1.1 P-raDE

1.1.1 The Job

The job of the P-raDE chair is to arrange for and manage the class P-raDE formation. The job responsibilities are to:

1. Hire one or more marching bands and direct them on Reunions Saturday.

2. Arrange for classmates to help keep order in place and lead cheers until the class falls into line.

3. Arrange for floats/vehicles for your P-raDE entry.

4. Inspire and coordinate the production of posters and signs for people to carry in the P-raDE.

5. Coordinate with the Costume Chair on costume accessories and P-raDE giveaways.

6. Arrange for pick-up of the Class Banner between noon and 2:00 p.m. on the Saturday of Reunions, as well as up to four banner carriers.

7. Provide information on P-raDE golf cart rentals to your classmates.

8. Prepare notes for P-raDE narration by May 20th.

1.1.2 Related Information

Weather. While the P-raDE generally goes on whether rain or shine, wet conditions can dampen the situation. In the case of thunder and lightning, Public Safety will delay the start of the P-raDE and in rare instances the P-raDE could be cancelled due to severe weather. If a severe storm hits after the start of the P-raDE, participants and spectators should take shelter in the nearest building. In the event of wet weather, floats and golf carts may have to be diverted past Bloomberg Arch to avoid soggy conditions on Poe Field.

Organization. Each class has an assigned area to assemble along the P-raDE route. While a P-raDE Marshal will direct your class to join the P-raDE; the P-raDE Chair and appointed classmates should be available to assist with the directions. Participants are asked to keep moving and avoid leaving gaps between groups/rows of people.

Marching order. The 25th reunion class leads the P-raDE, followed by the Old Guard. Other classes fall in from oldest to youngest. The graduate alumni assume the space that would be occupied by the 25th in chronological sequence. The class banner leads the class. Often the class officers walk between the banner and the band. Golf carts are required to follow the band for safety reasons, and classmates
follow the golf carts. If there are two or more bands, the additional band should march in the middle of the class.

**Band performances.** Musical entertainment helps keep the class moving and adds immeasurably to the fun and collective enjoyment. A list of bands is included in the Suppliers List available on the Reunions Volunteers website. Submit band contracts and liability insurance to the Office of Alumni Affairs for review. Confirm transportation arrangements and parking instructions (see the Office of Alumni Affairs P-rade Marching Band memo available on the Reunions Volunteers website). If band lunches are to be paid for by the class, coordinate numbers and menu with your Food Chair. Please take care that your band understands that stopping during the P-rade march to perform in place is not allowed. Also, instruct them to stage behind the class until you fall in, allowing alumni a clear view of older classes as they go by.

**The Class of 1945 Trophy.** This trophy is awarded to the class with the most impressive P-rade entry. The judging includes categories for the marching band/entertainment, floats/signs, costume and formation.

**Live animals.** For humane reasons and sanitary issues, live animals are not permitted as part of your P-rade entry.

**Give-a-ways.** Some classes distribute candy or small toys to spectators along the route. Walkers (not float drivers and passengers) may distribute these items as long as they do not slow down the P-rade.

**Creative touches.** The P-rade is your class’s representation of itself to the rest of the University community. There are a number of ways to creatively express your character:

- **Theme.** You can continue your Reunion theme with the choice of bands, floats, etc.

- **Costume.** The costume is designed, in part, to identify the class as a unit in the P-rade. Consider the extra touches, such as hats, tiger tails, umbrellas, canes, totes and other accessories.

- **Floats.** A float application for each float/vehicle must be submitted to the Office of Alumni Affairs (the application is available on the Reunions Volunteers website), and floats and vehicles must adhere to the University guidelines and require proof of insurance to be filed with Risk Management.

- **Banners.** The 49th and younger banners should be picked up at Blair Arch. For 50th and older classes, the banners are kept at Maclean House prior to the P-rade and student banner carriers are assigned. All banners are collected at the end of the P-rade on Poe Field by the Building Services crew at their banner truck.

- **Posters and placards.** Many classes carry theme-related posters or creative placards.
- Children/Strollers. For younger classes with many children, you may want to consider having all the parents with strollers at the front of the class as strollers in the middle tend to cause large gaps in the P-rade.

### 1.1.3 P-rade Golf Carts

Alumni must order P-rade golf carts directly from the University. Carts may be used over the three days or ordered just for use in the P-rade. All golf cart drivers must possess a valid U.S. driver’s license. Princeton University will provide liability coverage for all golf cart rentals. This means that bodily injury to 3rd parties and property damage to 3rd parties will be insured by Princeton University. However, individual renters assume full responsibility for their carts until they are returned to the vendor, including any damage, extra rental or replacement if stolen. Cautious driving of golf carts is of the utmost importance as all areas of the campus are crowded with participants and spectators.

P-rade golf carts rented by individual classmates will be available on front campus prior to the start of the P-rade. Carts will be arranged in class order, and fed into the line of march between Nassau Hall and Stanhope Hall. Alumni with three-day golf cart rentals may drive their carts in the P-rade as long as they are staged on front campus **no later than 12:00 Noon** on Saturday. Classes may also use their Headquarters carts in the P-rade provided they are staged on front campus **no later than 12:30 PM** on Saturday. As is the case for the rest of the weekend, Headquarters carts being used in the P-rade must only be driven by golf cart-certified Student Crew members. **All carts used in the P-rade must be checked in with the Golf Cart Team and staged in the cart staging location. None will be allowed to wait along other areas of the P-rade route.**

All golf carts may enter the Poe-Pardee Field finale area with the P-rade and pass by the reviewing stand (unless there is inclement weather). P-rade golf cart rentals should be returned to the Golf Cart Team. Shuttles and golf cart rides will be available to transport alumni back to Headquarters.