

Pow Wow Etiquette



Saturday, September 21, 2019

Teton County Fairgrounds,
Jackson, WY

11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

FREE and Open to the public

In Partner With:



A Pow Wow is a Native American tradition that honors a rich heritage by bringing together many different tribes and communities to celebrate their culture through dance, song, and socializing. Pow Wows are open to the public and people of all ages and backgrounds are welcome. They are amazing events that everyone should experience in person at least once.



Listen to the Master of Ceremonies (MC)

- The MC informs all dancers, drum groups, and spectators about what is going on at all times. They will keep you entertained and informed.

- Inter-Tribal Dances, open for anyone/everyone to participate, will be announced by the MC. Join in and follow the leaders!
- The MC will also tell you when to stand and remove hats for special songs (Grand Entry, Flag Songs, Veteran Songs, Memorial Songs, etc.)

Grand Entry

- The Eagle Staff leads the Grand Entry, followed by flags, then the dancers, while the host drum group sings an opening song.
- Everyone must stand and remove hats during the Grand Entry.

Regalia

- The dancers wear “Regalia” which is part of their cultural identity and features important cultural patterns and designs. They are meticulously handmade for ceremonial purposes—please don’t call them ‘costumes.’

Regalia (cont.)

- Never touch a dancer's regalia. Many of the ornaments have religious meaning, and many regalia are cherished family heirlooms.

Taking Pictures and Shooting Video

- Sometimes photos and videos are not permitted for sacred reasons. The MC will let you know when it is not appropriate to take pictures.
- Many singers and dancers will allow you to take photographs of them or with them. Out of courtesy, be sure to ask first.

Be Culturally Aware

- The dance arena features a circle which is reserved for the dancers. Don't walk across it.



- Don't walk or run between the drum and any chairs surrounding it.
- Pointing with the fingers is considered poor manners by some tribes. Use your eyes or nod your head to direct attention.
 - If you see a lost or dropped feather, do NOT pick it up. Stand near the feather and notify a staff member or the Arena Director immediately.
 - Elders have a significant place in Native American culture. When attending Pow Wows, keep elders in high regards.

Be Respectful

- Pow Wows are fun events celebrating American Indian tradition. They are also sacred and, as such, require respect.
- If you see trash, please pick it up and throw it away.
- Dress appropriately, no foul language/imagery on clothing. Do not come to the grounds barefoot.
- No alcohol or drugs are allowed on the Pow Wow grounds.

Donations

- Donations are encouraged. Listen to the MC for announcements regarding the appropriate way to make a donation.

Seating

- The seats closest to the arena are reserved for dancers and singers, so please don't sit in them. Dancers will also leave blankets on the benches or seats to reserve their place. Don't move the blankets or sit on them.
- There might not be enough seats for the public, so you can bring a lawn chair or a blanket to sit on.

Please make a donation to Education and Cultural Understanding in Teton County through Old Bills Fun Run. Go online to www.cfjacksonhole.org and donate to Wyoming Humanities.

**OLD BILL'S
FUN RUN**  2019