



Miss Keystone State Rodeo Pageant Rules and Regulations

MKSR

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About the Miss Keystone State Rodeo Organization

As a 501(c)3 public charity, the organization is a non-profit entity headed by an executive board of dedicated people who volunteer their time and energy to the duties of running the organization. The executive board recognizes the value of the program and the opportunities it provides for young ladies who are passionate about rodeo, horses, and the western way of life.

The mission of the Miss Keystone State Rodeo organization is to hold an annual pageant to select yearly titleholders to serve as promoters for the sport of rodeo, agriculture, the western way of life, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and MKSR sponsors and supporters.

The Miss Keystone State Rodeo organization gives titleholders the opportunity to build self-confidence, enhance public speaking skills, network with other people in the industry, make appearances at famous rodeos, become role models for younger generations, and gain leadership skills to be prepared for the future.

What does it mean to be a Miss Keystone State Rodeo titleholder?

Miss Keystone State Rodeo queens serve for a length of approximately 1 year. Being a Miss Keystone State Rodeo titleholder is a contractual position and is considered a job. Miss Keystone State Rodeo titleholders are public figures, role models, and promoters. Throughout their year of reign, MKSR titleholders will have the opportunity to travel and appear at rodeos, MKSR sponsor and partner events, and other pageants. Titleholders will have the opportunity to meet influential people within the sport of rodeo, including other rodeo queen titleholders. Titleholders will have an impact not only on their local community, but also on a statewide level, and possibly a national level.

Rodeo Queen Characteristics

- High moral and ethical standards
- Intelligent
- Ability to converse about rodeo
- Promoter of the Western lifestyle
- Classy
- Community leader
- Horse Enthusiast
- Knowledgeable about rodeo
- Animal welfare advocate
- Friendly
- Sincere interest in the future of agriculture
- Good work ethic
- Interested in advancing her future career
- Good sportsmanship

Contestant Eligibility

Each contestant in the Miss Keystone State Rodeo pageant shall on the date of competition and final selection of titleholders meet the following qualifications.

Age: Lil' Miss 10-12, Teen 13-17, Jr. Miss 18-20, Miss 21-25 (Miss cannot turn 27 years of age before the first day of the Miss Rodeo USA Pageant)

Residency/Citizenship: Must be a legal US Citizen. Must live, work, or go to school in Pennsylvania.

Gender: Be female and always have been female.

Marital Status: Not currently married and have never been married.

Marital Engagement: Not currently engaged and must not become publicly engaged during year of reign.

Parental Status: Not pregnant nor given birth to or adopted any child.

Good character: Of good moral character. Never committed or been involved in an act of moral turpitude.

No Criminal Record: Not been convicted or charged with any criminal action excluding minor traffic offenses.

Health: Good health and do not have any health concerns which would prevent participating in the pageant or becoming a titleholder.

Substance Abuse: Not use any illegal or controlled substances (other than prescription medications and then only in the manner prescribed). Not abuse alcohol.

Contractual Obligations: Not be under any contractual obligations which would interfere with ability to participate in the pageant or becoming a titleholder.

No Other Competitions: Not currently hold a title from any pageant or competition that would interfere with ability to serve as a titleholder.

No Other Acts Detrimental to Reputation: Not engaged in any past act, which if made public, would be reasonably likely to cause harm or damage to your reputation or to the goodwill and reputation of Miss Keystone State Rodeo.

Ability to Perform: Nothing that will interfere with ability to compete in the pageant or perform the obligations of a titleholder if selected.

If the prospective contestant has any questions or concerns about the applicability of the above eligibility requirements, please discuss it with the Miss Keystone State Rodeo CEO prior to applying. Any resolution of any questioned provision shall be documented in writing.

Contestant Disqualifications

- Contestant attempts to influence or trouble any of the judges.
- Family or personal acquaintance of the contestant attempts to influence or trouble any of the judges.
- Contestant fails to fulfill obligations as directed by the Miss Keystone State Rodeo pageant officials.
- Contestant is found to not meet eligibility requirements.
- Contestant is untruthful on pageant application.
- Contestant cheats during any part of the pageant.
- Contestant fails to submit all required application material including all monies associated with the application and competing.
- Contestant's behavior is inappropriate, offensive, or problematic to Miss Keystone State Rodeo pageant officials, judges, partners, volunteers, or other contestants.

If contestant is disqualified for any reason, contestant will not receive any reimbursement for her participation, including but not limited to entry fees, hotel expenses, travel expenses, etc.

Loss of Title and Benefits

Subsequent to the Miss Keystone State Rodeo pageant, any person being awarded a Miss Keystone State Rodeo title and/or otherwise becoming the successor thereto, shall not;

- be found to not meet eligibility requirements at any point during her year of reign.
- compete in and/or otherwise participate in any other beauty and/or talent contest, pageant and/or activity during her year of reign that would interfere with her ability to serve as titleholder.
- solicit, negotiate or contract with any third person for appearance photographs, interviews, sponsorships and/or endorsements, during the year of her reign, without receiving prior permission and approval from the Miss Keystone State Rodeo executive board.
- violate any part(s) of the titleholder contract, pageant rules and regulations, or social media contract

Upon the occurrence of any of the above events, the Miss Keystone State Rodeo title together with any and all benefits derived by such person, shall be forfeited and awarded to the next qualified runner-up.

Pageant Rules

- Contestants will abide by all official pageant directives.
- Most of the Miss Keystone State Rodeo pageant functions are open to family, friends, and spectators, but some are not (such as written test and interviews).
- Contestant cannot use their cell phone or be on their cell phone during any part of the pageant.
- Judges reserve the right to inquire to the Miss Keystone State Rodeo Pageant Officials regarding contestant's behavior and attitude throughout the pageant.
- Each contestant will be given equal time for events.
- When questions are created for the contestants by the judges or the Miss Keystone State Rodeo executive board, fairness regarding level of difficulty will always be a top priority.
- The Miss Keystone State Rodeo organization executive board will oversee and guide judges through the pageant schedule. They DO NOT judge the contestants with score sheets, nor do they influence the judges in any way. They are critical to the organization of the pageant to answer questions of the judges should any arise during the pageant.
- Contestants in the Miss Keystone State Rodeo pageant are required to pay their own transportation to and from the pageant, as well as hotel accommodations if applicable.
- The Miss Keystone State Rodeo pageant will provide official contestant sashes to be worn by contestants during the pageant and will also provide horses and tack for the horsemanship competition.

Pageant Judging

1. Judges will judge all categories of the pageant.
2. Judges are selected for their expertise in all fields of the competition: horsemanship, personality, appearance, knowledge & presentation etc. They should all have an awareness of correct western dress, they should be knowledgeable about the sport of professional rodeo, the agriculture industry and they should be experienced western-type horsemen and horsewomen.
3. All decisions of the judges are final.
4. The Miss Keystone State Rodeo executive board will institute appropriate standards for judges to ensure that all judges are impartial and have an appropriate level of experience in all categories.
5. The Miss Keystone State Rodeo executive board shall have the final decision as to the selection of judges for the MRPA Pageant.

In the event of any dispute concerning the decision of the judges, such dispute shall be settled by the Miss Keystone State Rodeo executive board. The review of any dispute shall be limited to determining if the judges acted in good faith, impartially and in accordance with the applicable rules. If any judge is found to have acted in violation of these rules the Miss Keystone State Rodeo executive board may remove such judge and may take any other remedial action they deem appropriate. All decisions of the Miss Keystone State Rodeo executive board are final.

Judged Events

The Miss Keystone State Rodeo pageant contestants will be judged in many areas during the pageant. The scheduled activities may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Personal interviews
- Impromptu speeches
- Prepared speeches
- Modeling (Fashion Show)
- Written exam
- Horsemanship

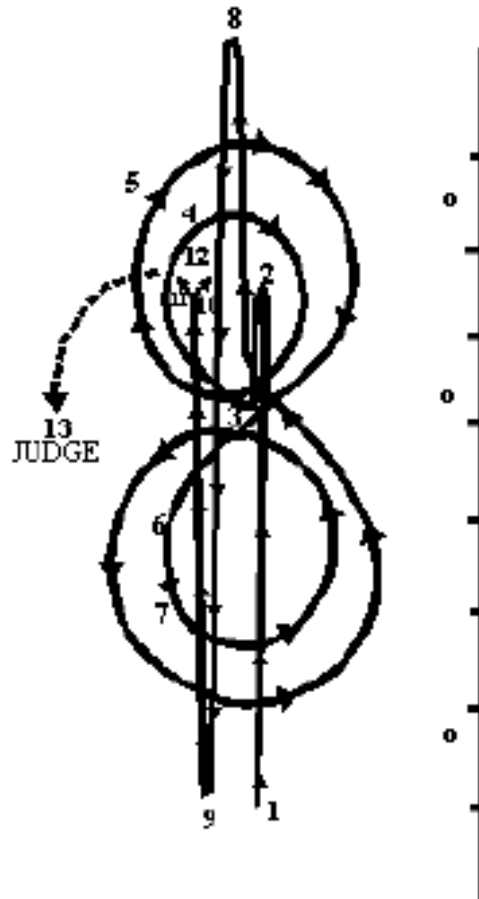
Judging Criteria (Miss, Jr. Miss and Teen only)

Horsemanship 30%

The horsemanship division accounts for 30% of the total judging. The aim of this division is to select the candidate who rates highest in her riding and showmanship abilities.

- The purpose of the horsemanship division is to judge the candidate on one's ability to ride a horse, including but not limited to equitation skills, hands, and ability to sit a horse, and one's ability to properly tack a horse. The judges will not consider the horses and the equipment, which are provided for the contestants.
- An important aspect of horsemanship division is the way a queen presents herself – appearance and personality are a must in this division as well as riding ability.
- The first part of the horsemanship competition consists of a set pattern provided by the Miss Keystone State Rodeo organization (pattern on page 8), a queen lap, and flag carrying. The reigning Miss Keystone State Rodeo will demonstrate the required horsemanship pattern prior to the competition.
- After performing the maneuvers of the first pattern, the contestant will perform a queen run/presentation run before exiting the arena.
- The second part of the horsemanship competition consists flag carrying. The contestant be handed a flag and will then demonstrate her flag carrying ability by taking one lap around the outside of the arena carrying the flag at a fast lope/slow gallop. Additionally contestant must have their horse stop in the middle of the arena while carrying the flag and stand still for 30 seconds.
- The judges reserve the right to request additional horsemanship maneuvers at their discretion.
- The contestants should dress as they would if they were a Miss Keystone State Rodeo queen titleholder riding at a rodeo during her reign. Chaps and spurs are not permitted. The contestant should not wear anything that will inhibit the judges' view of her hands or seat. The contestant should be sure that her hat would not come off during her riding.

- Safety remains the number one priority during the Miss Keystone State Rodeo pageant - horsemanship competition. Stirrup length will be adjusted for each contestant.
- Should an unfair situation arise through no fault of the contestant, a re-ride can be granted and the scoring done on the re-ride. This must be a unanimous agreement between judges.



1. And 2. Run with speed past center marker
2. Stop and back up to center of pattern
3. Settle horse for approximately 10 seconds. Start lope. Circles should be made inside the end markers.
4. and 5. Ride two circles to the right, first circle small and slow, second circle larger and faster
6. and 7. Ride two circles to the left, first circle small and slow, second circle larger and faster
8. Left roll back over the hocks (should be made past far end marker)
9. Right roll back over hocks (should be made past far end marker)
10. Stop (should be made past center marker) Let horse settle, then in approximate area of stop, do the pivots
11. Pivot right or left no more than 90 degrees
12. Pivot opposite direction, no more than 180 degrees

Public Speaking 25%

The public speaking division accounts for 25 percent of the total judging. The aim of this division is to select the candidate who rates highest in public speaking events. Those events include the following:

- **Platform Speech:** Each contestant presents a speech on a personal platform. This speech is timed and must be between one and two minutes in length. Deductions in scores due to time specifications neglectation are at the discretion of each individual judge. Judges will be notified of the speech time but a sound/alarm will not sound. Notes or cue-cards will not be allowed.
- **State Speech:** Each contestant presents a speech about their home state, town or sponsor. This speech is timed and must be between two and three minutes in length. Deductions in scores due to time specifications neglectation are at the discretion of each individual judge. Judges will be notified of the speech time but a sound/alarm will not sound. Notes or cue-cards will not be allowed.
- **Impromptu Questioning:** Each contestant will answer impromptu questions about either current events, rodeo rules and regulations or situational issues. These questions typically arise during one or more of the scheduled modeling events.

Personality 20%

The personality division accounts for 20 percent of the total judging. The aim of this division is to select the candidate who rates highest in:

- Education
- Conversational ability in various areas
- Sense of humor
- Personality appeal – ability to project yourself to others on short appearances
- Rodeo and overall knowledge
- Genuine interest in other people – noticeable consideration of others
- Projection – ability to project your personality whether it be from horseback or before any audience.
- Disposition
- General culture
- Grammar
- Quality of voice expression – this includes enunciation voice inflection

Appearance 20%

The appearance division accounts for 20% of the total judging. The aim of this division is to select the candidate who rates highest in:

- Attractiveness and facial beauty
- Figure
- Grooming – This includes neatness and cleanliness in every detail such as complexion, hands, hair, boots, hats, etc. Meticulous care in general grooming is essential for contestant to be considered for a Miss Keystone State Rodeo queen.
- Photogenic Quality
- Posture
- Poise and lady-like behavior in any situation
- Clothing (fit and style)
- General Appearance

Written Examination 5%

The written examination division accounts for 5% of the total judging. The written examination is a cumulative examination covering some, if not all, of the following areas:

- Knowledge of the Miss Rodeo USA Association, including its administration, its regulations, its contestants and former winners (you don't have to know them all) and its sponsors
- Knowledge of the International Pro Rodeo Association, including its administration, contestants, event rules and sponsors and the International Finals Rodeo
- Knowledge of current events in our nation and the world
- General knowledge of livestock and care of livestock (including typical illnesses) and horsemanship/rodeo tack

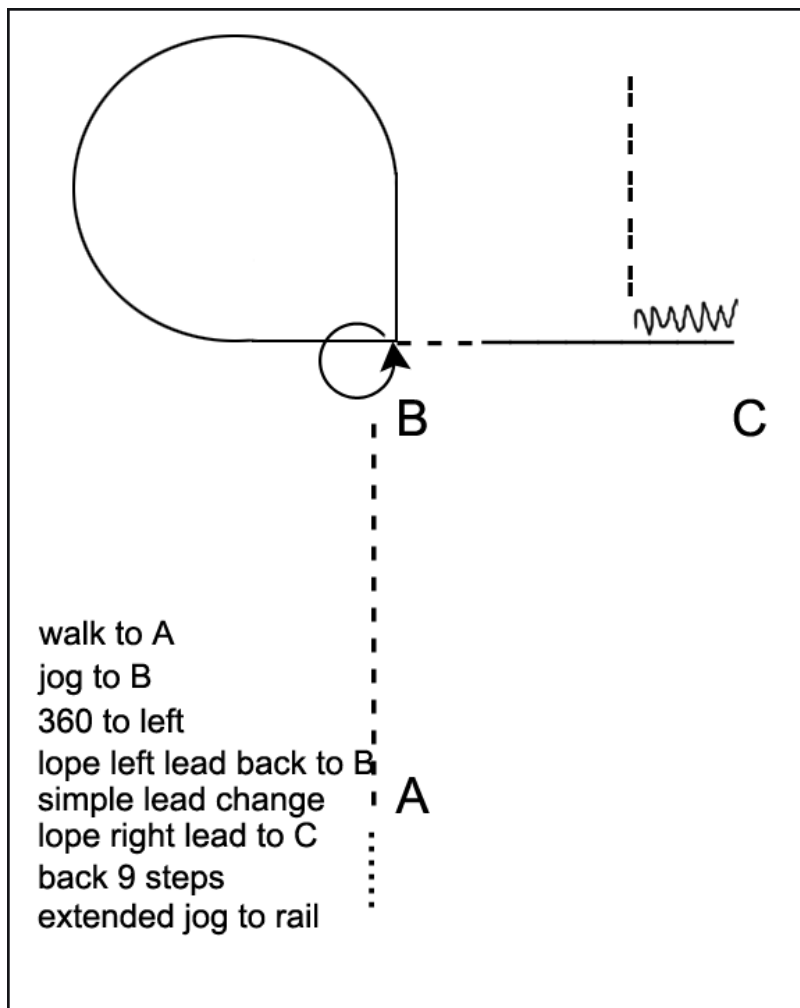
The written examination is designed to test whether a particular contestant has the knowledge necessary to handle the role of a Miss Keystone State Rodeo queen the day she is crowned. It is NOT a test of trick questions. It will only cover information that is readily available through the MRUSA office/website, the IPRA office/website, the IFR website, general veterinary/horse care sources, general tack sources, and typical sources for current events.

Judging Criteria (Lil' Miss only)

Horsemanship 30%

The horsemanship division accounts for 30% of the total judging. The aim of this division is to select the candidate who rates highest in her riding and showmanship abilities.

- The purpose of the horsemanship division is to judge the candidate on one's ability to ride a horse, including but not limited to equitation skills, hands, and ability to sit a horse.
- An important aspect of horsemanship division is the way a queen presents herself – appearance and personality are a must in this division as well as riding ability.
- The contestant will submit a video of her riding her own horse and performing the set pattern determined by the Organization (pattern is directly below on this page). This video is to be filmed and submitted to the Organization prior to the start of the pageant.
- The contestant can have no interference or outside help while she is performing the pattern.
- The video must be in focus, clear, have good lighting, and show the entire arena (not just follow the contestant).



Public Speaking 25%

The public speaking division accounts for 25 percent of the total judging. The aim of this division is to select the candidate who rates highest in public speaking events. Those events include the following:

- **“Why I Want to Be Lil’ Miss” Speech:** Each Lil’ Miss contestant presents a prepared speech about why she wants to be Lil’ Miss Keystone State Rodeo . This speech is not timed; however, the speech should not be more than approximately 3 minutes long. There will be no deductions in scores due to time specifications. Notes or cue-cards are allowed.
- **Impromptu Questioning:** Each contestant will answer age-appropriate impromptu questions about either current events, rodeo rules and regulations or situational issues. These questions will arise throughout the pageant.

Personality 20%

The personality division accounts for 20 percent of the total judging. The aim of this division is to select the candidate who rates highest in:

- Education
- Conversational ability in various areas
- Sense of humor
- Personality appeal – ability to project yourself to others on short appearances
- Rodeo and overall knowledge
- Genuine interest in other people – noticeable consideration of others
- Projection – ability to project your personality whether it be from horseback or before any audience.
- Disposition
- General culture
- Grammar
- Quality of voice expression – this includes enunciation voice inflection

Appearance 20%

The appearance division accounts for 20% of the total judging. The aim of this division is to select the candidate who rates highest in:

- Attractiveness and facial beauty
- Figure
- Grooming – This includes neatness and cleanliness in every detail such as complexion, hands, hair, boots, hats, etc. Meticulous care in general grooming is essential for contestant to be considered for a Miss Keystone State Rodeo queen.
- Photogenic Quality
- Posture
- Poise and lady-like behavior in any situation
- Clothing (fit and style)
- General Appearance

Written Examination 5%

The written examination division accounts for 5% of the total judging. The written exam for Lil' Miss contestants will contain age-appropriate questions.

The written examination is a cumulative examination covering some, if not all, of the following areas:

- General knowledge equine care and health
- General knowledge of equine tack
- General knowledge of rodeo events

The written examination is designed to test whether a particular contestant has the knowledge necessary to handle the role of a Miss Keystone State Rodeo queen the day she is crowned. It is NOT a test of trick questions. It will only cover information that is readily available through the MRUSA office/website, the IPRA office/website, the IFR website, general veterinary/horse care sources, general tack sources, and typical sources for current events.

Scores

The scores of each contestant will be determined by the judges during the pageant activities. The scores in the different divisions will be multiplied by the appropriate percentage factor and totaled.

In the event of a tie for the first place, the contestant with the highest score in horsemanship will be declared the winner. If this still leaves a tie, the contestant with the highest score in personality will be declared the winner. If this still leaves a tie, the contestant with the highest score in appearance will be declared the winner. If a tie still exists, each judge will cast a secret ballot for the winner from the contestants who are tied. The contestant with the most votes will be declared the winner. If a tie still exists, a designated Judge will declare the winner.

In the event of a dispute, the claimant may submit a grievance no later than 5 days after the pageant. If a grievance is filed, the scores will be opened for verification of the results.

At the culmination of the Miss Keystone State Rodeo Pageant, each contestant will receive their personal scores and any comments the judges provided via email no more than 30 days following the pageant.

Miss Rodeo USA Pageant

The “Miss” Keystone State Rodeo* titleholder have the opportunity to compete in the national Miss Rodeo USA (MRUSA) Pageant during, or at the end of, her year of reign. **If there is no “Miss” Keystone State Rodeo titleholder that year, the “Jr. Miss” Keystone State Rodeo titleholder will have the opportunity to compete at the MRUSA pageant.*

Miss Rodeo USA is a national representative for the International Professional Rodeo Association (IPRA).

The MRUSA Pageant is held in Oklahoma in January of each year, and is held in conjunction with the International Finals Rodeo (IFR). For more information about Miss Rodeo USA, please visit www.missrodeousa.com.

The Miss Keystone State Rodeo Pageant is modeled after the Miss Rodeo USA Pageant in order to prepare the Miss titleholder for the MRUSA Pageant.

Additional Resources

Miss Rodeo USA

Information at www.missrodeousa.com and www.facebook.com/missrodeousa

Miss Keystone State Rodeo

Information at www.misskeystonestaterodeo.com and www.facebook.com/misskeystonestaterodeo

International Professional Rodeo Association

Information at www.irpa.com