

2023 WPA Winter Blast

Thurs. Feb. 16 through Sun. Feb. 19, 2023

The Winter Blast is a major event for the Western Pyrotechnic Association (WPA) and it has been held in Lake Havasu City for an incredible 34 years. Although providing immense entertainment for spectators that is not the main intention of the WPA. It is our good fortune, with thanks to Lake Havasu City, our fine Parks and Recreation Department, and the WPA.

Winter Blast is actually a trade show and convention for the WPA's large membership of pyrotechnic enthusiasts. Over 700 WPA members attend this week-long event. Here they get to test their fireworks by shooting them off! This shooting is where the public exhibition comes into play. The participating members of the WPA formulate ingredients into various "shells" under strict safety regulations, and specific shell size is limited to the level of license that the participant holds.

All fireworks and components are transported and stored following federal and state regulations, until they are in the air. No one but WPA members are allowed in the areas where the materials are stored, sold, mixed or shot. All materials must be shot off in SARA Park, none can be transported away. This can make for a spectacular show Sunday night, especially if wind or weather has limited any of the other nights' shooting.

Spectators are the beneficiary of this super exhibition. Starting Thursday night about 7:30 pm the WPA members will begin shooting off these amazing shells. They will do it again about that same time each night through Sunday, ending about 10 pm each night. Once the shooting has begun you may not leave SARA Park until the fireworks display ends.

You can park by entering SARA Park off of Highway 95, south of town for \$10.00 (cash only please) per car (or pick up) per day. This is regardless of the quantity of people in your vehicle. Motorcycles and bicycles may enter for \$5.00 per vehicle if desired. All will park in an available parking place and may watch the aerial "show" from your car or the park. The viewing is great from most anywhere in SARA Park. Parking gate opens at 3 pm Thursday, Friday and Sunday, and noon on Saturday

Please note that there are no coolers, no alcohol, no firearms, no personal fireworks, no refunds & no pets allowed. Eye protection is recommended.. You may not park on the Highway. When the parking is full the entrance will be locked. This is by order of the LHCDF & LHCPD

Thursday will have even more shooting and fireworks but it will be less than the weekend. Because of that it will be half-price! Parking will be only \$5 per carload, and grandstand seating will be \$5 per person. Parking and seat sales will open at 3 pm. There will be no beer sales in the baseball diamond this year. You may not bring any liquor in or out of the Park.

You will be advised of a frequency to tune the FM radio in your car to for information and entertainment during the day. During the evening displays Friday, Saturday & Sunday nights the WPA's announcing that takes place inside the Speedway will be re-broadcast on this frequency. It will also be broadcast from multiple sound towers distributed around the parking lot.

While you may sit in or by your vehicle in the parking lot you might enjoy the opportunity to bring your lawn chair and spread out on the grass of the baseball diamond. This is free. , Liquor is available only in the grandstand area, and you may not bring any liquor in or out of the venue.

For the best viewing, and the opportunity to see the ground pyrotechnics there is grandstand seating inside Havasu 95 Speedway. These seats are \$10.00 each, cash only, and can only be purchased at the ticket trailer in front of the Speedway on the day of the event. Children under 6 are free with paid adult. These go on sale and seating opens at 3 pm Thursday, Friday and Sunday, and Saturday opens noon. *Please note that there are no refunds, no in and outs, no reserving seats, no coolers, no pets, no firearms, no personal fireworks and no alcohol may be brought in or out.*

Food and beer are available for purchase inside the Speedway only. There is a limited area for "bring your own chair" seating, and that is also \$10.00 per person.

Eye protection is recommended. Remember this event is wind and weather sensitive. No buses or RV s are allowed.

Special thanks to Go Lake Havasu, Radio Central, the Lions Club & Romer Beverage

**For updated information go to www.FireworksHavasu.com
You may contact us at DSMevents35@gmail.com**