

## SOUTH SOMERSET FEDERATION OF CARNIVALS - COMPETITION RULES 2025

1	Safety is paramount and it is the responsibility of the Clubs and Entrants to ensure the safety and welfare of their members and the public at all times.
2	The Committee accepts no responsibility for loss, damage or injury, however caused to or by any person, article or vehicle. All entrants and participants are advised to insure against ALL RISKS.
3	All floats or motorised entries will carry a minimum of one in date certified approved Fire Extinguisher per section (vehicle and two trailers require a minimum of three) plus a bag of sand in case of diesel spillage. Entries must seek advice from a registered firefighting company to ensure they have the correct extinguishers and an adequate number for the entry. All fuel is to be carried in approved containers. In the event of an emergency all vehicles and participants will move, on instructions from Procession Marshals, to their left (in the direction of travel).
4	No alcohol will be consumed by any entrant or road crew in the Assembly Area or during the Procession. No person is allowed to take part in carnival activity whilst under the adverse influence of any medication, drug or alcohol.
5	All connecting lines will be of sufficient length such that disconnection around corners is not required
6	All entries must conform to the latest edition of the VSO Technical Team's Carnival Handbook or Trailer Letter (where VSO does not apply). Contact the Tech Team at <a href="mailto:vsotechteam@gmail.com">vsotechteam@gmail.com</a> for the latest edition.
7	All floats and procession vehicles will have a qualified driver in attendance at all times.
8	The Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry. This right can be exercised at any time.
9	The Judges' decisions are final. No correspondence or discussion will be entered into.
10	The Committee is licensed by Somerset Council to make a street collection. Charities, other organisations and participants are NOT ALLOWED to collect for their own funds.
11	Winners of trophies will be held responsible for any damage or loss whilst they are in their possession and will ensure their safe return in accordance with the Committee's instructions. All trophies remain the property of the Committee.
12	If the Procession is halted for three minutes or longer participants may relax their pose or dance routine but may not get off their float or leave their entry.
13	Entries must complete the whole Procession route (unless otherwise directed by the Committee/Silver Control) to be eligible for inclusion in the results. The route will not be deemed complete until the entry has passed the finish line. The responsibility of completing the route lies with each entry.
14	All entries will comply with instructions from Procession Marshals. All those involved in organising, delivering and participating in the event will treat everyone with civility and respect.
15	Entrants under 18 years of age must have adult supervision with them at all times.
16	All entries comprising a towing vehicle and one or more trailers must have a permanent but flexible barrier between each unit and display <b>Do Not Cross</b> signs of rigid construction (not paper) between each unit, visible from nearside and offside. All mounted entries to have emergency stop system on all components to alert the driver of any incident.
17	In the event of a breakdown or generator failure the following will apply - <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><b>Assembly area.</b> The club will be given time to fix the problem and permitted to go out of order if fixed. If the problem cannot be fixed the float will be required to travel the route in the procession as directed by the Chief Assembly Marshal. The cast to be fixed in position and permitted to perform. Road and Emergency lighting to be used with Road Crew in attendance.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><b>On route.</b> If the lights fail the club will be given a short time to fix the problem. If the problem cannot be fixed the float will carry on in the procession. The cast to be fixed in</p>

	position and permitted to perform. Road and Emergency lighting to be used with Road Crew in attendance.
18	The maximum permitted size for any wheeled entry before, during and after the Procession is 5.00m high (from ground level), 3.50m wide and 30.50m long
19	Entries must TAKE PART in a minimum of two of the four South Somerset Federation Carnivals to qualify for Federation points and trophies
20	All mounted/vehicular entries are strongly advised to provide road crew. The minimum recommended numbers are 2 for a single vehicle entry, 4 for a two part entry and 8 for a three part entry. All walking entries are strongly advised to be accompanied by easily identifiable responsible adults who are able to respond immediately to any incident involving participants.
21	Entries from organisations that are primarily for the purpose of promoting or advertising a trade or business MUST be entered in Traders' Display and pay the relevant fee.
22	Entries from voluntary organisations that are not competitive but are intended to support the Carnival Procession must be entered in the Supporters' Class.