

## **SNMSF&R Rodeo Queen and Princess Pageant Information Sheet**

**SPEECH:** Speech must be on the Southern New Mexico State Fair or Southern New Mexico. Contestant does not have to author speech. It should be memorized and reading off note cards may cause points to be deducted from score. Time limit is up to 7 minutes for Queen, up to 5 minutes for Princess, and up to 3 minutes for Junior Princess category.

**MODELING:** Modeling will be done individually. Must be western attire. Western skirt or dress is optional.

**INTERVIEW:** Contestants will have a private interview with the judges. Questions will consist of information pertaining to the fair and activities they will participate in at the fair. You should also be familiar with current affairs, our agriculture industry, our western heritage, and our diverse cultures here in the southern part of New Mexico.

**HORSEMANSHIP:** The horsemanship competition will rate the contestant in the following:

1. Position, balance and poise of rider.
2. Knowledge and execution of leads, backing and sliding stops.
3. Mount and dismount.
4. Tack: proper fit, cleanliness and knowledge of purpose.
5. Queen's Run: smile, salute, speed and control.
6. Horsemanship interview: knowledge, delivery and grammar.
7. Freestyle: performance of a variety of horsemanship maneuvers such as rollbacks, spins, cutting, roping, dressage, etc. Do not repeat maneuvers in the set pattern.
8. Flag Run: queen and princess contestants will be required to carry a flag on horseback which is a maneuver often expected of them.

Each contestant will complete the pattern set forth by this contest. This is mandatory. After the completion of the pattern, contestants will dismount in front of the judges. At this time the horsemanship interview will take place. When the judges have dismissed you, mount and proceed back to gate along west fence, you can walk or trot back. After all contestants have completed set pattern, each will complete a freestyle pattern of 2-3 minutes. Bareback riding and Roman riding are not allowed. Music for your freestyle is not allowed. Freestyle pattern should not be a repeat of the set pattern. Flag run's will follow. Flag boots can be worn during horsemanship pattern. We will end horsemanship competition with a queens run.

Apparel for horsemanship: Long-sleeved, collared white shirt, jeans, riding boots, hat and belt. Clothing should be clean, pressed and dust-free. Dark colored jeans are preferable. No jackets, pullovers or chaps. Hair should be pulled back into a pony tail. Hat should be firmly pinned to hair. Losing your hat may result in points being deducted from score. Avoid chinstrap on hat.

**TACK:** Rodeo tack is acceptable. Tack should be checked after dismount and before remounting in front of the judges. Cleanliness of tack and grooming of horse will be judged.

A contestant must furnish her own horse and must have a horse available for parades in the coming year. No stallions allowed. You may borrow a horse for the competition and may use more than one horse. A current Coggins test along with a health certificate issued at least 30 days prior to the fair may be required to enter the fairgrounds. Contact the New Mexico Livestock Board for current requirements, as they may change annually.

**HORSEMANSHIP INTERVIEW:** Each contestant will be interviewed on each of the following categories:

Knowledge of professional rodeo – Its' history, organization, rodeo terms, explanation of standard events, awareness of PRCA and WPRA/PWRA championship standings, and what is going on in the pro-rodeo world. An excellent source of information is the Pro Rodeo Sports News (PSN), published regularly by the PRCA. The official PRCA Rulebook and the official Pro Rodeo Media Guide, all of which are available from the PRCA, 101 Pro Rodeo Drive, Colorado Springs, Co. 80919.

**IMPROMPTU QUESTION:** Contestants will be asked an impromptu question during the Modeling portion of the contest. The question will be pulled from a hat and read out loud by the master of ceremonies. The questions will be designated for the appropriate age categories.

**WRITTEN TEST:** Given at the rehearsal. Questions will be on the SNMSF&R activities. A less difficult exam will be compiled for the younger contestants.

**PHOTOGENIC:** The judges will score the required 8 x 10 color, vertical, head and shoulders photograph submitted by each contestant at registration. Photos should be with a hat but no crown and will not be returned.