

## **OFFICIAL RULES OF THE 2024 MISS JERSEY COUNTY FAIR PAGEANT**

The Miss Jersey County Fair Queen is a representative of not only herself, but a representative of the Jersey County Fair, the Board of Directors, the Jersey County Fair Pageant/Director, all Past Queens and Jersey County. This role will provide the opportunity to meet many new people and represent an organization that has promoted family values and agriculture for many years. This can be a year of a lifetime, and will require representing the Jersey County Fair in a specific manner.

### **Miss Rules**

1. Miss Jersey County contestants must be at least 16 years of age and not have reached her 22nd birthday by January 1, 2025.
2. Must be a resident of Jersey County
3. Contestants must have a current driver's license. Never been convicted of a felony offense.
4. Was born female and has always been a female.
5. Must be single and never been married or had a marriage annulled.
6. Never been pregnant or cannot become pregnant during her reign. Is not the adoptive parent of a child.
7. Does not use or consume any illegal controlled substances or abuse the use of alcohol or other dangerous substances.
8. All contestants must pay a **\$40.00** registration fee due with application by **May 1, 2024**.
9. All contestants must have a sponsor who will have a **\$100** fee. This fee will go to purchase the sash that the contestant will wear with the sponsor's name as well as purchase the contestant's production number outfit. Checks made payable to Jersey County Fair.
10. The newly crowned queen must represent Jersey County at the State Pageant January 2025.
11. A contract will be signed after the crowning of the new queen.
12. A queen should possess good moral character.... Dictionary Definition of Moral Character: Moral character or character is an evaluation of a particular individual's durable qualities. The concept of character can imply a variety of attributes including the existence or lack of virtues such as integrity, courage, fortitude, honesty, and loyalty, or of good behaviors or habits. Moral character primarily refers to the assemblage of qualities that distinguish one individual from another.
13. Has never performed any act or engaged in any activity or employment that is or could be characterized as immoral or indecent.
14. Attests that any and all online depictions associated with the contestant's name or likeness including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat are consistent with the standards and dignity of the Miss Jersey County Fair Queen Pageant, Fair Board, and Director.
15. This is considered a "beauty" pageant but there are several areas of competition other than "Beauty". They are as follows:
  - Personal Interview
  - Speech/Question (Communication)
  - Overall Stage Presence
  - Evening Gown

## **INTERVIEW**

The Interview takes place in the early afternoon on the day of the pageant at the Jersey Historical Society in Jerseyville. Three (3) very highly qualified judges will ask questions from the application/bio filled out previously by each contestant in the 4 minute interview. Contestants must wear a business outfit (business suit, business dress, business pant suit), panty hose, and pearl earrings.

## **SPEECH**

The speech is to be one minute in length and the topic can be of the contestants choice (no singing, rhyming, poems, dancing, or props) on stage evening of the pageant. Business dress (Can not be sleeveless must have cap, three quarter or long.) or can be a business suit.

## **EVENING GOWN**

Each contestant models the evening gown of their choice and again, there are requirements that should be followed that will be covered at practices. Chest area can not be showing (pay attention to dresses with V in them)

- Also make sure dress is not too short, floor length
- Slits should not be more than 5 inches above the knee.
- If the back of the dress dips please make sure it does not go past your natural Waistline.
- Dresses must be bustled for group events if they have a train. There can not be more than 5 bustles and must be easy and quick to bustle.
- Necklaces, earrings, and bracelets are all allowed.

## **QUESTION**

Each contestant will again come on stage individually and be asked their onstage question. This will be in evening gowns. Contestants will draw a random question from the jar.

## **SPONSORSHIP**

There is a \$100.00 fee for a sponsorship for each contestant. A sponsor can be from any business or corporation. This fee will cover the sash that contestants will wear throughout the event with the sponsor's name on it. The fee will also be used to purchase an opening number outfit for the contestant.

When you compete in the Miss Jersey County Fair Pageant you are applying for a job that lasts one year. Make sure you understand that there are appearances, Fair events, and Sponsor events that you are invited to attend as the Jersey County Fair Queen during the year. This is your job – representing the Jersey County Fair and agriculture for the state of Illinois. You will sometimes be asked to speak at events (the Queen will always know what she is to speak about and will have talked everything over with the pageant directors before arriving or before speaking), always help during the event, autograph pictures, and always doing so with the poise and grace the Jersey County Fair Queen is known for throughout Jersey County and all counties in Illinois. The Queens family and school schedule always comes first. The directors and Queen will always meet to discuss the schedule and will try to accommodate everyone's

Schedule. When the judges scores are tallied, the Queen's and their Court's will be named. The judges points given are the final and only decision on choosing the Queen

### **MISS & LITTLE MISS CONTESTANT PRACTICES/SCHEDULE**

A practice schedule is set and given to each contestant both Miss & Little Miss after their application is received by the pageant director in the hope that any potential contestant will make arrangements at their workplace so they may attend all practices. Each practice has a purpose and essential tips are given for each phase of the competition. Missing a practice means you miss out on learning pertinent information needed to compete in the pageant. Each practice day will have an agenda written so you know what to bring, wear, and how long it will last. The more you learn the more prepared you are on pageant day! Each contestant is allowed to miss 2 practices – and those practices must be approved by the pageant director. If you just do not show up without calling to a practice this is considered an unexcused missed practice (taking into consideration an emergency of some sort). The Pageant Directors wants you to learn as much as you can and be prepared before the pageant and that is what these practices are designed to do – prepare you so when the pageant comes there are no surprises! ***Miss Pageant Practices are closed to everyone except Pageant Crew and Contestants unless otherwise written in the schedule or communicated.***

### **BACKSTAGE AT THE PAGEANT**

No one is allowed at the interviews or backstage before, during or after the pageant. There are fair officials at the entrance to the backstage area and they are put there for a reason – to protect the contestants. There are qualified pageant crew members in the trailer that can handle any problem and help with any situation that may arise as well as help each contestant as she prepares for each phase of the competition.

No phones or apple watches are allowed backstage. This is to prevent any unauthorized pictures to be taken and consequently posted to social media.

A schedule will be given to the Miss and Little Miss Queen and their parents the night of the pageant for the week of the fair. The schedule will tell times, clothing, plus activities where each needs to be present.

Completed application forms must be postmarked by **May 1, 2024** to Pageant Director Tiffany Phillips 404 East Washington Street PO Box 36 Medora, IL 62063. If you shall have any questions regarding the Miss Jersey County Fair Queen Pageant, please contact Pageant Director Tiffany Phillips by phone 1-618-535-6461 or email [jerseycountyfairpageant@gmail.com](mailto:jerseycountyfairpageant@gmail.com)