Spring 2021 East Carolina University Homecoming
“Home Sweet Homecoming”
Sponsored by the Student Government Association

Spirit Cup Rules and Guidelines

General Information
- To participate in Homecoming festivities and be eligible for prizes, you must be an officially registered university student organization, department, unit, or residence hall.
- Student organizations are welcome to partner and collaborate with another student organization in order to compete together. However, Presidents’ email confirmation acknowledging that a mutual decision was made to become a team from each organization are REQUIRED.
- There is no application fee for organizations wishing to participate in Homecoming.
- For more information for all activities during Homecoming, follow us on these social media outlets:
  - Instagram: @ECUHOMECOMING
  - Twitter: @ecuhomecoming
  - Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/ECUHomecoming
  - Engage: https://engage.ecu.edu/organization/homecoming-committee
  - Website: http://homecoming.ecu.edu

Student Organization Meetings (MANDATORY)
- All student organizations wishing to participate in the Homecoming festivities and competitions must attend TWO MANDATORY organization meetings held on:
  - Monday, February 15 or Monday, February 22 at 7:00pm via Zoom, and
  - Monday, March 8 at 7:00pm via Zoom
  - Links for these meetings can be found on Engage.
- If your organization’s official Homecoming representative is unable to attend, you must have a delegate attend to gain information discussed. Make certain to sign-in via the chat to be counted.
- The representative of your organization must be a current member. Prospective members are not permitted. If you do not send a legitimate representative of your organization, you will not be allowed to participate in any Spirit Cup activities.
- If your organization has selected a point person for Food Drive (delegating responsibilities of canned food contributions) this individual must attend the meeting on Monday, March 8.
- All registration forms must be submitted through Engage by Friday, March 5th at 5pm.
  - No late applications accepted without approval by Homecoming Chair and Advisor.
Homecoming Spirit Cup Points
To participate in the Spirit Cup Competition, you must be a registered student organization with the university (your registration must be up to date and current on Engage.ecu.edu). Competition will be divided between large student organizations and small student organizations. Large and small student organizations will not be judged against one another for the Banner Competition and Canned Food Drive. Student organization size will be checked with the roster listed on Engage.

LARGE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS
The Student Homecoming Committee awards the Spirit Cup plus $1,000.00 to the large student organization that accumulates the most points during competitions. You are considered a “large student organization” if you have 30 or more members. If you are teaming up with another student organization, you are considered a “large student organization” if the total number of students combined exceeds 30 or more members.

Large student organizations must participate in a minimum of 3 Homecoming Activities, one of which MUST be the Parade.

The points below represent the minimum amount that will be given to each student organization that places in the top three for each competition. Points will also be given to EACH organization that participates in a competition based on the judges score sheets from the parade, skit, and banner competitions. 4th through last place will receive 10 less points than the place before it (ex: 4th place = 240 points, 5th place = 230 points, 6th place 220 points, etc.)

Below are the points possible in the competitions. All competitions will be added together to decide who wins the Homecoming Spirit Cup.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1st Place</th>
<th>2nd Place</th>
<th>3rd Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PARADE</td>
<td>1000 pts</td>
<td>750 pts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$350</td>
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<td>SKIT</td>
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<td>375 pts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$75</td>
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<tr>
<td>CANNED FOOD DRIVE</td>
<td>500 pts</td>
<td>375 pts</td>
<td>250 pts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$75</td>
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<tr>
<td>BANNER</td>
<td>500 pts</td>
<td>375 pts</td>
<td>250 pts</td>
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The Large Student Org Spirit Cup Winner will receive $1,000.00 in addition to any prize money won in the individual competitions.
**SMALL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

The Student Homecoming Committee awards the Spirit Cup plus $500.00 to the small student organization that accumulates the most points during competitions. You are considered a “small student organization” if you have 29 members or less. If you are teaming up with another student organization, you are considered a “small student organization” if the total number of students combined is 29 members or less. Small student organizations are allowed to compete in the large student organization category by selecting that option on the registration form.

Small student organizations will be required to participate in the Banner Competition and Canned Food Drive.

The points below represent the minimum amount that will be given to each student organization that places in the top three for each competition. Points will also be given to EACH organization that participates in a competition based on the judges score sheets from banner competitions. 4th through last place will receive 10 less points than the place before it (ex: 4th place = 240 points, 5th place = 230 points, 6th place 220 points, etc.).

Below are the points possible in the competitions. All competitions will be added together to decide who wins the Homecoming Spirit Cup.

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CANNED FOOD DRIVE</strong></td>
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<td>375 pts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$75</td>
<td>$50</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BANNER</strong></td>
<td>300 pts</td>
<td>275 pts</td>
<td>250 pts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$75</td>
<td>$50</td>
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The Small Student Org Spirit Cup Winner will receive $500.00 in addition to any prize money won in the individual competitions.
Judging

- Competing student organizations must create all original work and designs submitted into the competitions.
- Organizations will be disqualified from competitions if they are found to be using commercial or political advertising in any of the material submitted for judging. If an organization is found cheating, taking work/stealing from others, and/or damaging another student organization’s property (float, skit props, banner – to name a few) this will be seen as a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. Not only will judiciary action be taken with the ECU Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities, but the student organization will be removed from any and all Spirit Cup competitions.
- Failure to meet the guidelines for each competition will result in the disqualification from that competition.
- Vulgarity, nudity, references to drug/alcohol use or other illegal activity will result in an automatic disqualification.
- Material that has been submitted for judging will be awarded 1 (least amount) to 10 (most amount of points) based on the following categories:
  - Creativity & Originality (Imaginative, Artistic, Resourceful, Unique, Inventive)
  - Design & Workmanship (Engaging, Appealing, Entertaining, Quality, Effort)
  - Use of Theme (Incorporation, Representation, Interpretation)
  - Spirit (Promotion of Pirate Pride)
  - Met Minimum Requirements of Competition (attended required meetings, submitted required information and followed all competition rules)
- The judges’ decisions are final. A copy of each competition’s score sheet will be available upon request in a general summary packet within one week of the conclusion of the Homecoming week.
- Prizes for Homecoming events will be distributed within 2 weeks following the festivities. Prizes will no longer be valid after April 2.
- Special Note: The following items have slowed down the process of awarding organizations their prizes:
  - If an organization does not have a Tax ID or EIN# (Request in advance; Student Engagement can assist.)
  - If an organization does not have an ECU Banner ID (Request in advance; Student Engagement can assist.)
  - If we email your primary contact and they do not respond to the email.
- Points will be deducted for unsportsmanlike conduct at the discretion of the Homecoming Chair and Homecoming Advisor.

**Remember, all competitions are based on your understanding and interpretation of the theme. BE CREATIVE, use your imagination, and show your Pirate Pride!**
Banner Competition - Monday, March 15th

- A banner will be provided to groups that have signed up to compete. Banners will be the size of a STANDARD FULL BED SHEET (NO LARGER; NO SMALLER.) If the banner is lost, damaged, etc. it is the organization’s responsibility to replace it with the same size specifications.
  - If the size of the banner does not match specifications at time of Drop Off, your banner will not be judged, and no points will be awarded.
- Banners must be designed HORIZONTALLY with the theme: “Home Sweet Homecoming”. Banners must include 4 small holes along the top to aid in hanging on a railing.
- Banners must include your student organization’s name, Homecoming theme and ECU mascot (PeeDee or Skull & Crossbones design) as well as incorporate the opponent (Illinois State).
- Banners must NOT include any glitter, feathers, or any type of items that may fall off when hanging during the week. If any debris is found, a cleaning fee will be imposed set forth by ECU Facilities.
- Banners must be dropped off on:
  - Saturday, March 13th 12-3pm in the Campus Activities and Events Office (Room 282 in the Student Center, formerly the Greek Life Suite)
    - Organizations that drop off their Banner on Saturday, March 13th do not need to assist in hanging their banner on Sunday, March 14th.
  - Sunday, March 14th 2:45-6pm at the ESRC.
    - You must have at least 3 members at Banner Drop Off on Sunday, March 14th to assist in hanging. The Homecoming Committee will provide zip ties and guidance.
- The competition will take place in the Eakin Student Recreation Center again this year. Judging will take place on Monday, March 15th. Winners will be announced, in no particular order, by the conclusion of the workday on Wednesday and shared on social media platforms.
- Banners will be displayed in the SRC for the remaining week of Homecoming and the top three banners from each large org and small org competition will be displayed at Clark-LeClair Stadium for the Homecoming Baseball Game on Saturday, March 20th.
- YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE YOUR BANNER BACK UNTIL THE FOLLOWING WEEK. Therefore, you will not be able to use it for your skit or float.
  - Banners can be claimed in the Campus Activities and Events Office, 282 Main Campus Student Center until March 29th. After that any unclaimed banners will be discarded.
- Fan Favorite Contest
  - Organizations are encouraged to have their members, friends and families to visit the Homecoming Facebook page and vote for their banner as Fan Favorite.
  - Voting will run from 8am-5pm on Monday, March 15th.
  - The Fan Favorite will win 30 Homecoming T-shirts for their org and an additional 50 Spirit Cup points

Skit Competition - Continuous throughout the week

- Skit night has gone virtual. Orgs will create (5) five 20-second “mini-skits/dances” that incorporate a specific theme. These 20-second clips will be posted to the ECU Homecoming Instagram for a bracket-style competition.
  - Skit 1, Monday - What makes ECU feel like home?
  - Skit 2, Tuesday - Popular Tik Tok or Instagram Reels challenge from the past year
○ Skit 3, Wednesday - What is a life hack you learned in quarantine?
○ Skit 4, Thursday - Needs to be filmed somewhere on campus
○ Skit 5, Friday - Pirate Pride

● Organizations are encouraged to follow ECU Homecoming on Instagram and vote for their org’s clip. We will post the clips as a “versus-style” bracket challenge. Each day the clip with the least amount of votes will be dropped and the bracket rearranged until a Fan Favorite is crowned on Friday. (Think March Madness).
  ○ The Fan Favorite will win 30 Homecoming T-shirts for their org and an additional 50 Spirit Cup points

● Judges will judge all five skits for one combined score
  ○ The score from the judges will be used to determine Spirit Cup points and Skit Competition winners.

● Skits must be choreographed with the theme, “Home Sweet Homecoming,” and the specific skit themes listed above.
  ○ All props must be provided by the student organization.
  ○ Skits must include a minimum of 3 ECU facts over the course of the 5 “mini-skits” (i.e. you do not need to include 3 facts in each 20-second clip). Failure to do so will result in a deduction of points.

● NO profanity, discriminating language, obscene gestures, obscene themes or ideas will be permitted in the skit. Organizations will be disqualified immediately from Skit competition if any of the prohibited items are used.

● Reference to, or use of, alcohol, drugs, or tobacco products is strictly prohibited.
  ○ If ANY member from your organization appears to be under the influence, or currently using, a mind-altering substance, it will result in immediate disqualification for the ENTIRE organization at the discretion of the Homecoming Chair and Homecoming Advisor as well as a conduct report submitted to the Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities.

● The dress of the performers must correspond with the skit in a non-provocative way. Nudity is not permitted. Disqualifications will occur if these rules are not followed.

● There is a time limit of 1 minute and 40 seconds total on all skits (five 20-second clips).

● Organizations can only have (5) five people in a clip at one time; please make sure you are social distancing accordingly.
  ○ Clips with more than five people in a clip will have 10 points deducted per clip.

● All clips are due to the Homecoming Committee by Saturday, March 13th between 12-3pm. Clips should be saved to a USB Drive.
  ○ USB Drives will be provided to all organizations participating in Skit Competition
  ○ The Campus Activities and Events Office (Room 282 in the Student Center) will be open Saturday, March 13th 12-3pm to drop off USB Drives

● Points will be deducted for unsportsmanlike conduct at the discretion of the Homecoming Chair and Homecoming Advisor. This includes organizations leaving early before final results are announced.

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Non-Perishable Food Drive - Friday, March 19th

● The Food Drive will be held on Friday, March 19th from 11:00am-4:00pm at the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina located on 1712 Union St. (off Frog Level Road), Greenville, NC 27834.
At the second organization meeting on March 8th, each organization is required to select a time slot for drop off.

On the day of the food drive (March 19th), your organization must be present to unload your donations during your scheduled time.

- Organizations are required to have **at least 5 volunteers** to unload & sort items from their vehicles during drop-off, remove items from plastic bags, and clean up the space prior to leaving. All trash must be discarded.
- Items must arrive at the drop-off stations and start at their designated time. A **100-point penalty** will be deducted from your overall total if you fail to arrive by your scheduled time. Plan accordingly as the Food Bank is approximately a 20-30 minute drive from campus, depending on traffic.

**Scoring System**

- Points will be based upon the number of pounds of food that you donate plus bonus points. **4 pounds = 1 point** (4 lbs = 1 pt; 8 lbs = 2 pts, etc.)
- Cases of water will be accepted – **LIMIT of 20 (qty) – 24 (packs) 16.9oz bottles ONLY**.
  - All other sized cases of water will be donated to the Food Bank, BUT will not count towards your total weight.
  - **1 case of water = 10 Points** with a maximum of 200 possible points to be earned
- **Bonus Points = “Backpack for Kids” program**
  - **One completed backpack = 200 BONUS POINTS** with a maximum of 5 completed backpacks equaling 1,000 total BONUS POINTS.
  - To receive the extra bonus points, competing student organizations must have ALL items listed below to be counted.
    - Please note: Student organizations are not required to purchase and fill backpacks.
    - One Backpack must include:
      - (10) Cereal cup/bowl single serve containers (no boxes)
      - (10) Chef Boyardee microwaveable bowls
      - (24) Cans of Vienna Sausages, Tuna or Chicken Salad in a can
      - (2) 12-count of Sugar Free Fruit cups/Sugar Free Pudding Cups
      - (2) 12-count of Granola Bars
      - (3) 8-count of Variety Snack Crackers
      - (3) 8-pack of Juice Boxes
      - (2) 40-oz jars of Peanut Butter
    - Come prepared with these items separate from your other donations to be counted and verified by a Homecoming Committee member during your assigned drop-off time.
- **Bonus Points = “Pirate Packs” program**
  - Items TBD

In the overall Spirit Cup Scoring System, Canned Food Drive points will not be added directly from the Canned Food Drive score sheet. Organizations will be ranked first to last place based on the number of points in the Canned Food Drive score sheet, and will be assigned points from the overall Spirit Cup Scoring System based on their rank.

- For example, if you earn 1200 points in the Canned Food Drive, that does not mean you will have 1200 points added to your overall Spirit Cup Score. Rather, those 1200 points will be
compared to all other organizations’ Canned Food Drive points and Spirit Cup Point will be
assigned based on your rank, first to last place.

Non-permissible items (these items will not be accepted)
- Large cans
- Food in glass jars
  - Baby foods will be accepted as long as they are not in glass jars.
- Items that may melt if exposed to hot weather or heat
- Loose items such as cocoa mix packages or cider mix packages
- Pet foods or other types of non-human edible goods
- Items such as boxed Pop-Tarts or Easy Mac must come in their original “as purchased box.”

Friendly Reminders
- When you arrive at your assigned drop-off time with your 5+ volunteers, do not drive past the Committee tent. This is the first station to check-in. You will be directed what to do next and where to go.
- If you arrive early, park in the grass area until we can take you.
- If you are running late, we will provide you with a phone number to call to let us know.

Golf Cart Parade Competition - Saturday, March 20th
- Organizations must register via Engage prior to the event
- The Homecoming Committee will provide each organization/organization team with (1) one golf cart to decorate.
- Decorating will happen on Friday, March 19th from 12-6pm on ECU’s Campus. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, organizations will need to sign-up for a 2-hour time slot for decorating.
  - Organizations will be allowed to continue decorating the morning of the parade (roughly 8-9:30am).
- Organizations can only have up to (5) five students decorating their golf card at one time.
- Floats must be designed with the theme “Home Sweet Homecoming” in mind.
  - Organizations can only use non-permanent decorations.
  - The following items are not permitted: semi-permanent adhesive or glue (duct tape, gorilla tape, etc.), flammable items/explosive items (sparkers, fireworks, confetti cannons), paint, stickers
  - The following items are permitted: window stickers (non-adhesive), painters tape, banners, streamers/crepe paper, poster board, cardboard, zip ties, string
  - The golf cart floats are not allowed to tow anything. The golf cart is your float.
  - If you have any questions about permitted decorations, please contact the Homecoming Committee Parade Lead - homecoming@ecu.edu and CC fallerg19@students.ecu.edu.
  - Golf carts must be completely stripped of decorations and returned to their original condition at the end of the Parade. Any organization who fails to do this will be disqualified.
- Floats must have your organization’s name, the Homecoming theme and ECU or the Mascot (PeeDee or Skull & Crossbones) and incorporate the opponent (Illinois State) on the float to be judged.
- Floats must be able to maneuver a street corner.
- Alcohol or other mind-altering substances are strictly prohibited on any float and also should not be referenced in any way.
If ANY member from your organization appears to be under the influence of a mind-altering substance, it will result in immediate disqualification for the ENTIRE organization(s) in the Float Competition to be determined at the discretion of the Homecoming Chair and Homecoming Advisor.

- **Check-in** will start at 8:00AM and will end at 9:30AM on Saturday, March 20th, 2020 at the Main Campus Student Center.
  - If you have not checked in by 9:30AM, you will not be eligible to compete in the Parade. You may still participate but your float will not be judged.
- **Note:** Judging for Float Competition takes place during the Parade. The Judges will be judging use of theme, workmanship, following the rules, creativity of the Float, Campus Spirit and Pirate Pride.
- Your organization will be disqualified if found to be using commercial or political advertising on your float.
- Floats are to be held to the highest standard for each organization. Any that are seen as unacceptable by the Homecoming Chair and Homecoming Advisor will be disqualified from the competition and removed from participating in the Parade.
- If your float arrives broken or damaged, it is not the Homecoming Committee’s fault or responsibility. We recommend that you report any of these issues to the local authorities to investigate as well as notifying us.
- If any organization is found cheating, taking work/stealing from others, and/or damaging another student organization’s property this will be seen as a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. Judiciary action be taken with the ECU Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities and the student organization will be removed from all Spirit Cup competitions.
- **Spectators** are encouraged to watch the livestream of the Event. Spectators are not allowed at the Parade.
- **Fan Favorite Contest**
  - Organizations are encouraged to have their members, friends and familie watch the livestream to text to vote for their float as Fan Favorite.
  - Each organization will be assigned a number to text to vote. This number will only appear during the livestream. Votes will not be counted after the parade so make sure you tune in!
  - The Fan Favorite will win 30 Homecoming T-shirts for their org and an additional 50 Spirit Cup points
**Captain of the Ship (formerly known as Homecoming King & Queen)**

In celebration of the diversity of the ECU Student Body, we are excited to introduce a new recognition program called "Captain of the Ship". This program will replace what was formerly known as Homecoming King and Queen.

The Captain of the Ship recognition program recognizes students who make outstanding contributions to ECU through their campus and community involvement, as well as their efforts to support the success of other Pirates.

Notable changes:

- All ECU students are eligible. Organizations are encouraged to nominate their peers/members. There is not a limit to the number of applicants that will be accepted.
  - Organizations will receive 25 pts for nominating candidates (20 pts. per person with a maximum of 60 points).
  - If the nominee applies, the organization receives 10 additional pts (30 pts total with a maximum of 90 points) per candidate.
  - If a student is nominated by more than one organization, the nominee will have to choose which group they would like to represent. If no clear choice is communicated to the Campus Activities and Events Office, the nominating group which nominated the individual first will receive any credit.
- Students may nominate themselves.
- Eligible students do not need to be a member of a Student Organization to apply.
  - The application will focus on their contributions to ECU and their ideas to engage with the ECU student body.
- Multiple students from the same organization can apply.
- Our Top 10 student candidates will be selected through a virtual interview in combination of their overall contributions to ECU’s Mission, Vision, Values, and their personal embodiment of the University's motto “To Serve”. These 10 finalist will be selected based on merit of the above criteria. They will no longer be limited by gender identity.

The Top 10 student candidates will be recognized during the Homecoming festivities, including a recognition ceremony during the Homecoming baseball game. From these 10 finalists, one student will be further recognized as the “Captain of the Ship” recipient in recognition of outstanding achievements and contribution to the success of others.

**Criteria**

- Candidates must be an enrolled ECU student in good academic standing.
- Candidates must have a 2.5 minimum GPA.
- No former crowned Homecoming winners may be nominated.

**Timeline**

- February 22, 8pm: Informational Meeting on Zoom (non-mandatory)
- February 15 - March 5: Nominations Open on Engage
March 8: Top 20 Announced on Social Media
March 10-12: Top 20 Interviews with Judging Panel
March 15: Top 10 Announced at Cannonball
March 16-19: Voting Open on Pirate Port
March 20: Winner announced at Homecoming Baseball Game

*The Top 10 student candidates will need to be on-campus for the Homecoming Baseball Game*
## Homecoming Spring 2021 Full Schedule

Visit [engage.ecu.edu](https://engage.ecu.edu) or [homecoming.ecu.edu](https://homecoming.ecu.edu) for all the details

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<tr>
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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>February 15 or 22</td>
<td>Mandatory Organization Meeting #1, @ 7pm via Zoom (sign up on Engage)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>Mandatory Organization Meeting #2, @ 7pm via Zoom (sign up on Engage)</td>
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<td>March 13</td>
<td>Banner Drop-Off and Skit Night USB Drop-Off (Campus Activities and Events Office, Room 282 in the Student Center from 12-3pm)</td>
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<td>March 14</td>
<td>Banner Drop-Off (Student Rec Center from 2:45-6pm)</td>
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<td>Monday, March 15</td>
<td>Banner Competition</td>
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<td>Cannonball - Captain of the Ship Top 10 Announced</td>
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<td>Skit Competition Begins on Instagram Stories</td>
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<td>Virtual 5k Begins</td>
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<td>Tuesday, March 16</td>
<td>Pirate Nation Scavenger Hunt</td>
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<td>Captain of the Ship Voting Begins on PiratePort</td>
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<td>Thursday, March 18</td>
<td>SAB Event - Flashback Bingo</td>
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<td>Friday, March 19</td>
<td>Canned Food Drive</td>
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<td>Golf Cart Parade Decorating Begins</td>
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<td>Skit Competition Wrap-Up</td>
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<td>Captain of the Ship Voting Ends at 5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 20</td>
<td>Golf Cart Parade</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Baseball Game - Captain of the Ship Winner Announced</td>
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<td>Sunday, March 21</td>
<td>Virtual 5k Wrap-Up</td>
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