overall appearance.
- *Appearance & Coordination*: Participants on/with the float have good spirit and coordinate with the entry.
- *Public Appeal*: Appeals to and is appropriate for various age groups and backgrounds. Able to understand theme without explanation.
- *Pitt State Pride*: Promotes spirit and/or support for Pitt State.
- *Special Effects & Animation*: Successful incorporation of any motion, sound, or lighting on/alongside the float. Also covers bubbles, fog, etc.

FIRE SAFETY

Fire inspections begin at 7:30 AM on the morning of the parade in the parade lineup. This will include any decorated motorized vehicle, including candidate vehicles and float entries. Any flammable items must be flame retardant. A homemade recipe for spraying onto materials is listed below. The Fire Department will test entries by utilizing real flames. If an entry cannot pass this inspection, it will be removed from the line up without being judged. If you are in doubt about either the flame-retardant qualities of your decorations or the safety of the structure, call the Pittsburg City Fire Department for advice.

Decorated motorized vehicles must be constructed to provide fresh air for the driver or any person operating the unit. Exhaust pipes must be extended to the outside of all decorations. Flammable materials, such as rubber, wood, or plastic, should not be used for these extensions. Float builders also must be careful not to enclose a driver within a covered float with no means of rapid egress in an emergency.

FIREPROOFING SOLUTION

Please note that this makes over 12 gallons of solution. Adjust as needed using appropriate ratios. Items for this solution can be purchased at most hardware stores. Mix together and spray on any flammable materials on vehicle, especially pumps. Spray should be applied the night before & morning of parade. Ingredients: 6 pounds of Borax, 5 pounds of Boric Acid, 12 gallons of water

Parade Scoring Sheet

Name of Organization(s): _____

Judge Name: _____

Float Size (circle): **Small** **Large**

Please circle your point selection from each of the following categories

Please no half scores (ex. 3.5). Zero points may be awarded in a category. If no points are awarded in a category, please indicate.

	POOR				EXCELLENT
Originality:	1	2	3	4	5
Craftsmanship:	1	2	3	4	5
Appearance & Coordination:	1	2	3	4	5
Public Appeal:	1	2	3	4	5
Pitt State Pride:	1	2	3	4	5
Special Effects & Animation:	1	2	3	4	5

Does this float have 3 or more walkers? YES NO YES = +2pts.

(committee use) Total: _____/32

(Tie Breaking Factor)

Rate this float: 1 2 3 4 5

Homecoming Champion

DESCRIPTION: Organizations wishing to participate in multiple aspects of Homecoming will be entered into the Homecoming Champion competition. Winner will be announced at Yell Like Hell, where they will receive a trophy.

ONLINE ENTRY FORMS

- Homecoming Forms will have a spot for the Organization to indicate they are competing in the Homecoming Champion competition.
 - The Organization must check this box on each form for the event to count towards Participation, excluding the Gorilla Pantry Drive.
 - Attendance can be tracked regardless of form on file.

QUALIFYING ACTIVITIES

- Each of the following activities will have points associated with it:
 - Pre-Homecoming Week Activities,
 - Banner Decorating,
 - Kickoff Night,
 - Raft Races,
 - Parade,
 - Royalty, and
 - Yell Like Hell.
- Points will be posted in hardcopy on the Campus Activities window by 9:00 AM Monday-Wednesday of Homecoming Week.
- Where applicable, attendance will be a minimum of 4 organization members.
 - Information Sessions only require 1 member; this is the only time attendance is not 4 members.
 - An individual with multiple memberships may only represent **one** Organization.

PRE-HOMECOMING WEEK ACTIVITIES

- Attendance at the Fall Information Session
 - Attendance only needs to be recorded at one of the Info Sessions.
- Yell Like Hell Practice Night Participation
 - These points are only available to Organizations participating in Yell Like Hell.

KICKOFF NIGHT

- Attendance

POINTS

- A points chart is indicated below.
- Points are not stacked.

- Organizations cannot claim both Attendance and Participation points.
- Organizations not placing 1st-3rd will receive the Participation points where noted.
- Organizations that place 1st-3rd will receive only the listed points for that placement where noted.
- Attendance will mean having a minimum of 4 Organization members checked in at an event.
- Members must be on the Organization's Gorilla Engage roster (see above).
- If two or more groups co-sponsor a Yell Like Hell Team, they will both receive the points earned for that event.
 - *Example: MNO and XYZ participate in Yell Like Hell together and win 1st place; both groups would receive 8 points*
- Organizations who register for an event but fail to participate are not eligible for Attendance points and will receive a 2-point deduction for the event.

TIES

- If 2 or more Organizations tie for a place in one event, the points for the places will be added together and divided between the groups.
 - *Example: MNO and XYZ tie for 2nd place in Raft Races; each would receive 6.5 points and no 3rd place would be awarded.*
 - If the points total less than the participation points, only participation points would be awarded.
- In the case of two or more Organizations having the same point totals at the end of the competition, the Homecoming Committee will go off of overall attendance at the Yell Like Hell event. Attendance points will
 - *Example: MNO and XYZ tie for overall points. MNO has more members, but less of a percentage of total organization membership in attendance than XYZ at the event, so XYZ would receive the title as Homecoming Champion*

HOMECOMING CHAMPION POINT SYSTEM

1. Pre-Homecoming Week Activities

Info Session Attendance - Fall	5 points
Yell Like Hell Practice Night Participation	2 points

2. Banner Decorating

Participation	2 points
3rd Place	4 points
2nd Place	5 points
1st Place	6 points

3. Kickoff Night

Attendance	3 points
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4. Raft Races

Attendance (non-participation)	2 points
Participation	3 points
3rd Place	6 points
2nd Place	7 points
1st Place	8 points

5. Parade

Attendance (non-participation)	2 points
Participation	4 points
3 rd Place	6 points
2 nd Place	7 points
1 st Place	8 points

6. Homecoming Royalty (points per candidate/max 2 candidates)

Entering a candidate	2 points
Candidate making it to interviews	3 points
Candidate making it to ballot	4 points

(MAXIMUM OF 8 POINTS PER ORGANIZATION)

7. Yell Like Hell (points per division, per Organization)

Attendance (non-participation)	2 points
Chant Division (Participation)	2 points
Small/Large Division Participation	4 points
3rd Place	6 points
2nd Place	7 points
1st Place	8 points

MAXIMUM POINTS AVAILABLE: 48 points

Any information not addressed in these Guidelines will be up to the discretion of the Homecoming Committee. Decisions made by the Homecoming Committee are final.

For more information, contact the Homecoming Committee at homecoming@pittstate.edu.