



## ***ROYALTY PAGEANT INFORMATION***

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the Southern New Mexico Fair and Rodeo Royalty 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**

- A. Contestants must be natural born females who have been a resident of Dona Ana, Luna, Otero, Sierra, Socorro, Bernalillo, Hidalgo, Valencia, Grant, Catron, or El Paso Counties for one year prior to the contest. Contestants must have never been pregnant or married.
- B. A contestant may not be holding another title from any organization and compete in the SNMSF&R royalty pageant.
- C. 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 Royalty Committee and may not have had any disciplinary action which resulted in removal of her title.
- D. 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.
- E. 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. Qualifying ages for the Fair Court are: Fair Queen- Age 16-20; Fair Princess- Age 13-15; Fair Junior Princess- Ages 9-12; and Pee Wee Mentorship Program- Ages 5-9.

### **ENTRY:**

- A. The Entry fee for each contestant is \$200.00, which may be obtained through sponsorships. The ad format and information for your sponsors is attached to this information packet.
- B. Contestants are required to sell 100 raffle tickets.
- C. Contestants must provide an item to go into the contestant bags (i.e. lip gloss, nail polish, cups, etc.) and will receive an e-mail after registration with the number of contestants for the bag item.
- D. Each contestant must provide one silent auction item for the Coronation Luncheon. This is required and will be due no later than three weeks before the pageant date each year.
- E. If a contestant fails to meet the above-mentioned items, they will not be allowed to compete in the upcoming pageant.
- F. There is a top hand award for the girl that raises the most money in sponsorships and raffle tickets combined.

**JUDGED EVENTS: Each category contains points for Appearance, Personality and Knowledge and/or Performance as well as the individual requirements for that category.**

**Fair Demonstration:**

- A. Fair Contestants will participate in a Demonstration. The Demonstration should be entertaining and should resemble a typical demonstration with an introduction, body, and conclusion.
- B. 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.
- C. 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.
- D. Wardrobe for Demonstration will be a long-sleeved, collared shirt, jeans, boots, and a hat of any color

**Media Interview:**

- A. Fair and Rodeo Contestants will participate in a Media Interview as if they were on the radio or television.
- B. Each contestant shall have knowledge of what is going on at the fair to include the rodeo and concerts.
- C. Contestants shall know times and prices for entry into the SNMSF&R.
- D. This will be an approximate 2-minute interview in the presence of an audience.
- E. Wardrobe for the Media Interview should be what you would be wearing if a radio person walked up to you at the Fair/Rodeo and asked for an interview. (Long-sleeved collared shirt with hat, boots, etc.)

**Horsemanship Competition:**

- A. Rodeo contestants will participate in Horsemanship in the following categories: (1) Set Pattern - pattern provided by the committee; (2) Rail work – all rodeo contestants will participate at the same time in the arena; (3) Queen’s Run/Hot Lap; (4) Flag Run; and (5) Horsemanship Interview.
- B. Each contestant will complete the set pattern, dismount in front of the judges, and be interviewed. At the end of the interview, you mount and proceed back to gate in a walk or trot.
- C. After all contestants have completed the set pattern, all Rodeo Royalty contestants will enter the arena and line up around the fence, evenly spaced.
- D. After Rail Work, each contestant, in turn, will demonstrate their flag run. (Flag boots are required during the flag run.)
- E. The riding portion of the Horsemanship Competition will end with a queen run or hot lap.
- F. 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, wave, speed and control;
  - 6. Horsemanship Interview - knowledge, delivery and grammar;
  - 7. Railwork - performance of a variety of horsemanship maneuvers such as different gaits, the ability to change directions and control the speed of the horse as requested.
  - 8. Flag Run - smile, poise, speed, presentation, and control.
- G. Horsemanship Interview will include the following elements:
  - a. 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;
  - b. Knowledge of horsemanship and the meaning of horsemanship terms;
  - c. Knowledge of tack and the purpose of each piece of tack;

- d. Knowledge of veterinary care, horse health & how to treat common illness such as colic or injuries.
- H. Each contestant must furnish her own horse and must have a horse available for parades and rodeos in the coming year with no stallions being 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
- I. Wardrobe for Horsemanship shall be a long-sleeved, collared white shirt, jeans, western "cowboy" 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.
- J. Horsemanship Pattern for Queen and Princess and Junior Princess Contestants:

QUEEN

PRINCESS & JUNIOR PRINCESS

**Reining Pattern No. 2**  
Junior Reining

1. Start in the center of the arena facing the left wall.
2. Complete two spins to the right.
3. Complete two spins to the left.
4. Beginning on the left lead, complete two circles to the left, the first small and slow; the second circle large and fast. Flying lead change of leads at the center.
5. Complete two circles to the right, the first small and slow; the second circle large and fast. Flying lead change of leads at the center.
6. Begin a large, fast circle to the left but do not close this circle. Run straight down the right side of the arena past the center marker and do a right rollback at least 20 feet from the wall or fence.
7. Continue back around the previous circle, run down the left wall at least 20 feet from the wall past the center marker and do a sliding stop. Back up to center of arena. Hesitate.
8. Ride to judge for inspection.
9. The bridle may be dropped at the judge's discretion.

**Ride Pattern**

1. Lope in a straight line at least 20 feet away from fence. Stop and back to center of arena. Settle horse for 10 seconds.
2. Do 1 spin to right, 1 1/4 spins to the left.
3. Ride a large fast circle to the right, outside markers. Ride a small slow circle to the right, inside markers. Execute simple change of leads (break to walk or jog).
4. Ride a large fast circle to the left, outside markers. Ride a small slow circle to the left, inside markers. Execute simple change of leads, lope off on right lead.
5. Stop, settle horse for 5 seconds. Ride to judge for inspection.

### Modeling:

- A. 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. All clothing shall be “off the rack” and not created by a seamstress. 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 may be worn as well as Wrangler.)
- B. 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.
- C. Western felt hat is mandatory (No straw hats allowed.)
- D. Modeling will be followed immediately by the Impromptu Question.

### Speech:

- A. 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.
- B. 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. NOTE: Pee Wee contestants may use props and cards to help them rather than memorization.
- C. 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.
- D. Speech Wardrobe shall be an outfit of your choice.

**Impromptu Question:** Following Modeling, 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 Mistress of Ceremonies and will be appropriate for that age groups.

**Private/Personal Interview:** Fair and Rodeo Contestants will participate in a private interview with the Judges.

- A. Only the judges, the judge’s chaperone and the contestant will be allowed in the room during the interview.
- B. The contestant will be questioned on 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.
- C. 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.
- E. Wardrobe for the Personal Interview shall be a long-sleeved, collared shirt with jeans, boots, hat and belt. The contestant may add a vest or jacket to the outfit if desired.
- F. Each interview will be allowed 10 minutes with 5 minutes in between each interview. NOTE: Pee Wee interviews will be 5 minutes.

### Written Test:

- A. Each contestant, except for those in the Pee Wee Division, will be given a written test at rehearsal.
- B. The test will be on the Southern New Mexico State Fair & Rodeo activities and will be written with appropriate questions for each age category.

- C. The test scores will be added to the final score after all competitions to help determine the winner of each category.
- D. Wardrobe for the written test: Each contestant may dress casual during the written test, as this will be during rehearsal.

### **Photogenic:**

- A. Each contestant must submit an 8 x 10 color, vertical, head and shoulders photograph.
- B. Photos should be taken with a hat and no crown and will not be returned to the contestant.
- C. 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.
- D. The Photogenic Category is only used as a tie breaker in the event there is one, but an award will be given for this category.

### **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 Royalty Superintendent, along with a check for \$100.00, no later than 24 hours after the conclusion of Coronation. Said appeal will be considered at the first meeting of the Royalty 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 Royalty Superintendent.

### **Awards:**

- A. All title holders will receive a perpetual\* crown, trophy belt buckle, and sash.
- B. Category winners will receive awards fitting the category that they win.
- C. The Fair and Rodeo Queen will each receive a \$500 scholarship at the end of their 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 following year. The Fair Queen will receive a \$500 clothing allowance.
- D. All contestants will receive a duffle bag with numerous items provided by the contestants themselves.

*\*The crowns are for the use of the titleholders for the year of her reign and shall be handed down to the next titleholder at Coronation the following year.*

### **Tie-Breaking Procedures:**

- A. 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.
- B. If a tie still results in the respected categories, the contestant with the highest test score will be declared the winner.
- C. 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.
- D. 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.

### **Interference:**

- A. At no time during the contest will parents or others associated with the contestant be allowed to interfere with the judges or contest officials.
- B. The SNMSF&R Royalty Pageant welcomes and encourages immediate family members, relatives, and friends to attend all of the events that are open to the public as designated in the schedule. Your support and assistance during the contest is especially important to your young lady, as she will need and appreciate encouragement and possible help during the competition.
- C. Please note that during the actual competition, each contestant is allowed 1 female companion to assist 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).
- D. We strive to make this contest a positive experience that the contestant will cherish and remember, and an opportunity to make lifelong friends. 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 to make this contest an honest and enjoyable one. They do this willingly because of their passion for providing this competition and their love for the young women who compete.

**Coronation:** The Royalty Luncheon will follow the Sunday portion of the competition. Following the luncheon, the winners of each category will be announced, and the new royalty will be crowned. Immediately following the end of coronation, the new courts along with their parents and/or guardians will meet with the Royalty Committee to go over their duties and expectations for the upcoming year. **This meeting is mandatory.**

### **Wardrobe Requirements for Titleholders:**

- A. Once the winning contestants are crowned, they must be able to provide the proper attire for official dress.
- B. The Royalty Committee will purchase the official shirts to be used for appearances and will be selected by the Fair and Rodeo Queens for their courts.
- C. 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
- D. white hat.

### **Pee Wee Princess Mentorship Program:**

- A. The Pee Wee Princess Mentorship Program is to provide a fun and exciting experience for younger girls ages 5-8.
- B. Each girl that is enrolled in this program will receive a sash, buckle and crystal crown.
- C. 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.
- D. Each contestant will participate in every fair event except horsemanship.
- E. The contestants will be judged and scored, but there will be no category winners.

If you have any questions, please contact the Pageant Coordinator Jodi Lindsay at [vetassistant024@gmail.com](mailto:vetassistant024@gmail.com) or at (575) 649-0640.