

**Official Rules & Regulations**  
**MISS RODEO KERN COUNTY**

**QUEEN, JUNIOR QUEEN,  
PRINCESS, JUNIOR PRINCESS  
& TINY PRINCESS PAGEANT**

**Sponsored by**



**Tehachapi Mountain Rodeo Association**

**and**



**Kern County  
Sheriff's Mounted  
Posse**

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## MISS RODEO KERN COUNTY

The Miss Rodeo Kern County Pageant is held annually to select a young lady who has the desire and enthusiasm to serve as a goodwill ambassador for the sport of professional rodeo, Tehachapi Mountain Rodeo Association, and the Kern County Sheriffs Mounted Posse.

The Miss Rodeo Kern County Pageant Executive Board of Directors has pledged to make the pageant memorable for each contestant. The Executive board is confident that The Miss Rodeo Kern County Pageant Queen chosen will represent her rodeo, her county, and the cities Bakersfield and Tehachapi in a grand manner, while promoting the sport of Professional Rodeo.

### WHO IS MISS RODEO KERN COUNTY?

Miss Rodeo Kern County symbolizes the youth of our rodeo, cities of Bakersfield and Tehachapi, and those who wish to promote the sport of rodeo, and in so doing, promote the great western way of life. She is an ideal western type American girl who has an appealing appearance, a congenial personality, and knowledge of the equine industry, County of Kern and the sport of professional rodeo. She is a young lady who enjoys travel and has a sincere interest in garnering educational experiences that will assist in laying a solid foundation for her future.

### WHAT TYPE OF YOUNG LADY DOES THE MRKC PAGEANT ATTRACT?

- The young lady who wishes to be a representative of her state, the County of Kern and professional rodeo.
- The young lady who loves horses and rodeo and everything they represent.
- The young lady who portrays unmatched sportsmanship, high moral and ethical character.
- The young lady who understands and loves the sport of professional rodeo and who has the knowledge of the sport to sell it to someone who may know nothing of the sport.
- The ambitious young lady who is interested in furthering her chosen career through higher education and special training.
- The young lady who is able to speak intelligently and display dignity in all situations.

## ELIGIBILITY

1.
  - Tiny Princess contestants must not turn 9 prior to the pageant.
  - Junior Princess contestants must not be less than 8 years of age or more than 10 years of age as of May 1<sup>st</sup> the year of the competition.
  - Princess contestants must not be less than 11 years of age or more than 13 years of age as of May 1<sup>st</sup> the year of the competition.
  - Junior Queen contestants must not be less than 14 years of age and no more than 17 years of age as of May 1<sup>st</sup> the year of the competition.
  - Queen contestants must not be less than 18 years of age and no more than 25 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> the year the competition. (in conjunction with Miss Rodeo California rules) Birth Certificates, Social Security card, and picture id are required. Keep in mind the winner of the queen division is REQUIRED to run for Miss Rodeo California the year following her reign. All divisions with the exception of Tiny Princess will be required to sign a contract. Please see your coordinators if you have any questions or concerns.
2. Contestants must be residents of California.
3. Contestants must be single and have never been married.
4. Contestants may not have children and never have been pregnant.
5. Queen Contestants are encouraged to be enrolled as full time students in high school, college or vocational training institution at a level comparing to either a junior or senior in high school or freshman or sophomore in college, or who certify an intent to enroll in such an educational institution not later than May 1st, the year of competition, if selected as a Rodeo Queen
6. No person who will be under the age of 18 years on January 1st, the year of competition, may be a contestant unless her parents and/or legal guardian have given their written consent to such participation, agreeing to comply with all of these rules and regulations as they then exist or may thereafter be amended.
8. All contestants shall agree in writing to observe and comply with all of these rules and regulations, as they exist now and as subsequently amended.
9. No person shall be deemed a contestant until an application to act as a contestant has been approved in writing by Kern County Rodeo Queen, Inc., either directly or indirectly. The Miss Rode Kern County Executive Board of Directors, expressly reserves the sole right to accept or reject any application as it may in its sole discretion deem appropriate.

## PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. Contestants shall attend all public and private functions connected with the Rodeo and the Rodeo Queen contest as are designated by Rodeo Queen Director, and shall participate in promotional and other function to the extent and in the manner requested by Kern County Rodeo Queen, Inc.
2. Contestants shall attend all performances of the Rodeo unless specifically excused there from by the Rodeo Queen Director.
3. At all such functions, performances and events, each contestant shall be dressed in western attire all of which shall be furnished at the sole cost and expense of the contestant.
4. At any event requiring the contestants to be mounted, each contestant shall provide the horse to be used by her, together with all necessary saddles, bridles, and or other equipment, and at her sole cost and expense transport the horse to and from the site of the function. Tiny Princess will not be required to be mounted.
5. Each contestant shall provide her own transportation to each such function, performance and or event unless otherwise instructed by Rodeo Queen Director.
6. Rodeo Queen Director shall have the sole right to publish or cause the publication in any media, and use in any reasonable manner, the name, basic biographical background and photograph of each contestant for the purpose of the promotion of the Rodeo Queen Contest.
7. Contestants shall not, without the permission of the Rodeo Queen Director publish or allow the name, photograph or biographical data of any contestant in any public media in any matter whatsoever as to suggest any connection with or participation in the Rodeo Queen Contest.

SELECTION OF RODEO QUEEN, JR. QUEEN,  
JR PRINCESS, PRINCESS AND TINY PRINCESSES

1. At a time and place to be determined at the sole discretion of The Rodeo Queen Board of Directors, one (1) Rodeo Queen, (1) Jr. Queen, (1) Princesses, (1) Junior Princess, and (1) Tiny Princess shall be selected from those contestants who have complied with all reasonable directions of the Rodeo Queen Board of Directors. There will be up to 1 runner up category for each title. Contestants must have participated faithfully throughout the competition in a manner consistent with acting as Miss Rodeo Kern County. No other contestant shall be deemed eligible for such positions or shall receive any prizes etc. under these rules.
2. The selection of the Royal Court consisting of the Queen, Junior Queen, Princess, Junior Princess, Tiny Princess, and their court shall be by majority of points awarded by a panel of not less than (3) judges appointed in the sole discretion of Rodeo Queen Director. Judging of horsemanship, personal interview, personality and appearance, and rodeo knowledge may be sub-panels. (Tiny Princess division is modeling, impromptu and ticket sales)

3. The procedure to be followed by the panel of judges in selecting the Rodeo Queen, Jr. Queen, Princess and the Jr Princess shall be as follows:
4. Those contestants who are eligible for consideration as Rodeo Queen, Junior Queen, Princess, or Junior Princess under these rules shall be ranked in descending numerical sequence percentage to reflect the relative number of points earned in the following categories,
  - Horsemanship shall account for 25% of the Contest.
  - Rodeo Knowledge shall account for 25% of the Contest.
  - Personality and Appearance shall count for 25% of the Contest. Personal interview competition shall count for 25% of the Contest.
5. Those contestants who are eligible for consideration as Tiny Princess under these rules shall be ranked in descending numerical sequence percentage to reflect the relative number of points earned in the following categories,
  - Impromptu question account for 20% of the Contest.
  - Modeling shall account for 20% of the Contest.
  - Ticket sales will account for 60% of the Contest
6. Each Queen will be required to raise \$1500.00 worth of sponsorships from the Pageant Sponsorship Program booklet or sell \$1500.00 worth of raffle tickets (contestant may combine the two). Sponsorship or ticket sales in excess of \$1500.00 up to \$3000.00 will receive two points for every \$100.00 for sponsorships or tickets sold. You can receive a maximum of 30 extra points to be added to your overall score.
  - a) For any amount raised over the qualifying \$1500.00, the Contestant will receive 10% of that amount.
7. Each Junior Queen, Princess and Junior Princess will be required to raise \$1000.00 worth of sponsorships from the Pageant Sponsorship Program booklet or sell \$1000.00 worth of raffle tickets (contestant may combine the two). Sponsorship or ticket sales in excess of \$1000.00 up to \$2000.00 will receive two points for every \$100.00 for sponsorships or tickets sold. You can receive a maximum of 20 extra points to be added to your overall score.
  - a) For any amount raised over the qualifying \$1000.00, the Jr. Queen, Princess, and Jr Princess contestant will receive 10% of that amount.
8.
  - a) non-refundable deposit of \$100.00 will be required with the submission of an application for the pageant.
  - b) Each judge shall in its sole discretion award to each contestant a number of points between 0 and 101 to recognize the degree of skill in horsemanship displayed by the contestant at a time and place in such manner as shall be determined by Rodeo Queen Headquarters.
  - c) Each judge shall in its sole discretion award to each contestant number of points between 0 and 100 to recognize the Personality and Appearance displayed by the contestant at a time and place established by Rodeo Queen Headquarters for the judging.
  - d) Each judge shall in its sole discretion award to each contestant number of points between 0 and 100 to recognize the personal interview displayed by the

contestant at a time and place established by Rodeo Queen Headquarters for the judging.

- e) All contestants will be required to provide a gift basket with a minimum value of \$100 for the silent auction to be held during the speech night performance. There will be a separate award for the most creative Basket. Make sure to observe all deadlines so you are not deducted points. Please see Rules and Regulations section #10

**Judges decisions are final.**

f) In establishing the number of points to be awarded by the judges for horsemanship, appearance and personality, and personal interview the highest number shall be awarded to the contestant or contestants deemed by the judges to display superior skills in each category.

g) Rodeo Knowledge will be equal to 25% of the total score achievable and will be based on a written test, and/or any questions ask at any time by the judges.

h) The contestant receiving the highest number of points pursuant to the foregoing shall be the Rodeo Queen, Junior Queen, Princess and the Junior Princess. Receiving the second and third highest number of points shall be the First Rodeo and Second Rodeo runner up in that category and so on.

Respectively, ties resulting in multiple category winners will be broken by referring back to Judge #1 for Appearance and Personality, Personal Interview and Horsemanship.

i) Pageant Officials will not have access to completed judging sheets. The judges will select from among themselves one person to serve as Head Judge and that Judge will gather the completed score sheets from all of the Judges, put them in a sealed envelope and sign on the seal. All envelopes will be saved with signatures available for inspection.

j) Each contestant may review her personal scores following the Pageant. At no time will the contestant be allowed to take original score sheets. Upon request the contestant may receive copies of their own score sheets. Score sheets and commission checks will not be submitted until ALL sponsorship and raffle ticket checks have cleared.

k) No contestant or person on the contestant's behalf shall be in direct contact with any personnel of the accounting firm.

**NO VERBAL AGREEMENT CAN SUPERCEED THIS WRITTEN AGREEMENT  
ONLY A WRITTEN AGREEMENT CAN SUPERCEED THIS WRITTEN  
AGREEMENT**

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Contestants must conduct themselves in a proper lady-like manner and portray high moral standards. Contestants will not be permitted to drink alcoholic beverages, use tobacco, or use foul language, and have tasteful social media at any time during pageant functions.
2. Each contestant will supply the Miss Rodeo Kern County Pageant with one black and white photo in addition to an electronic version. Photos must be head and shoulder pose (no action) in western attire. Western attire will include western blouse, suit or dress, hat and accessories. Photos are to be submitted with the application and the \$100.00 nonrefundable application fee.
3. A contestant or any individual with the intent to influence or harass may not approach a judge or the auditor before or after any event. Action of this type will be reported to the Miss Rodeo Kern County Executive Board and Director and disqualification of that contestant could result and all prizes will be seized.
4. Each contestant will provide horses and tack necessary for horsemanship competition. *Contestants **may use spurs during horsemanship competition if the horse requires and you are experienced wearing spurs.***
5. All Queen's will be expected to deliver an extemporaneous speech on the rodeo industry. Extemporaneous Speaking, colloquially known as Extemp, is a limited-preparation speech event based on research and original analysis. Extemporaneous Speaking is a skill a rodeo queen must possess as the ultimate representative of the sport of rodeo, and the equine industry. Each queen will be provided with 10 topics that may be used for Extemp. Topics will be given at the speech venue and contestants have 15 minutes to prepare talking points that will produce 1.5-2 minutes of information. An interview will also take place along with impromptu questions.

Junior Queen, Princess, and Junior Princess will be expected to present a speech on How to explain Animal Welfare vs Animal Rights, to a person who doesn't know anything about rodeo, which will be at least 2 minutes and no more than 3 minutes in length. It is recommended that speeches are memorized and no props will be allowed. An interview will also take place along with impromptu questions.

6. Contestants must provide their own transportation to and from all rodeo functions. Contestants must also be punctual. Contestants that arrive late to any event will result in a point loss of five points per 15 min late to each event. (unless due to an emergency and excused by director)
7. Entrants must sign Waiver of Liability, Consent Form, Expectation Agreement, Ticket Liability, Application Release, and an Application. If under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must also sign a consent form along with the Waiver of Liability.
8. Contestants must provide their own wardrobe and agree to follow the wardrobe guidelines. It is required that each contestant have at least one complete western dress outfit, one complete western pant suit or dress outfit, one complete horsemanship outfit, and two complete arena outfits.

9. There will be secret judges. Points will be deducted for inappropriate behavior, bad sportsmanship, bullying, or any other acts deemed to be detrimental to contestants or the Pageant.

10. We will also deduct points for missing deadlines. Please make sure to read all paperwork carefully including all release forms, welcome letters, schedules, and check lists. Any missed deadline will result in a 2-point deduction per day. Example if 3 items are due on May 1 and you turn in May 2, then you will be deducted 6 points.

## WARDROBE GUIDELINES

1. Each contestant should have at least one complete western dress or skirt outfit with accessories.
2. Each contestant should have at least one complete western pant suit or dress outfit with accessories. (Tiny Princess not applicable)
3. Each contestant should have at least one complete horsemanship outfit and accessories. This should consist of “Wrangler” brand jeans of any color with complimenting blouse sleeves and shirts tail tucked in. (Tiny Princess not applicable)
4. Each contestant will have one complete coronation ceremony outfit, which will consist of “Wrangler” brand jeans and a complimenting blouse or jacket with blouse underneath. The jacket or blouse should be made of a bright material as to make coronation ceremony colorful. Suggestions for jacket material include sequined material, brocade, and embellished velvet. (Tiny Princess winner only)
5. No chaps are to be worn for the horsemanship competition.
6. Each contestant will have one fashion forward outfit for the fashion show.

## PAGEANT DIVISIONS

### PERSONALITY AND APPEARANCE; INTERVIEW

The purpose of these categories is to select the young lady who rates highest in:

1. Attractiveness with self-confidence
2. Grooming, this should include neatness, cleanliness, fingernails, hair, hat, boots, and other western apparel.
3. Posture: How the contestant carries herself is very important, the judges will be looking for contestants to carry themselves straight and tall and exude self-confidence and poise.

4. Poise and ladylike behavior in every situation. Judges will be looking for contestants to handle each situation that they are involved in with grace and style. Judges will also be looking for contestants to have a vast knowledge of proper etiquette.
5. Western fashion sense: contestants should pick outfits that reflect fashionable and tasteful western clothing. Judges will pay particular attention to contestant's ability to use colors to enhance her natural coloring and enhance appearance and eye appeal.
6. Proper fit of clothing: above all contestants should pay attention to the fit of her outfit. Outfits should be figure flattering and altered to fit her personality. In addition, contestants should be properly fitted for a hat so that it will flatter the face.
7. Contestants should be familiar with the major western wear manufacturers.
8. It is not necessary to spend a fortune on your clothing; we just want to see you at your best in all occasions.
9. Intelligence and good common sense.
10. Conversational ability in varied areas with an emphasis on grammar and enunciation.
11. Good sense of humor
12. Self-confidence, high moral standards, sincerity, and integrity.
13. Genuine interest in other people and consideration of others.
14. Self-Projection
15. Happy outlook on life
16. Maturity
17. Educational background and career goals

## HORSEMANSHIP

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

1. Horsemanship: Control of mount and the way each situation that may occur is handled (junior princess division will be walk/jog only)
2. Balance and ability to sit in the saddle
3. Position of hands, feet, and seat.
4. Mounting and dismounting (excluding Princess & Junior Princess)
5. Presentation wave

6. The understanding and skill of the contestant will be judged and not the horse or equipment.
7. Each contestant will be interviewed on each of the following categories; knowledge of tack, horse science, professional rodeo history, rodeo terminology, explanation of standard events, championship standings, current issues of the pro rodeo circuit.
8. Showmanship - This is how well the contestant projects her personality to the audience from horseback.

## RODEO KNOWLEDGE

1. The purpose of the event is to discover each contestant's ability to understand and Comprehend the sport of rodeo and its events.
2. Each contestant will be given a written test on each of the following categories; knowledge of tack, horse science, professional rodeo history, rodeo terminology, explanation of standard events, championship standings, current issues of the pro rodeo circuit.
3. Ability to represent the sport of pro rodeo, its heritage, The Tehachapi Mountain Rodeo Association, the Kern County Sheriff's Mounted Posse, the Kern County Sheriff's Department and the County of Kern

## GENERAL INFORMATION

PARENTS, FRIENDS, & RELATIVES -The Miss Rodeo Kern County Pageant welcomes and encourages the presence of parents, friends, and relatives during the competition. The Miss Rodeo Kern County Pageant also requests complete cooperation from parents, friends, and relatives during pageant activities. At no time during the pageant shall parents, friends, and relatives disturb the contestants or judges. Parents, friends, and relatives are responsible for obtaining tickets for all events.

HORSEMANSHIP- The contestants will provide their own horse for the horsemanship portion. Horses will be all around type horses that know their leads when asked correctly. When choosing a horse for a queen competition please keep in mind it must be sound, know both leads and can stop with a reasonable amount of contact. Any horses that are deemed dangerous by MRKCP coordinators or the horsemanship judges will not be allowed to compete. Dangerous includes bucking, rearing, running off, or spooking.

Horsemanship patterns will be provided to the contestants. Tack used on a horse may not be changed between go-rounds. There will be two go-rounds of competition, during the second go round the contestants will switch horses. (excluding the princess divisions) This will be done by a drawing. It is recommended that contestants prior to competition practice riding as many horses as possible before the competition and seek the advice of experts in cueing horses to perform the patterns.

Contestants should remember that this will be judged on how the contestant cues the horse, not the horses' ability. Contestants should strive for a smooth pattern. Following pattern one, contestants will be asked to do a presentation run. Following rail work, the judges will ask the contestant questions pertaining to horsemanship or the pattern.

When horsemanship warmup begins, all contestants will be quarantined from friends and family. They will have no contact unless approved by the Pageant Director. No person other than the contestant may warm up their horse or you will be disqualified from horsemanship. However, you may have someone saddle your horse. There will be no coaching from the rail. **If judges suspect coaching from the rail there may be points deducted. 10 points will be deducted for each violation. Contestant may receive a no score if judges deem appropriate.** Contestants are encouraged to bring well groomed, sound, and overall fit horses who can withstand a long day of competition. Any animals suspected of neglect of any form will not be allowed to compete. AQHA rules prevail.

**PROBLEMS AND COMPLAINTS** - Any problems and complaints should be immediately referred to the pageant director or member of the Miss Rodeo Kern County Pageant Executive Board. Contestants only may report a problem or complaint and the Executive Board will address the problem immediately.

**STUDY INFORMATION** -The PRCA publishes a PRO RODEO MEDIA GUIDE and a BI-monthly newspaper, PRO RODEO SPORTS NEWS. These resources provide excellent information for study material. For information contact:

PRCA at 719-593-8840 101 Pro Rodeo Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80919.

It is also recommended to contact the WPRA office to receive information on women's events in rodeo: WPRA at 405-485-2277 Route 5, Box 698, Blanchard, and O.K.

Contestants should keep up with current events by watching the news end reading the newspaper.

**PHOTOGRAPHS** - Photographs taken of contestants during the pageant by pageant personnel will become the property of the Miss Rodeo Kern County Queen Pageant, and may be used for publicity.

**DIVISION REQUIREMENTS:**

In the Junior Queen, Princess & Jr. Princess division there must be a minimum of three contestants, if there is not the MRKC pageant committee may combine these three categories,

The Queen division will not be combined with any other category. In the event that the Queen division contains less than three contestants the MRKC Queen committee may at its discretion change status on the horse trailer.

**SPORTSMANSHIP** -The MISS RODEO KERN COUNTY Pageant Executive Board expects each contestant, parents, friends, and relatives to display the highest degree of sportsmanship during the pageant and following the coronation. Each contestant should be mindful that they are representing the Miss Rodeo Kern County, the Kern County Sheriff's Department, the Kern County Sheriffs Mounted Posse, Kern County, and the Sport of Professional Rodeo. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Unsportsmanlike conduct could result in disqualification and affect further eligibility to compete in the Miss Rodeo Kern County Pageant.

**Sportsmanship** is conformance to the rules, spirit, and [etiquette](#) of [sport](#). More grandly, it may be considered the [ethos](#) of sport. It is interesting that the motivation for sport is often an elusive element. Sportsmanship expresses an aspiration or ethos that the activity will be enjoyed for its own sake, with proper consideration for fairness, ethics, respect, and a sense of fellowship with one's competitors. Being a "good sport" involves being a "good winner" as well as being a "good loser".<sup>[1]</sup>

**Etiquette** is a code of behavior that influences expectations for [social behavior](#) according to contemporary [conventional norms](#) within a [society](#), [social class](#), or [group](#). Rules of etiquette are usually unwritten, but aspects of etiquette have been codified from time to time. Rules of etiquette encompass most aspects of social interaction in any society, though the term itself is not commonly used. A rule of etiquette may reflect an underlying [ethical code](#), or it may reflect a person's [fashion](#) or [status](#).