



Queen Pageant Information Packet

Purpose: The purpose of the Southern New Mexico Fair and Rodeo Queens Pageant is to select young ladies as official representatives of the Southern New Mexico State Fair and Rodeo. The Fair and Rodeo Queens, along with their courts, will serve as ambassadors of the Southern New Mexico State Fair and Rodeo to the general public, exhibiting excellent sportsmanship, high moral, and ethical standards. They should be able to speak intelligently, with authority, and with knowledge of the Southern New Mexico State Fair and Rodeo and Southern New Mexico.

Eligibility:

1. Contestants must be a natural born female who has been a resident of Dona Ana, Luna, Otero, Sierra, Socorro, Bernalillo, Hidalgo, Valencia, Grant, Catron, and El Paso Counties for one year prior to the contest. Contestants must have never been pregnant or married.
2. A contestant may not be holding another title from any organization and compete in the SNMSF&R royalty pageant.
3. Previous title holders of the Southern New Mexico State Fair and Rodeo may hold the same title twice, as long as there is one year in between the titles; and that they left the previous title in good standing. To be in good standing, the title holder must uphold her agreement with the Queen Committee and may not have had any disciplinary action which resulted in removal of her title.
4. A contestant may not have had any disciplinary action from a committee, event, title or office of the Southern New Mexico State Fair & Rodeo which resulted in her removal.
5. Each contestant shall enter the category which they are the appropriate age for as of July 1st of the competition year. A copy of her birth certificate must be submitted with her application.

Rodeo Queen: Ages 17- 22; Rodeo Princess: Ages 13-16; Rodeo Jr. Princess: Ages 9-12

Fair Queen: Ages 16-20; Fair Princess: Ages 13-15; Fair Junior Princess: Ages 9-12

Pee Wee Princess Mentorship Program: Ages 5-9

Entry: The Entry fee for each contestant is \$200.00, which is obtained through sponsorships. If a contestant does not wish to look for sponsorships, they may pay the \$200.00 entry fee. The ad format and information for your sponsors is attached to this information packet. Contestants are also required to sell 100 raffle tickets and provide an item to go into the contestant bags (i.e. lip gloss, nail polish, cups, etc.) Contestants will receive an e-mail after registration with the number of contestants for the bag item. Further, each contestant must provide 1 silent auction item for the coronation dinner. This is the minimum required and will be due no later than three weeks before the pageant date each year. If a contestant fails to meet the minimum amount they will not be allowed to compete in the upcoming pageant. There is a top hand award for the girl that raises the most money in sponsorships and raffle tickets combined.

Judged Events:

Fair Demonstration: Fair Contestants will participate in a Demonstration. The Demonstration should be entertaining and should resemble a typical demonstration with an introduction, body, and conclusion. Each contestant is responsible to provide all props and supplies needed for the demonstration: to include tables, chairs, easels, etc. No live animals may be used, and no parents will be allowed on stage. The current Queen Court will assist the contestant in setting up their props. The time limit for Queen and Princess Contestants is 5-7 minutes and 3-5 minutes will be allowed for Jr. Princess and Pee Wee contestants.

Wardrobe for Demonstration: Long-sleeve collared shirt, jeans, boots, and hat of any color.

Fair Commercial: Fair Contestants will create a commercial or "skit" to be performed in front of the Judges. The Commercial should be entertaining and promoting of the Southern New Mexico State Fair & Rodeo. Contestants may wear appropriate costumes to match the theme of their commercial and may provide props for their theme. The Commercial must include the dates, times, and ticket information for the fair, and each contestant must also discuss at least 3 events that take place at the fair, along with the times and information of each event. All information regarding the events will be on the Southern New Mexico State Fair website, www.snmstatefairgrounds.net.

Wardrobe for Commercial competition: Contestants may wear the same wardrobe as the Demonstration or dress to match the theme of their commercial. Each contestant should include their hat in their costume.

Horsemanship Competition: Rodeo contestants will participate in Horsemanship in the following categories: (1) Set Pattern - pattern provided by the committee; (2) Freestyle Pattern – one to be determined by the contestant; (3) Queen's Run; (4) Flag Run; and (5) Horsemanship Interview. Each contestant will complete the set pattern, dismount in front of the judges, and be interviewed. When the judges have dismissed you, mount and proceed back to gate along west fence in a walk or trot. After all contestants have completed the set pattern, each will complete a freestyle pattern of 2-3 minutes in length, and very different than the set pattern. Bareback riding and Roman riding are not allowed, and you may not use music for your freestyle. After all contestants have completed their freestyle pattern, each contestant will follow with their flag run. Flag boots are required during the flag run. We will end the Horsemanship Competition with a queen run.

Judges will rate the competition on the following elements: (1) Set Pattern - 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 thereof; (5) Queen Run - smile, salute, wave, 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. without repeating the set pattern; (8) Flag Run - smile, poise, speed, presentation, and control. The Horsemanship Interview will include the following elements: (1) Knowledge of professional rodeo - its history, organization, rodeo terms, explanation of standard events, awareness of PRCA and WPRA championship standings, and what is going on in the pro-rodeo world; (2) Knowledge of horsemanship and the meaning of horsemanship terms; (3) Knowledge of tack and the purpose of each piece of tack; (4) Knowledge of veterinary care and horse health and how to treat common occurrences such as colic, abrasions, etc.

Each contestant must furnish her own horse and must have a horse available for parades and rodeos in the coming year and no stallions will be 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. Each horse must be healthy and in good physical condition during the competition and at all events

Wardrobe for Horsemanship shall be a 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 ponytail and the contestant's hat should be firmly pinned to her hair to prevent it coming off. Losing hat will result in points being deducted from her score.

Modeling: Both Fair and Rodeo contestants will participate in modeling a "Western Trend/Fashion Forward" style of outfit. Each girl will create her own outfit, which should show the contestant's personality and flair and their knowledge of current western fashion. It is not a requirement to use sponsors of the Southern New Mexico State Fair and Rodeo; however, contestants should be aware of them and use their products whenever possible. (Note – The Southern NM State Fair Rodeo is a Cinch Series Rodeo, so Cinch is the official sponsor, not Wrangler.) Each outfit should keep the professional appearance of the title and the current trends in fashion. Further, all outfits must follow the rules as set out by the Miss Rodeo America Pageant which states: Skirts and dresses need to be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee, dresses should not show cleavage, nothing extremely low in the back, and must be longer than a cap sleeve, or you need to wear a jacket the blouse/shirt. Western felt hat is mandatory. Modeling will be followed immediately by the Speech Competition.

Speech: Fair and Rodeo contestants will present a speech to the judges. Each speech must be on the topic of Southern New Mexico, the State of New Mexico, or Southern New Mexico State Fair and Rodeo. The Contestant does not have to author the speech, but it should be memorized as reading from note cards will cause points to be deducted from her score. The time limit for each contestant is as follows: Queen: Up to 5 minutes; Princess: Up to 4 minutes; Jr. Princess and Pee Wee Princess: Up to 3 minutes. Pee Wee contestants may use props and cards to help them rather than memorization. Following the speech, each contestant will remain on stage for their impromptu question. The impromptu question will be pulled from a hat and read out loud by the Master/Mistress of Ceremonies and will be appropriate for that age groups.

Speech Wardrobe: Each contestant will immediately begin their speech after modeling and in the same clothing.

Private Interview: Fair and Rodeo Contestants will participate in a private interview with the Judges. Only the judges, the judge chaperone and the contestant will be allowed in the room during the interview. Questions will consist of ones about her personal life, information pertaining to the Southern New Mexico State Fair & Rodeo, current events, the agricultural industry, our western heritage, and southern New Mexico.

Private Interview Wardrobe: Contestant's may wear business attire such as a jacket, skirt, etc. with hat and boots.; or a long- sleeve collared shirt, jeans, boots, hat and belt. This wardrobe should be professional in appearance.

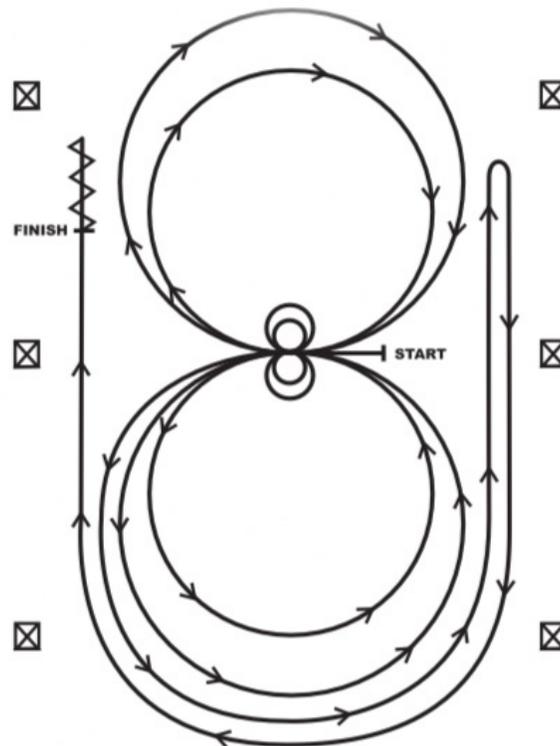
Written Test: Each contestant, except for contestant's in the Pee Wee Division, will be given a written test at rehearsal. The test will be on the Southern New Mexico State Fair & Rodeo activities, and will be written for each age category. The test is not used on the overall score, but only as a tie breaker should a tie occur.

Wardrobe for the written test: Each contestant may dress casual during the written test, as this will be during rehearsal.

Photogenic: Each contestant must submit an 8 x 10 color, vertical, head and shoulders photograph. Photos should be taken with a hat and no crown and may not be returned to the contestant. The photograph does not need to be done by a professional; however, it will be the picture used in pageant advertisements, the pageant book, and the photo judged for photogenic. The Photogenic Category is only judged as another tie breaker event.

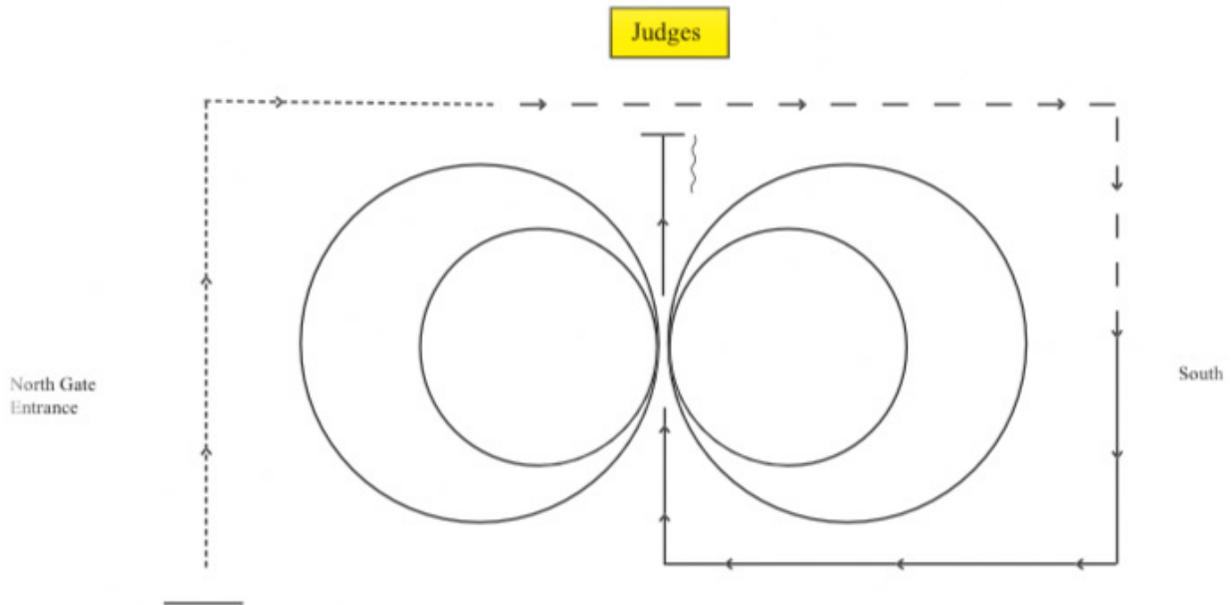
Horsemanship Patterns:

Queen Pattern:



Horses may walk or jog to the center of the arena. Horses must walk or stop prior to starting the pattern. Beginning at the center of the arena facing the left wall or fence.

1. Beginning on the left lead, complete two circles to the left. Stop at the center of the arena. Hesitate.
2. Complete two spins to the left. Hesitate.
3. Beginning on the right lead complete two circles to the right. Stop at the center of the arena. Hesitate.
4. Complete two spins to the right. Hesitate.
5. Beginning on the left lead, go around the end of the arena, run down the right side of the arena past center marker, stop and roll back right.
6. Continue around the end of the arena to run down the left side of the arena past the center marker. Stop. Back up. Hesitate to demonstrate completion of the pattern. See the Judges' Guide for a summary of other allowances made in the Handbook.



HORSEMANSHIP PATTERN FOR NMSU

- Walk through gate. Stop.
- Walk along north fence through east fence.
- Pick up trot **before** Judges on east fence.
- Pick up lope middle of south arena along fence.
- Continue to lope along middle of west arena fence then turn right to start small, slow figure-eight to the right. Start figure-eight in center of arena.
- At end of your small figure-eight start your large fast figure-eight.
- End your fast figure-eight in front of Judges with slid-stop, **DO NOT** get to close to judges. This will lead to point reductions.
- Once you have stopped finish with backing your horse four steps and stop•
- Dismount your horse. (queens mount mandatory for queen contestant only)
- Walk your horse to the judges for the horsemanship interview.
- When the judges have dismissed you, mount and proceed back to gate along west fence, You can walk or trot back.
- Get ready for freestyle (2-3 minutes)
- Flag run's will follow. Flag boots can be worn during horsemanship pattern.
- We will end horsemanship competition with a queens run.

Finality of Judge's Scoring: The decision of the Judges is final. In the event a contestant feels the need to appeal the results of the pageant, her appeal must be submitted in writing to the Queen Superintendent, along with a check for \$100.00, no later than one hour after the conclusion of Coronation. Said appeal will be considered at the first meeting of the Queen Committee following the pageant, and all appeals shall be reviewed and brought to the attention of the Southern New Mexico State Fair & Rodeo Executive Committee. Action, if deemed necessary, will be determined by the Executive Committee with the recommendation of the Queen Committee.

Awards: All title holders will receive a perpetual crown, trophy belt buckle, and sash. Category winners will receive a trophy belt pin for each category that she wins. The Fair and Rodeo Queen will each receive a \$500 scholarship at the end of her reign, and upon completion of their duties. In addition, the Rodeo Queen will receive a trophy saddle of up to \$650 in value and her entry fee paid if she chooses to compete in the New Mexico State Fair Queen Contest. The Fair Queen will receive a \$500 clothing allowance. All contestants will receive a duffle bag with numerous items provided by the contestants themselves.

Tie-Breaking Procedure: : If the total score results in a tie, the Rodeo contestant with the highest horsemanship score will be declared the winner; and the Fair contestant with the highest score in the Demonstration Category will be declared the winner. If a tie still results in the respected categories, the contestant with the highest test score will be declared the winner. If after the test result is considered and there is still a tie, the contestant with the highest photogenic score will be declared the winner. If after all tiebreakers have been exhausted and scores still result in a tie, the committee will consult with the Judges for the final decision.

Parents, Sponsors, Relatives and Friends: At no time during the contest will parents or others associated with the contestants be allowed to interfere with the judges or contest officials. The SNMSF&R welcomes and encourages family, relatives, and friends to attend all events open to the public as designated in the schedule. Your support and assistance during the contest is especially important to your contestant, as she needs encouragement and help during this time. During actual competition, each contestant is allowed 1 female helper to accompany her backstage. If the contestant is under the care of her father or male guardian, please let us know so we can make the proper arrangements. This contest should be a positive experience that will stay with her the rest of her life, and an opportunity to make lifelong friends. We also want the people associated with the contestants to have a good time and enjoy the special activities planned throughout the contest. We would like to remind you that all who are involved with the pageant: the superintendent, committee members, and fair board members are all volunteers who donate many hours without monetary compensation. They do this willingly because of their passion for providing this competition and their love for the young women who compete.

Coronation: A coronation dinner will follow the Sunday portion of the competition where the winners in all categories will be announced and the royalty will be crowned. The new reigning courts, along with their parents and/or guardians, will be expected to meet with the Queen Committee immediately following the dinner to go over duties and expectations for the upcoming year. This meeting is mandatory.

Pee Wee Princess Mentorship Program: The Pee Wee Princess Mentorship Program is to provide a fun and exciting experience for younger girls ages 5-8. Each girl that is enrolled in this program will receive a sash, buckle and crystal crown. The Pee Wee Princess will sign a contract as she is considered a title holder under the SNMSF&R, and will be held to the same standards as the older title holders. Each contestant will participate in each fair event. Contestants will not participate in horsemanship. The contestants will be judged and scored, however there is not a winner announced in the categories.

Wardrobe Requirements for Crowned Title Holders: Once the winning contestants are crowned, they must be able to provide the proper attire for official dress. The Queen committee will purchase the official shirts for appearances to be selected by the Fair and Rodeo Queens for their courts. Each title holder will need to provide a black felt hat, dark jeans, dark brown or black boots and dark brown or black belt. The Courts can agree to wear white hats during some events as long as the entire court provides a white hat.