Valdosta State University The Office of Student Life

Homecoming Handbook 2024

1500 N. Patterson Street | Student Union | Valdosta, GA Phone: 229.333.5674

Welcome to Homecoming 2024!

October 15th-19th

The 2024 Homecoming Steering Committee has been working to provide students, alumni, and fans with a week's worth of fun and exciting events. This year's theme "Blazer Hoedown Throwdown" The week will begin with Midnight Madness and conclude with the crowning of the 2024 Homecoming Court during halftime of the Valdosta State vs. Mississippi College football game. We hope that this year will be full of excitement, spirit, and student participation from the entire campus!

During halftime of the Homecoming game, the Homecoming Steering Committee will award the Flame, Bonfire & Inferno Cup to the teams that complete at least 4 of all homecoming spirit contests and accumulate the most points throughout Homecoming week.

This booklet contains the necessary information regarding each event held during Homecoming week. General information, schedules, and rules are included. Student engagement is crucial to each Homecoming event, so please encourage other students and student organizations to participate in an exciting time.

We are so excited to have you all participate in Homecoming 2024! We hope you have a fun, safe and engaging time this year! This Committee has worked diligently to create a homecoming that has new events and some traditional events for this year. We cannot wait to see you all at each event!

If you have any questions about the information contained in this booklet, Homecoming events, or how to get involved, please contact the Homecoming Steering Committee at homecoming@valdosta.edu.

Please be aware of the requirements, mandatory meetings, and deadlines for each event. The 2024 Homecoming Steering Committee looks forward to working with VSU staff, students, the community, and student organizations to make Homecoming 2024 one of the finest campus events.

Register your team for all Homecoming events using this form: https://valdosta.presence.io/form/homecoming-2024-blazer-hoedown-throwdown

Go Blazers!

The 2024 Homecoming Committee

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Homecoming Events 2024

Wednesday September 25 th
Homecoming Court Applications Close
Monday, September 30 th - Wednesday, October 2 nd
Homecoming Court InterviewsVarious Times
Friday, October 4th
Homecoming Court Prep Meeting1:00pm
Wednesday, October 9th
Sheet Signs must be hung, and Department Decorating must be completed12:00PM
Wednesday, October 9th
Homecoming Registration Form Closes
Thursday, October 10 th
Mandatory Homecoming Meeting for Team Captains2:00 PM-3:00 PM
This is a required meeting for all participating teams. There only needs to be one representative per team.
Location: Student Union Meeting Room 3 & 4
Tuesday, October 15th
Midnight Madness
This midnight event will be a countdown to the start of the Sidewalk Chalk Contest. Come enjoy snacks, music and friends!
Location: Palms Quad
Wednesday, October 16 th
Sheet Sign & Sidewalk Chalk Judging4:00 PM
Casino Night!
Come out to the Student Union for a TON of fun events! Enjoy various events throughout the building. Watch as the Union is transformed into the Wild Wild West complete with a mechanical bull and sarsaparilla
Location: Student Union

Wednesday, October 16th

1st Round of Voting for King & Queen
The voting will be taking place on BlazerLink. The winners from each category (Flame, Bonfire, and Inferno) will be announced at the Pep Rally!
Location: Blazerlink
Voting for Class Prince & Princesses
The voting will be taking place on BlazerLink. The Prince and Princess with the most votes from each class will be crowned at the Pep Rally!
Location: BlazerLink
Thursday, October 17th
Pep Rally & Lip Sync
Check out this Neon Pep Rally and After Party in the Plex! Meet the athletic teams, get fired up for the game Saturday, and cheer on each performance of Lip Sync. Class Prince & Princesses and king and queen winners from each category will be crowned.
Location: The Plex
Thursday, October 17th
2 nd Round of Voting
The voting will be taking place on BlazerLink. The Homecoming King and Queen will be announced at half-time during the football game on Saturday.
Location: BlazerLink
Friday, October 18 th
Fired Up Friday! Meet us on Converse Square for Food Trucks, free merch, and plenty of Blazer spirit to get you Fired Up for the Football Game!
Location: Converse Square
Saturday October 19 th
Parade
Location: Oak Street Parking Lot
BlazerGate
Location: Tailgate Lot (Next to the University Center)

Valdosta State Blazers Football Game3:00 PM

Location: Bazemore-Hyder Stadium

The 33rd Annual Homecoming Step Show hosted by the Mu Omicron Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc......Doors Open at 6:00 PM

Join the Mu Omicron Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha for the Annual Homecoming Step Show! Featuring VSU Greek Organizations and visiting Greek chapters from other campuses.

Location: The Plex

Competition Division Descriptions

To encourage maximum participation, there are three divisions for Homecoming teams each year: the Flame Division for Student Organizations and Groups of Students, the Bonfire Division for Social Greek lettered organizations, and the Inferno Division for Housing & Residence Life.

The Flame Division (RSOs & Groups of Students)

- 1. Any 1 or more student organizations (up to three) or affiliated group of students (i.e.- a leadership role group, a class, a cohort, a VSU program, leader team) are welcome to participate in the Flame Division as pairings. Flame Division participants must compete in at least 4 of the Flame Division of the Spirit Contests.
- 2. Any team competing in the Flame Division will not be allowed to compete in any other division for points.
- 3. This division will compete for The Flame Cup and the winner will be announced and presented the Cup at halftime of the Homecoming Game on October 19. Second and third place will also be announced.
- 4. The Flame Cup will be awarded to the organization that accrues the most Spirit points over the course of the week's competitions. These are allocated based on the number of events that each group participates in.
- 5. Flame Division has an "Open Pairings" rule, meaning organizations may pair up with whatever groups they want.

The Bonfire Division (Social Greek lettered Organizations)

- 1. The Bonfire Division is only open to Social Greek Organizations, they must be a part of CPC, IFC, NPHC or MGC.
- 2. Bonfire Division participants must compete in at least 4 of the activities.
- 3. Bonfire Division has an "Closed Pairings" rule, meaning organizations are paired up through the Fraternity & Sorority Life Office.
- 4. The Bonfire Division will compete for the Bonfire Trophy. The winner will be announced and presented with the Bonfire Trophy at the Homecoming Game on October 19. The 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} place winner will be announced.
- 5. Any organization/group competing in the Bonfire Division will not be allowed to compete in any other division for points.
- 6. The Bonfire Trophy will be awarded to the team that accrues the most Spirit points over the course of the week's competitions. These are allocated based participation and placement in events.
- 7. 50 PTs will be given to the groups who host two (2) hangout events with their team before the start of Homecoming.

The Inferno Division (Housing & Residence Life)

- 1. The Inferno Division is only open to Housing Halls. Inferno Division participants must compete in at least 4 of the activities.
- 2. Any Hall competing in the Inferno Division will not be allowed to compete in the Flame Division or Bonfire Division for points.
- 3. This division will compete for The Inferno Cup and the winner will be announced and presented the Cup at halftime of the Homecoming Game on the 19^{th} . The 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} place winner will be announced.
- 4. The Inferno Cup will be awarded to the Hall that accrues the most Spirit points over the course of the week's competitions. These are allocated based on the number of events that each group participates in.

There are new or clarified rules each year, so please read the event guidelines thoroughly.

Competitors will be provided with the judging criteria for their events which are listed below. These criteria will also be given out at the Mandatory Captains Meeting.

For additional information contact homecoming@valdosta.edu.

Spirit Point System

Event	Winner Point Totals	Points for Participation	Notes
Sheet Sign	First: 150 Second: 100 Third: 50	Participation: 25	Teams can receive a free sheet sign in the Student Life office
Sidewalk Chalk	First: 150 Second: 100 Third: 50	Participation: 25	
Lip Sync	First: 150 Second: 100 Third: 50	Participation: 25	The stage for lip sync will be 24x24. Please plan accordingly
Sponsor someone to Homecoming Court	N/A	Participation: 25 per prince/princess or King/Queen candidate	The person must apply and complete the interview process to receive the points. Max is 50 points
Decorate the Halls*	First: 150 Second: 100 Third: 50	Participation: 25	
Parade	First: 150 Second: 100 Third: 50	Participation: 25	
**Pairings Credit	50 pts	N/A	Awarded to Flame Division Groups that partner with 2 or more organizations
***Hangout Events Credit	50 pts	N/A	Awarded to Bonfire Division Group after completing 2 hangout events with their teams before the week of Homecoming. Must be logged with the GLO to receive credit.

^(*) Denotes that this bonus is only available to the Inferno Division.

Registration

1. Please read and understand all content in the 2024 Blazer Hoedown Throwdown Homecoming packet.

^(**) Denotes that this bonus is only available to the Flame Division.

^(***) Denotes that this bonus is only available to the Bonfire Division.

- 2. Log on to Blazerlink to sign up for the events in which your organization wants to participate.
- 3. Incorporate the Blazer Hoedown Throwdown theme in every aspect of Homecoming week.
- 4. Communicate the enclosed information to your advisor and team.
- 5. Select candidates and decide in which events/contest your group will participate.
- 6. Complete all the related forms for the activities in which your organization or hall will participate.
- 7. Submit registration into Blazerlink no later than October 9th at 11:59pm. Late registration will not be accepted. No exceptions!
- 8. Place an order for your homecoming t-shirt.
- 9. Start preparing and getting excited for Homecoming week. Share the journey by using #VStateHC and tagging @vsuhomecoming
- 10. Have fun! Contact Student Life with any questions at 229-333-5674!

Infractions or Incident of Concern Reporting

For any questions regarding the Homecoming Handbook, or to report a rule infraction or incident of concern, please submit the **Infraction/Concern Form** to the

Homecoming Steering Committee at homecoming@valdosta.edu order for an infraction or incident of concern to be investigated, concrete proof must be submitted. Photos or some other form of support of your claim are required as proof. Submissions that are found to have been fabricated will be penalized and could result in disqualification of your team.

The penalties are as follows:

1st Rule Infraction/Concern Violation	-10 points
2 nd Rule Infraction/Concern Violation	-30 points
3rd+ Rule Infraction/Concern Violation	-75 points
Penalty for leaving posters, decorations, props, or any team identifying items at events	-5 points per poster/decoration
Disregard Penalty- anyone who violates a rule or guideline after being given warning either verbally or written or anyone deemed to be proven to blatantly disregard a rule or regulation for their own benefit or team.	-150 Points
Administrative Points Penalty- levied by an administrator due to endangering others or anything deemed not in keeping with The Blazer Creed.	-100 points or more

^{*} **Disqualification or Point Deductions:** Guidelines regarding disqualification/point deductions can be found in rules for each specific event or can be levied on an organization as a result of cumulative infractions/violations or at the recommendation of the Homecoming Steering Committee or Student Life.

Participant Conduct Policy

It is the intention of the 2024 Homecoming Steering Committee to conduct a safe and enjoyable week of activities for all participants, students, and alumni. To ensure that all involved parties are treated with honor, respect, and dignity, the following Participant Conduct Policy will be strictly enforced starting Monday October 7th through Saturday,

October 19, 2024. Please note that the conduct policy is also extended for any event/program where official activities begin prior to the start of Homecoming week.

Competition Participants:

- 1. Participants will be expected to refrain from profane, offensive, or divisive language during, prior to, and after competitions.
- 2. Participants will not engage in any altercations but will instead report any issues or disturbances to event security or event staff.
- 3. Any participants who appear to be intoxicated during the competitions will be removed from the event and potentially, the team will be disqualified.
- 4. Participants will be free from coercion as it relates to voting, competition, or any other aspects of the homecoming experience.
- 5. The Homecoming Steering Committee or a Staff Member of Student Life has the jurisdiction to remove any participant who violates one of these rules or any violation of the VSU Student Code of Conduct, the Blazer Creed or disqualify any team.

Competition Spectators:

- 1. Spectators will support their team or organization with positive encouragement.
- 2. Spectators will be expected to refrain from profane, offensive, or divisive language during, prior to, and after competitions.
- 3. Spectators will not engage in any altercations but will instead report any issues or disturbances to event security.
- 4. Spectators will abide by the Valdosta State University policy on alcohol consumption.
- 5. Spectators will remove any and all posters and decorations or props at the end of a competition. Posters, decorations, props, or any team identifying items left behind will result in a warning, and then a point deduction of 5 Spirit points per article.
- 6. The Homecoming Steering Committee or a Staff Member of Student Life has the jurisdiction to remove any spectators who violates one of these rules or any violation of the VSU Student Code of Conduct, the Blazer Creed or disqualify any team.

For additional information contact homecoming@valdosta.edu.

Homecoming Court Information

What: Homecoming Court

Application Deadline: Thursday September 25th, 2024

Application: Online at https://valdosta.presence.io/form/homecoming-2024-court-

nomination

Apply for: Class Prince and Princess, King and Queen

The King and Queen candidates will be competing for Mr. & Mrs. "insert category here" before competing for Homecoming King and Queen. Each category (Bonfire, Flame, & Inferno) will crown the winner for their respective category. These winners will be announced at the Pep Rally. The winners from those categories will then compete for Homecoming King and Queen. These winners will be announced at the Homecoming Football Game Half-time show.

All applicants will participate in an interview process. A maximum of 10 king and 10 queen candidates will be chosen to continue as members of the Homecoming Court. A maximum of 3 prince and 3 princess candidates will be chosen for each class to continue as members of the Homecoming Court.

Eligibility Guidelines:

- 1. Must be certified by the Homecoming Committee
- 2. All contestants must be sponsored by a VSU registered student organization (in good standing), or one representative may be chosen from each residence hall (not each floor). Each organization/hall is allowed only one (1) entry for each court member. (I.e., one for King, one for Queen, one for Sophomore Prince and one for Sophomore Princess.)
- 3. Be a fulltime VSU Student attending the Fall semester of 2024
 - King & Queen must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours for undergraduate students and at least 9 credit hours for graduate students and have completed at least 90 hours for undergraduate students.
 - Junior Prince & Princess must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours and have completed between 60-89 credit hours.
 - Sophomore Prince & Princess must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours and have completed between 30-59 credit hours.
 - Freshman Prince & Princess must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours and have completed under 29 credit hours.

- All applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or greater (unless a freshman Prince or Princess who has not completed a semester at VSU).
- Organizations will not be allowed to pair up for homecoming king/queen or princes/ princess nominations. Each organization or hall must submit its own choice for a homecoming king/queen or princes/princess candidate.

Required Meetings/Events:

- Interviews (one slot time): Sign up will be sent out to the applicants.
- Pre-Campaign Meeting: Friday, October 4 1:00 PM 2:00 PM Meeting Room 3&4
- All candidates must attend each event for at least an hour unless there is an
 academic or special circumstance that would be approved on a case-by-case basis by
 the Homecoming Steering Committee.
 - Midnight Madness
 - o Casino Night
 - o Pep rally & Lip Sync
 - The Homecoming Court will be introduced during the Pep Rally.
 - Parade
 - All candidates are welcome to participate in the Homecoming Parade.
 Candidates will need to provide their own transportation.
 - Homecoming Game
 - Special seating on the home side (east) 30-yard line will be provided for you and your family members. However, all non-student guests will be responsible for the purchase of their own game tickets. The dress code will be semi-formal.
- Promotion of Homecoming Events
 - Official candidates will need to stay tuned for an email about being on campus with the Fire Pit to promo the upcoming Homecoming events.

All candidates may begin campaigning on October 7, 2024. Everyone is required to follow Appendix 1 campaigning rules and regulations or be immediately disqualified.

For additional information contact homecoming@valdosta.edu.

Sheet Sign

Date: All sheets must be hung on campus by Wednesday October 9th

Points: 25 points for participation

*150, 100, and 50 points will be awarded to 1^{st} , 2^{nd} , and 3^{rd} place, respectively for each of the divisions.

Rules:

- 1. Sheet Sign designs and Valdosta State Trademarks should not be used in conjunction with: alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, illegal and recreational drugs & drug paraphernalia, gambling products, firearms or other weapons, profanity, sexual acts & sexually oriented goods, statements impugning other universities, racist, hateful, demeaning or degrading language or statements.
- 2. All sheet signs must incorporate the theme, Blazer Hoedown Throwdown
- 3. Sheet signs must be hung by following the campus sheet sign policy. Which is listed in Appendix 2.
- 4. Members of your organization and/or hall must draw, paint, and/ or decorate the sheet signs.
- 5. The sheet signs must be finished and hung in an appropriate location by 5pm on Wednesday October 9th, to be judged.

For additional information contact homecoming@valdosta.edu.

Register for the sheet sign competition using this link: https://valdosta.presence.io/form/homecoming-2024-blazer-hoedown-throwdown

Decorate the Halls

Date: Wednesday October 9th

Time: Judging will begin Wednesday October 16th

Location: Housing Halls

Points: 50 points for participation

*150, 100, and 50 points will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

Rules:

- 1. Hall designs and Valdosta State Trademarks should not be used in conjunction with: alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, illegal and recreational drugs & drug paraphernalia, gambling products, firearms or other weapons, profanity, sexual acts & sexually oriented goods, statements impugning other universities, racist, hateful, demeaning or degrading language or statements.
- 2. Only the lobbies of each hall are allowed to be decorated unless approved by the RHD in advance.
- 3. Teams cannot use glue, packing tape or any other items that can pull paint off the walls. Blue Painters tape is acceptable to use.
- 4. Halls cannot promote other organizations in their decorations.
- 5. All decorations must be up by October 16th at noon for judging. For additional information contact homecoming@valdosta.edu.

Register for the Hall decorating contest using this link: https://valdosta.presence.io/form/homecoming-2024-blazer-hoedown-throwdown

Sidewalk Chalk

Date: Wednesday October 16th

Time: 12:01 am- 4:30 pm All judging will start at 4:00 pm on Wednesday October 16th

Location: Palms Quad

Points: 25 points for participation

*150, 100, and 50 points will be awarded to 1^{st} , 2^{nd} , and 3^{rd} place, respectively for each division.

Rules:

- 1. Organizations can only use the blocked off area to create their designs. One sidewalk section per team. Please leave enough space between each exhibit so that all participants will have free room to work.
- 2. Sidewalk chalk designs and Valdosta State Trademarks should not be used in conjunction with: alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, illegal and recreational drugs & drug paraphernalia, gambling products, firearms or other weapons, profanity, sexual acts & sexually oriented goods, statements impugning other universities, racist, hateful, demeaning or degrading language or statements.
- 3. Members of your organization or hall must draw the sidewalk displays.
- 4. ONLY washable materials may be used (chalk, charcoal, etc.)
- 5. Automatic disqualification will ensue if it is discovered permanent materials have been used such as paint, hairspray or any other materials.
- 6. The displays must be finished and ready to be judged by Wednesday, October 16th at 5:00pm. Any display not completed by 4:30 pm will not be judged.
- 7. Any organization found starting before 12:01 AM will be disqualified.

For additional information contact homecoming@valdosta.edu.

Register for the sidewalk chalk competition using this link: https://valdosta.presence.io/form/homecoming-2024-blazer-hoedown-throwdown

Lip Sync

Time: Report time is 6:30pm. Pep Rally starts at 7pm

Location: The PE Complex

Points: 25 points for participation

*150, 100, and 50 points will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for each division

Rules:

- 1. All persons in your group must be a member of your organization or hall and must be current VSU students and bring their current VSU ID.
- 2. Each group should consist of Minimum number of 3 people; maximum number of 20 people.
- 3. All groups must incorporate the Blazer Hoedown Throwdown theme.
- 4. Each group should submit an mp3 file of the music they are going to be using for the performance no later than Wednesday, October 9, by 5:30 pm. If the organization submits the wrong that they wish to use, they will be disqualified. https://valdosta.presence.io/form/homecoming-2024-blazer-hoedown-throwdown
- 5. Any late submissions at all will result in a 10-point deduction and occurrence. Upon receiving their 3 violations, a team will be disqualified from competing.
- 6. All music and choreography should be in good taste and should not contain obscenities or vulgarities. Any music or choreography judged in poor taste will result in your organization's immediate disqualification. Remember, you are representing your organization and your university.
- 7. The performance is to be no longer than 4 minutes. You will be timed. If your group's performance exceeds 4 minutes, you will be immediately disqualified.
- 8. Each group is responsible for its own props. Props used in the competition must be removed that night at the completion of the event. If everything is not removed the team will forfeit the points they received from the competition.
- 9. Use of glitter (on the body or on a sign) or confetti will result in immediate disqualification; any infracting group will be charged a cleaning fee. If your group would like to use confetti it will need to be the stay-attached streamers and approved by the Homecoming Steering Committee.
- 10. No throwing items onto the gym floor or in stands.
- 11. No cheerleading stunts will be allowed in any performances. No performer may be lifted off the floor by another performer(s).
- 12. All costumes must be appropriate. The Homecoming Steering Committee, and any Student Life Staff Member have the right to disqualify teams who do not adhere to this rule.

13. Numbers will be drawn to determine the order of appearance. You will be told your group number at report time.

For additional information contact homecoming@valdosta.edu

Parade

Date: Saturday, October 19

Time: Report time is 10:00am. The parade starts at 11am. **DO NOT BE LATE!**

Location: Oak Street Parking Lot

Points: 50 points for participation

*150, 100, and 50 points will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, respectively for each division.

Rules:

- 1. Check-in Saturday, October 19th with Student Life in the Oak Street Parking Lot. Float entries are to arrive and check in at 10:00am sharp.
- 2. Floats or golf carts may be decorated however desired, as long as it incorporates the Homecoming theme and is tasteful. Float designs should not be used in conjunction with alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, illegal and recreational drugs & drug paraphernalia, gambling products, firearms or other weapons, profanity, sexual acts & sexually oriented goods, statements impugning other universities, racist, hateful, demeaning or degrading language or statements.
- 3. The parade route will begin at Oak Street Parking Lot, continue to Brookwood, then turn right onto Patterson, turn left onto Anne St., then turn left onto Williams St, turn left on College St., proceed to Patterson then turn right. The procession will end in the Oak Street Parking Deck.
- 4. No swerving while driving the parade route.
- 5. Organizations with trailers must have a personal vehicle to pull the trailer. Drivers must have a valid Driver's License.
- 6. Do not allow any spectators on the side of the road to jump onto any parade cars or floats.
- 7. Do not throw any items from your vehicle or float to spectators. Feel free to pass things out by handing things off to spectators.
- 8. Organization members may ride on the trailer or the golf cart (number of persons may not exceed maximum vehicle weight limitations), walk beside it, or a combination of both.
- 9. Organizations who are using golf carts are not allowed to have members hang off or not be seated on the cart.
- 10. Possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages on parade units is prohibited.
- 11. All vehicle occupants must be inside the passenger compartment or in a truck bed. Riding on the roof or anything not suited for a passenger is prohibited.
- 12. The University participants will comply fully with all local ordinances pertaining to parades. If any of these rules are violated, even on the day of the parade,

Homecoming Executive Directors reserve the right to disqualify or take away your right to participate in the parade.

Register for the parade using this link: https://valdosta.presence.io/form/homecoming-2024-blazer-hoedown-throwdown

Scoring Rubrics

Sheet Sign

Scale: 1- poor 10-best

Please circle the score for each category. Complete the scoring sheet by totaling your scores at the bottom of the page.

Design											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Crea	Creativity										
				_	_	_					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Blaz	er Spii	rit									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
The	Theme Integration										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Neatness and Quality											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Overall Presentation											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		

Sidewalk Chalk Score Criteria

Scale: 1- poor 10-best

Please circle the score for each category. Complete the scoring sheet by totaling your scores at the bottom of the page.

Design Creativity **Blazer Spirit Theme Integration Neatness and Quality Overall Presentation**

Lip Sync Score Criteria

Scale: 1- poor 10-best

Please circle the score for each category. Complete the scoring sheet by totaling your scores at the bottom of the page.

Creativity

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Use of Theme										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Use o	of Prop 2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Music Selection										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Overall Presentation										

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Parade Score Criteria

Scale: 1- poor 10-best									
Creativity *									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Originality *									
1	23	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Blazer Spirit *									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Use of Theme *									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Overall Appearance *									

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

1

Appendix 1

- 1. All campaigning and/or campaigning materials must be purchased by the individual.
- 2. Ads in the student newspaper (The Spectator) and other campus media may not be purchased with monies from student fees that are allocated to specific organizations and/or departments but may be purchased with other funds.
- 3. Candidates can only be sponsored by one (1) organization. Even if a candidate is a part of multiple organizations, they can only have one sponsor.
- 4. Candidates can only put one organization logo on their marketing.
- 5. Campaign posters shall be hung <u>only</u> on bulletin boards and other approved sites.
- 6. No campaign posters or signs may be placed on the doors, walls, windows, glass, or organic surfaces in any campus buildings.
- 7. Please consult the person or persons responsible for the location of the desired posting for other rules or restrictions for that location.
- 8. No cellophane-type tape or other materials that may cause permanent damage may be used to hang or secure campaign materials.
- 9. Tags may be worn by the candidate ("Hello, I'm Jane Doe") as a source of identification only.
- 10. Sashes must be worn to all campus events related to Homecoming.
- 11. Organizations cannot pay for any campaign materials for their candidate.
- 12. No platforms are allowed to be posted, talked about or shared.
- 13. At official events every member of the Court must wear their "Homecoming Court" sash.
- 14. All sheet signs must be approved by the Office of Student Life, and all posting policies must be adhered to.
 - a. Select the Homecoming Steering Committee in the "Your Organization" drop down menu.
- 15. Every candidate has until Friday, October 18 by 5:00 PM to remove all campaign materials. If they are not removed by the deadline the candidate will be disqualified.
- 16. Please address all questions before you and/or your sponsoring group begins campaigning to ensure that all rules are followed to avoid disqualification. If any of these rules are broken, the candidate will be disqualified immediately.
- 17. Funding Amount:
 - a. Candidates can spend up to \$500 on items for their campaign
 - b. Candidates can get up to \$300 worth of items or services that are donated by a company.
 - c. All items need to have receipts or item value that are turned in on Friday, October 18 by 4:00 PM to homecoming@valdosta.edu.

If any of these rules are broken, the candidate will be disqualified immediately.

Homecoming Elections

- The 2024 Homecoming Court will be chosen by a campus-wide election. Voting will take place on Blazerlink. The first election for King & Queen will take place on October 16, 2024 from 1:00 AM to 11:59 PM to pick the top five candidates. The election results will be announced at the Pep Rally and posted on social media (@VSUHomecoming).
- The second election will be held on Thursday, October 17, 2024 from 9:00 PM to 12:00PM to select the official King & Queen. The 2024 Homecoming King & Queen will be announced during the halftime show at the Homecoming Game on Saturday, October 15th.
- The election for Class Prince & Princesses will take place on October 16 2024, from 1:00 AM to 11:59 PM to pick the winners for each Class Prince & Princess. The winners will be crowned at the Homecoming Pep Rally.

Appendix 2

The following policy is designed to allow registered, in good standing, student organizations, administrative and academic departments, and individual employees to properly post sheet signs and banners on the VSU campus in a manner consistent with the mission of the University.

All banners and sheet signs to be displayed on the VSU campus must be approved by the Office of Student Life (Student Union, 229-333-5674). Banners/sheet signs must be sponsored by a VSU department or registered organization

- 1. To be hung in front of the Student Union must have additional approval by the Office of Student Life (Student Union, 333-5674)
- 2. To be hung on VSU shuttle buses must be approved by the Parking & Transportation Office (Sustella Parking Deck, 293-PARK.).
- 3. May be hung from trees (but not Pine Trees or trees surrounding the Student Union). No Banners or Sheet Signs may be hung from or attached to buildings, fences, lampposts, or walls.
- 4. Can be displayed up to ten (10) days before the event and both the Banner/Sheet Sign and the Rope or Twine must be removed by the sponsoring organization or individual within one day after the event. In special circumstances, approval may be granted for longer display periods. Materials for creating or hanging sheet signs/banners are not provided by the Office of Student Life.
 - a. Must include the Name of the VSU sponsoring organization(s), department(s), or individual(s);
 - b. the Date, Time, and Location of the program or event (if applicable): and
 - c. The Required Office of Student Life Approval.
- 5. May not be obscene or defamatory, and must not violate University, federal, state, or local laws.

- 6. May be hung/attached using only. Twine, String or Rope and must not be attached in ways that will cause damage to trees, light posts, or other objects. All String Twine, Rope, etc. must be removed within one day after the event. May not be suspended from the walkway over Oak Street. May not be displayed in areas that will obstruct traffic or the normal use of facilities.
- 7. Will be approved on a first come, first served basis.
- 8. The Office of Student Life is not responsible for any loss of, or damage done to a banner/sheet sign posted on the VSU campus.
- 9. Any Banners/Sheet Signs which violate this posting policy will be removed regardless of content or sponsoring entity and disposed of by the Office of Student Life. The first time this policy is violated, a warning letter will be issued to the responsible organization or individual. Further instances of failure to comply with these regulations will result in loss of privileges for hanging sheet signs and banners on campus for the remainder of that semester, and/or loss of facilities use privileges, and/or other appropriate disciplinary measures.
- 10. Complaints filed against any University student, faculty, staff member, or student organization that destroys, defaces, or removes banners/sheet signs without permission will be under the jurisdiction of the University Judicial System.
- 11. The University reserves the right to impose reasonable restrictions and/or requirements concerning time, place, and manner of posting activities. These restrictions may be in addition to, or in lieu of, those outlined in this policy. The university reserves the right to update and amend this policy at any time.