**HOMECOMING EVENT RULES**

Entry form and all additional documents must be submitted to the Center for Student Enrichment, 1205 University Center, by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, September 8. NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

**SIDEWALK CHALK COMPETITION**

Help your team earn extra points toward their overall score by decorating the sidewalks around campus! Each organization that participates will earn 10 participation points toward their overall score. Chalking should be related to NMU, Homecoming, or this year’s theme. This is a great way for organizations to advertise for themselves, too! A limited amount of chalk will be supplied to each organization, so groups are encouraged to bring their own supplies. You must check-in at the Academic Mall with the Special Events Committee before beginning your chalking AND before leaving in order to get points for your organization. Point distribution will be at the discretion of the Special Events Coordinator.

**DEAD RIVER GAMES**

**Registration:** Dead River Games check-in will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 1:50 p.m. Teams **must** be present and checked in by **1:50 p.m.** at the Dead River Bridge. If a team does not check in, they will be ineligible to compete for points and prizes.

**Teams should be prepared to get wet and messy!**

**Teams should also try to carpool as there is very limited parking available.**

**Event #1: ICE CREAM SCOOP**

1. All NMU students, faculty and staff are eligible to participate.

2. All competing teams will consist of six members. Exceptions to this rule can be made at the discretion of the Special Events Coordinator.

3. One individual from the team of six will be the scooper. The scooper is **NOT** permitted to lean over the ladder or down near the scoopee. Judges will have the right to disqualify teams if team members do not comply.

4. The other five members will each take turns catching a scoop of ice cream in their mouths. One catch per person must be made but more than one try may be attempted. When catching the ice cream, people cannot use their hands as a funnel, and they cannot sit up. They must remain flat on the ground, with their backs touching the sand at all times, when catching the ice cream

5. The team that finishes the rotation fastest will win.

6. First place will receive 20 points toward their overall score. Remaining participating teams will receive 15 points toward their overall score. Only one team per organization will receive points (first place or participation.)
7. Winning team members will receive Homecoming t-shirts.

**Event #2: OBSTACLE COURSE**

1. All NMU students, faculty and staff are eligible to participate.
2. All competing teams will consist of six members. Teams with less than six members can compete for fun but will not be awarded points or prizes.
3. Each team will race through the obstacle course and the team with the fastest combined time will win.
4. First place will receive 20 points. Remaining participating teams will receive 15 points toward their overall score. Only one team per organization will receive points (first place or participation).
5. Winning team members will receive Homecoming t-shirts.
6. Teams should be prepared to get wet!

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**KING & QUEEN COMPETITION**

All students and student organizations are encouraged to participate in the annual King & Queen Competition. Contestants will compete in both Theme Wear and Semi-Formal “dress” categories. A combined score from the audience and judges will then determine the top five semi-finalists, and these individuals will advance to the Question and Answer round, where the panel of judges will determine the King and Queen based on contestants’ responses. Double Trouble DJs will be emceeing the event. Compete for the crown or just come watch the show!

**COMPETITION INFORMATION**

1. Each contestant will initially be judged on two different categories of dress: Theme Wear and Semi-Formal Wear. The criteria for judging the dress categories will be:
   a. Use of props to accentuate the outfit. No time will be allotted for set-up or teardown of props. Human props and audience handouts are prohibited. Music will be provided for the event and routines should be no longer than one minute in length.
   b. Coordination of the outfit: Does it look cohesive?
   c. Applicability of dress: Does it make sense with the Homecoming theme?
   d. Personal attitude (poise): Does the contestant act the part of the outfit? Does he or she look comfortable?
   e. Audience Reaction
2. After the dress competition, five semi-finalists in both the King and Queen categories will be determined based on a combined audience and judges’ score. Those selected as semi-finalists will participate in the Question and Answer category.

3. Semi-finalists will each draw a question out of a bowl and will have one minute to answer the question. A panel of judges will score the Question and Answer category. The criteria for judging the question and answer category will be:
   a. Appropriateness of answer
   b. Personal attitude (poise)
   c. Audience reaction

4. The judges’ scores from the Question and Answer category will determine who will be crowned. Judges decisions are final!

5. In the case of any ties, audience votes will determine the winner.

6. Contestants will lose judges’ points or be disqualified if they in any way slander or degrade another organization or the university through abusive or insulting language.

   **ELIGIBILITY/GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. All contestants must be NMU students.

2. A contestant may, but is not required to, be sponsored by a student organization.

3. A $5 deposit (cash only) must accompany the entry form and will be returned upon participation in the King & Queen Competition. If a candidate does not participate, their deposit will not be returned. Refunds will be available for pick-up immediately following the King & Queen Competition.

4. No couple can be judged together on stage at the same time.

5. A digital photograph of each contestant must be submitted to the Special Events Committee by Tuesday, September 8. Digital photographs can be e-mailed to sec@nmu.edu.

6. There will be a MANDATORY INFORMATIONAL MEETING for all contestants on Thursday, September 10, at 9 p.m. in the Back Room of the University Center. All contestants must be present. Representatives may not come in a contestant’s place.

7. Contestants must check-in with the Special Events Committee between 5:30 and 6 p.m. on the night of the competition. All candidates must be present by 6 p.m. to compete.

8. The crowning of the King and Queen will take place at the conclusion of the competition. All candidates must be present to win. There will be only one King and one Queen crowned, regardless of divisions.
9. **The King, Queen and court (1st and 2nd place runners-up) must attend all officially scheduled activities or they will forfeit their title, prizes and points awarded to their sponsoring organization.** The runner-up will then be crowned. The official King, Queen and court appearances will include the Parade on Friday, September 21, the Wildcat Game Day on September 22, and the Homecoming football game on September 22, where they will be announced during the half-time show (including a short half-time practice; the date will be decided after the competition). The King and Queen are encouraged to attend all other Homecoming events and may be asked to attend other events throughout the year.

10. The Special Events Committee reserves the right to disqualify indecent or inappropriate acts. **All decisions are final.**

11. The King and Queen will each receive 70 points toward the overall score of their sponsoring organization. First runners-up and second runners-up will each receive 65 and 60 points, respectively. Remaining contestants will receive 50 points toward their overall score. Sponsoring organizations will only receive points for one male and one female candidate (place or participation).

12. The King, Queen and court will receive Homecoming t-shirts and sashes. The King and Queen will each receive a crown or tiara and a gift certificate for the Casa Calabria.

**SCAVENGER HUNT**

Registration begins at **6:20 p.m.** Teams **must** be present and checked in by **6:45 p.m.** in the Great Lakes Rooms. If your team does not check in, you will be ineligible to compete.

1. All NMU students, faculty and staff are eligible to participate.

2. All competing teams will consist of no more than six participants (teams of less than six are permitted). An organization can register more than one team by submitting multiple registration forms.

3. The lists of items/directions with assigned point values for each item will be handed out at **6:55 p.m.** in the Great Lakes Rooms.

4. Any means of transportation may be used to obtain the items listed (such as walking, biking, driving, etc.), as long as transportation does not obstruct another team from gathering items.

5. Teams must be back to the starting point **no later than 9 p.m.** Scores will be tallied at this time. Items brought in after 9 p.m. will not be accepted for points.

6. No members of a team will be permitted to leave and re-enter the Great Lakes Rooms after their organization’s score has been tallied.

7. Scavenged items may **not** leave the room until all organizations’ points have been tallied and the winner has been announced.
8. Teams must retrieve the actual item listed. Pictures of the item or computer print-offs will not be accepted unless noted.

9. Points are based on items collected and the time in which an organization returns. The team with the most points will be declared the winner.

10. The Special Events Committee reserves all rights on judging an item as qualifying as a list item. **Judges decisions are final!**

11. First, second and third place teams will receive 40, 35 and 30 points, respectively. Remaining teams will receive 25 points toward their overall score. Only one team per organization will receive points (place or participation).

12. Winning team members will receive Homecoming t-shirts.

**Scavenger Hunt Schedule:**

- **6:20 – 6:45 p.m.** Check-in (Teams must be present and checked-in by 6:45 p.m.)
- **6:45 – 6:55 p.m.** Rules and point systems will be explained
- **6:55 p.m.** Items List will be handed out
- **7 p.m.** Scavenger Hunt teams will leave to start the hunt
- **9 p.m.** All teams must be back at the starting point.
  No items will be accepted after 9 p.m.
- **9:10 p.m.** Winners will be announced

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**STEPPING COMPETITION**

Returning for its 7th year, the Stepping Competition will test teams’ ability to work as a unified group. Stepping is a mixture of synchronized movements in dance that uses the body to make noise (this includes stomping, clapping and shouting). A group can step with or without music.

1. All NMU students, faculty and staff are eligible to participate.

2. All competing teams will consist of **no more than 10** participants.

3. **A $10 deposit (cash only) must accompany the entry form** and will be returned upon participation in the Stepping Competition. If a registered team does not participate, their deposit will not be returned. Refunds will be available for pick-up immediately following the Stepping Competition.

4. A representative from each team must be present at the **MANDATORY STEPPING COMPETITION MEETING** on Thursday, September 10, at 7 p.m. in the Back Room of the University Center.
5. Music (if applicable) must be specified on the entry form. Groups using music must submit a USB containing their music (in the censored form) by the start of the Mandatory Meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 10. Songs must be in mp3 format.

6. Multiple teams cannot use the same song. If a song choice conflict occurs, the team who turned in their entry forms first will be able to use the song. Therefore, try to turn your forms in early.

7. The Special Events Committee has the right to refuse ANY song that is not appropriate for the event (ie. containing excessive profanity, in bad taste, etc.).

8. Any behavior, statements or apparel worn by participants that is deemed inappropriate by the Special Events Committee will also result in immediate disqualification. Questionable apparel or choreography should be submitted to the Special Events Coordinator at least 24 hours prior to the competition for approval.

9. Performances cannot exceed five minutes. Any performance that exceeds the time limit will be penalized 10 points per minute over.

10. Props such as background banners or anything to enhance the performance are acceptable and encouraged. Chairs may also be utilized during the performance. Props must be approved by the Special Events Coordinator (227-1622) no later than 24 hours prior to the event.

11. All teams must check-in with the Special Events Committee in Jamrich 1100 by 5:30 p.m. on the night of the competition or face disqualification.

12. The Center for Student Enrichment will be recording the competition. DVDs will become available two weeks after the competition and can be pre-ordered for $10 each. Orders can be placed by contacting the Special Events Coordinator at 227-1622 or sec@nmu.edu by Friday, September 11.

13. First, second and third place teams will receive 60, 55 and 50 points, respectively. Remaining teams will receive 40 points toward their overall score. Only one team per organization will receive points (place or participation).

**Stepping Competition Judging Criteria**

Teams will be judged on the synchronism, overall performance, appearance and audience reaction. In the result of a tie for first, second or third, the winner will be decided by the audience. Judges decisions are final!

**Synchronism (0-35 points)**

- Is the group performing in unison?
- Does the rhythm made by the group sound in sync?
Performance (0-30 points)

- Are there choreographed dance movements?
- Are there any stunts performed (i.e. flips, cartwheels, etc.)?
- Is the Homecoming theme incorporated?

Appearance (0-20 points)

- Does the appearance of the group match with each member?

Audience Reaction (0-15 points)

- How well does the audience respond?

PARADE

The 2015 Homecoming Parade will be on Friday, September 18, at 5:30 p.m. The Parade will begin at the Pine Street parking lot (behind the Superior Dome). PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE ONLY ENTRANCE TO THE PARADE LINE-UP WILL BE OFF OF WRIGHT STREET. Parade entries should be centered on the Homecoming theme, “Fight for the Green and Gold!” Student organizations are eligible to compete in the decorated car, marching unit & spirit banner, and float categories. NMU faculty, staff and alumni are invited to participate in the parade but are not eligible to partake in the competition. Any student organization competing in the decorated car, marching unit & spirit banner, or float categories will be awarded points toward their overall Homecoming score.

A representative from each participating organization must be present at the MANDATORY PARADE MEETING on Thursday, September 10, at 8 p.m. in the Back Room of the University Center.

When constructing units for competition, be prepared for any weather condition that may exist during preparation and/or the parade itself. No “sympathy points” will be allotted for weather-damaged units.

Vehicles and trailers must be inspected to make sure there are no mechanical problems before the parade begins.

PLEASE NOTE: Prior to the start of the Parade at the Pine Street parking lot, Parade Officials will inspect all entries. Entries not finished on both sides will have judging points deducted from their totals. Judges decisions are final!

All parade units must register at the line-up with the Special Events Committee by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, September 18. Any unit that is not in the assigned position at the proper time will automatically be disqualified.

Parade numbers will be distributed during registration. These numbers must be displayed prominently on the right front corner of the Parade entry. Units without Parade numbers will not be judged or considered for a participation prize.

Marquette City Ordinance prohibits throwing items from your parade entry!
Please bear in mind that any competition unit or members of that unit that are found consuming alcoholic beverages at any point along the parade route will automatically be removed from the parade and will be disqualified from the competition. This rule will be strictly enforced.

RULES AND GENERAL INFORMATION FOR COMPETING CATEGORIES

Float Information

1. NO duplications of float ideas will be permitted. At the time of entry, a second idea should be available in case there are any duplicate ideas. In the case of duplicate entries, the first entry received will be given priority.

2. Floats should be consistent with the theme “Fight for the Green and Gold!” and/or center on the NMU Wildcat football game against Hillsdale College.

3. All floats must have wheels and be pull-able.

4. Any type of material may be used during construction (remember that a variety of weather conditions are possible during the parade). All entries must be constructed so spectators on both sides of the street can view them. This includes decorations and trim.

5. **Lettering is required, which includes the name of the sponsoring organization and the float title.** Lettering must be a minimum of 8” high and visible from both sides of the street. **Each team must supply their own tape.**

6. Maximum height is 13 feet (measured from the ground up.) Minimum size can be as small as the back of a pick-up truck.

7. If a decorated car is pulling the float, it must be entered as being competitive on both the Float and Decorated Car entry forms.

8. All entries must display their parade number on the **front left** side of the float (think passenger seat of a car). If this number is not visible, the float will not be judged or considered for participation points.

9. There is no limit to the number of people allowed on the float. The final decision is up to the Special Events Committee on the day of the parade. Upon inspection of the unit, the Special Events Coordinator or Parade Chair has the authority to limit the number of passengers who can safely ride on the float.

10. Floats must participate in the parade on Friday, September 18, in order to be eligible for points and prizes. They must finish the entire parade route.

11. **To be eligible for competition, floats must register and line up for the parade in the Pine Street parking lot by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, September 18, where they will be pre-judged. All parade entries MUST USE THE ENTRANCE ON WRIGHT STREET and proceed around the Superior Dome for line-up.**
12. Final judging will take place during the parade. In the event of bad weather, final judging will take place during the Parade line-up. Judges decisions are final!

13. First, second and third place floats will receive 100, 90 and 80 points, respectively. Remaining floats will receive 70 participation points toward their overall score. Only one float per organization will receive points (place or participation).

Float Judging Criteria

Overall Appearance (0-25 points)

- Does the float look good?
- Does the float go with the Homecoming theme?
- Does the float convey its message?
- Does the float promote spirit and support for NMU?
- Does the float appropriately represent NMU?

Construction Quality (0-25 points)

- How well is the float put together?
- Difficulty of the construction?
- Will the float last through the parade?
- Does it look safe?

Originality (0-25 points)

- Is it something out of the ordinary?
- Is the idea of the float projecting the theme of Homecoming creatively?

Extra Points (0-15 points)

- Awarded for moveable parts, gimmicks, meeting size requirements, etc.

Lettering (0-10 points)

- Does it meet the minimum 8” requirement?
- Can it be read?
- Is it neat?

Marching Unit & Spirit Banner Information

1. The marching unit & spirit banner should be consistent with the theme “Fight for the Green and Gold!” and/or center on the NMU Wildcat football game against Hillsdale College.

2. Entries must include both a marching unit and spirit banner to compete for points.

3. Any type of material (paper, fabric, pain, wood, etc.) may be used to make a spirit banner (remember that a variety of weather conditions are possible during the parade.)
4. **Lettering is required, which includes the name of the sponsoring organization.** Lettering must be a minimum of 8” high and visible from both sides of the street. Each team must supply their own tape.

5. Maximum size for spirit banners is 15’ x 13’; Minimum size is 3’ x 8’.

6. Spirit banners must be made by members of their respective organizations. Any professional work or help will automatically disqualify the sign from the competition.

7. All entries must display their parade number prominently on the top left side of the banner. If this number is not visible, the marching unit & spirit banner will not be judged or considered for a participation prize.

8. The marching unit must consist of at least five people (including banner carriers); there is no limit to the maximum number of people allowed in the marching unit.

9. Spirit banners may not be carried by more than four people and may be carried by holding it in hand or by attaching it to poles.

10. **To be eligible for competition, marching units & spirit banners must register and line up for the parade in the Pine Street parking lot by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, September 18, where they will be pre-judged.** All parade entries MUST USE THE ENTRANCE ON WRIGHT STREET and proceed around the Superior Dome for line-up.

11. Final judging will take place during the parade. The group will be able to stop in front of the judges momentarily to perform their routine, if applicable. In the event of bad weather, final judging will take place during the parade line-up. **Judges decisions are final!**

**Marching Unit & Spirit Banner Judging Criteria**

**Overall Appearance (0-25 points)**

- Does the marching unit & spirit banner look good?
- Does the marching unit & spirit banner relate to the Homecoming theme?
- Does the marching unit & spirit banner convey its message?
- Does the marching unit & spirit banner promote spirit and support for the NMU?
- Does the marching unit & spirit banner appropriately represent NMU?

**Construction Quality (0-25 points)**

- How well is the spirit banner put together?
- Difficulty of the spirit banner/costume construction?
**Originality (0-25 points)**

- Does the unit wear unusual costumes or utilize props?
- Is the idea of the marching unit projecting the theme of Homecoming creatively?
- Is it something out of the ordinary?
- Does it have moving parts, unique materials or creative lettering?

**Uniformity (0-15 points)**

- How well does the unit move together?
- Are the costumes consistent?
- Do the members work as a unit?
- Were they “in-step”?

**Lettering (0-10 points)**

- Does the spirit banner lettering meet the minimum 8” requirement?
- Can it be read?
- Is it neat?

**Decorated Car Information**

1. The decorated car should be consistent with the theme “Fight for the Green and Gold!” and/or center on the NMU Wildcat football game against Hillsdale College.

2. Any type of material (paper, fabric, paint, wood, etc.) may be used (remember that a variety of weather conditions are possible during the parade.)

3. Each unit will consist of a single car.

4. If a decorated car is pulling a float, it must be entered as being competitive on both the Float and Decorated Car entry forms.

5. All entries must display their parade number on the passenger side of the vehicle. If this number is not visible, the unit will not be judged or considered for a participation prize. **Each team must supply their own tape.**

6. Hanging limbs or bodies out of the windows during the parade will be prohibited.

7. **To be eligible for competition, decorated cars must register and line up for the parade in the Pine Street parking lot by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, September 18, where they will be pre-judged. All parade entries MUST USE THE ENTRANCE ON WRIGHT STREET and proceed around the Superior Dome for line-up.**

8. Final judging will take place during the parade. In the event of bad weather, final judging will take place during the Parade line-up.
Decorated Car Judging Criteria

Overall Appearance (0-25 points)

• Does the decorated car look good?
• Does the decorated car relate to the Homecoming theme?
• Does the decorated car promote spirit and support for NMU?
• Does the decorated car appropriately represent NMU?

Construction Quality (0-25 points)

• How well are the decorations put together?
• Difficulty of the construction?

Originality (0-25 points)

• Is the design something out of the ordinary?
• Does the decorated car have moving parts, unique materials or creative lettering?
• Does the decorated car project the theme of Homecoming creatively?

NOTE

• All organizations must read and comply with the terms and conditions of the “Use of Vehicles and Travel Policy” and fill out the Vehicle/Travel Authorization Form if the policy applies to them.

• Violation of any restrictions mentioned shall automatically disqualify the entry from competition. Specific waivers of the above restrictions can be authorized only by joint consent of the Parade Chairperson and the Special Events Coordinator.

• The Special Events Committee and the Center for Student Enrichment are not responsible for any damage that may occur to any competition unit prior to, during or after the parade.

CHANGE THAT MAKES CENTS PENNY WAR

All students and student organizations are encouraged to participate in the 3rd annual Change That Makes Cents Penny War. Competing teams will raise money throughout the week for a charity of their choosing using the designated jars in the Center for Student Enrichment (1205 University Center).

COMPETITION INFORMATION

1. Each team must designate a charity on their registration form. All proceeds collected during the event will be donated to the charity chosen by the winning team at the conclusion of the competition. (Charity must be a registered 501(c) nonprofit)
2. Pennies, silver coins and dollars can by dropped into containers located in the Center for Student Enrichment (1205 University Center) anytime during regular office hours (Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm) during the dates of the competition.

3. The goal is to have the most pennies in your container by the end of the week. Any other loose change (silver coins and dollars) will subtract the equivalent amount of pennies from your jar. (For example: one quarter subtracts 25 pennies from your total.)

4. Teams should encourage supporters to put only pennies in their jar, and silver coins/dollars in the jars of competing teams.

5. Only pennies, silver coins and dollar bills will be accepted. Checks/Money Orders are prohibited and will not be counted.

6. Teams are not permitted to count their own containers; all totals must be calculated by the Special Events Coordinator or event committee chair.

7. Any individual may donate; they do not need to be a member of the competing organization.

8. All pennies, silver coins and dollars must be deposited into the official containers located in the Center for Student Enrichment (1205 University Center) by 5 p.m. on Friday, September 18.

WHERE’S WILDCAT WILLY?

Be a part of Willy’s adventurous journey through this new Homecoming World by figuring out the riddles he sends of his location. If you can decode his riddles and find him, make sure you take a picture with him for his scrapbook through this new world!

1. Wildcat Willy is hidden somewhere on campus. The objective is to find Willy and then take a picture with him.
   - Willy is hidden on campus grounds;
   - He is no more than 8 feet off the ground;
   - Campus grounds and buildings cannot be disturbed when looking for him;
   - Teams are not allowed to enter a building when it is closed.

2. Participants can be NMU students, faculty, or staff. Teams can be any size and even consist of only one participant.

3. Willy will be hidden in different locations each day from Monday, September 14, through Friday, September 18, for two hours at a time.

4. Each team will need to try to decode Willy’s daily riddles to find Willy’s location for that day. The times that Willy will be in a location will be given in each riddle.
5. Willy’s riddles will be posted on the NMU Special Events Committee’s Facebook page (facebook.com/nmuspecialevents)

6. Once a team finds Willy, they must take a picture with him, and leave Willy where he was found. Teams need to email their picture to the Special Events Committee at sec@nmu.edu by 9 a.m. the next day to receive Homecoming points. Teams must supply their own camera.

7. Five participation points will be given to each team for each day a team picture is submitted to the Special Events Committee. Teams can receive five points per day for a total of 20 points throughout the week if a photo with Willy is submitted each day.

**CHANGING WILLY’S APPEARANCE, OR ALTERING HIM IN ANY WAY IS NOT ALLOWED!**
If done, your team will be disqualified and lose all of its points earned from this event.

8. By sending your team’s picture with Willy to the Special Events Committee, you give the Special Events Committee permission to use your photo on the Homecoming website, the Homecoming Facebook page, Willy’s Facebook page, any promotional items for Northern Michigan University.

All judging criteria are subject to change. In the event changes are made, all registered teams will be notified via email.