

# Judging Guidelines

## Appearance

The purpose of this category is to select the contestant who rates highest in:

1. Attractiveness.
2. Grooming. This includes neatness and cleanliness in every detail such as complexion, hands, fingernails, hair, hat, boots, and other wearing apparel.
3. Photogenic quality. Judges will have a photograph of each contestant to judge. Strength of character and personality are reflected in a wholesome appearance.
4. Posture.
5. Poise.
6. Contestants should have an awareness of fashionable western dress with particular attention given to color coordination. Contestants should be aware of how the use of color combinations can enhance appearance and eye appeal.
7. Judges will observe how the clothing fits and suits the personality of the contestant. This includes length of dress or pant, crease and shape of hat, and how well the 'total look' is conducted.

## Personality

The purpose of this category is to select the contestant who rates the highest in:

1. Intelligence.
2. Education. Response to questions relating to current event, rodeo, equine, and western industries.
3. Conversational ability.
4. Sense of humor.
5. Genuine interest in other people and noticeable consideration of others.
6. Projection. This includes the ability to project one's personality during all events and appearances.
7. Showmanship. Be able to present oneself in a gracious manner.
8. Positive outlook on life in general.
9. Promptness in keeping pageant schedule.

## Horsemanship

The purpose of this category is to select a contestant who rates highest in:

1. Horsemanship. This includes control of the horse under all circumstances.
2. Balance. The ability to sit in the saddle properly.
3. Riding position.
4. Mounting and dismounting.
5. Pattern/Rail work. There will be two rounds of horsemanship/rail work competition. At the discretion of the judges, patterns may be altered due to arena conditions. Any changes and/or alterations to the horsemanship pattern will be announced to the contestants before the horsemanship competition begins. The contestants will be advised of the pattern before the competition begins. Each contestant will also perform a flag and queen run. The understanding and skill of the contestant will be judged, not the horse or the equipment. Deductions in horsemanship competition include losing hat, losing stirrups, omitting part of the horsemanship pattern, improper use of markers, etc.
6. Attire. Colored or blue denim western cut jeans, and long-sleeved western blouse or shirt are required. Any color accessories may be used (hat, boot, belt). Gloves are optional. All riding attire should be neat and fit properly. Showmanship should be considered.
7. During queen run, contestants should prepare to present the salute or wave. (Salute/wave should not extend above rider's head.)

## Knowledge

The purpose of this category is to select the contestant who rates the highest in:

1. Intelligence.
2. Education. Response to questions relating to current event, rodeo, equine, and western industries.
3. Conversational ability. Response to interview questions should show maturity, intelligence, wisdom, and imagination with special emphasis on grammar and enunciation.
4. Speech. A 2-4 minute speech must be based on a western theme emphasizing creativity, content, and proper grammar.