



**Sunday, December 4, 2011, 12:00 p.m.**

**DEADLINE FOR ENTRY: FRIDAY, NOV. 19, 2011**



## BED SPECIFICATIONS

- Ground clearance - Minimum 10", Maximum 15"
- Overall bed height - Min. 36", max 96"
- Overall bed length - Min. 72", max 96"
- Overall bed width - Min. 48", max. 72"
- Beds must have an inner-spring mattress that is 6" thick or thicker. The mattress top must not exceed 36" from the ground.
- Push bars are allowed but may not extend beyond the maximum dimensions stated above. All push bars are to be designed for safety with no sharp or jagged edges.
- Beds must have four wheels, no more or less, and they should be load bearing and all must make contact with the ground. Wheel size should be at least 8" and no more than 21". Front wheels need to pivot and rear wheels are to be fixed.
- Steering mechanisms or brake systems of any kind may not be used. All means of motion are limited to the race team members.
- The bed itself does not need to be an original bed but it must mimic an antique bed with head and foot-boards.
- Beds must be decorated, themed after Victorian Christmas, for judging and races, all decorations must be left on the bed, unless determined by the judges that for safety reasons must be removed.
- Beds must be constructed to ensure safe operation and safety of team members, other competitors and spectators. Beds must also be constructed in such a manner as to allow for full visibility by the "pushers".
- Beds may only be pushed, from the back and/or sides. No pulling is allowed.
- Beds must have visible signage displaying their team name and/or theme name.

## RULES AND GUIDELINES

- A team consists of 5 members...1 rider and 4 pushers. A rider must remain in the bed at all times. All members of the team must be at least 18 years old. No exceptions.
- The rider must dress in a night cap & nightgown/night shirt. Pushers must dress in costumes. Pushers are encouraged to "decorate" themselves in their chosen theme, which should reflect the festival, holidays or Dickens characters.

## RULES AND GUIDELINES (cont.)

- Your safety is important to us. Please wear good running shoes. Accidents may occur such as falls, scrapes, bruises, tripping, collisions, etc. Safety gear to avoid such hazards is strongly recommended.
- Consumption of alcohol will not be permitted.
- Teams are encouraged to find supporting sponsors to assist with entry fees and other costs.
- Teams will race independently and the fastest finish times will determine the winners.
- Teams should arrive no later than 11:30 a.m. prior to the start of the race. Teams will begin at 21st and Mechanic Street and race westward to the intersection of 22nd and Mechanic. In the intersection, teams will need to come to a complete stop within the marked area, and perform a "Chinese Fire Drill", with every team member circling the bed once. Then one of the pushers will need to don the night cap and gown, without assistance, and change places with the previous rider, who becomes a pusher. Once the new rider is on the bed, the team will continue to the finish line at 23rd and Mechanic. The entire distance is approximately 700 linear feet.
- Beds will need to be delivered to the festival grounds by 9 a.m. on Saturday, December 4th for judging and patron viewing/voting. The judging/display area will be on 22nd street between Market and Mechanic. Teams will have access for delivery at 22nd and Market Street. Judges will inspect the beds beginning at 9:15 a.m. to determine if all specifications and guidelines have been followed. Judges will also determine, at this time, if any of the decorations on the beds will need to be removed for safety reasons. If the judges deem any of the regulations have not been followed, teams will have until 5 p.m. on Saturday to make corrections. Judges will inspect those beds again and if by their decision any beds are not in compliance, the entry will be eliminated from the competition. Any decorations deemed unsafe will need to be removed prior to race time on Sunday. All judge's rulings are FINAL. GHF and the race judges reserve the right to disqualify any beds or teams, at any time, for rule or guideline violations.
- Following the final round, the presentation of awards will take place at the display area south of Mechanic on 22nd Street.
- Awards:
  - Fastest Time: 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners
  - Best Decorated: Voted on by race judges
  - People's Choice Award: For \$1, patrons to the festival may cast their vote for their favorite bed. Half of the proceeds will benefit the Galveston Historical Foundation and the other half will be donated to the charity chosen by the first place winners.
- All winning entries above are to participate in the 2 p.m. Queen's Parade to tout their winning beds and teams! The winning teams, and their beds, are asked to be at the parade line-up at 25th and Santa Fe Place by 1:30 p.m. to participate in the parade.
- All beds will need to be removed no later than 6 p.m. on Sunday.

### IMPORTANT

**On the day of the race, if severely inclement weather occurs, the race may be cancelled for the safety of all.**