



# Miss Black Hills Roundup Queen, Jr Miss & Princess Contest

## Official Handbook Rules & Regulations

Updated 2026

Black Hills Roundup Queen contest was created in 2018. Miss Black Hills Roundup, Jr. Miss Black Hills Roundup, Black Hills Roundup Princess are titles for young women to promote the Black Hills Roundup, Belle Fourche, SD and the spirit and sport of rodeo. The ladies will promote the sport of rodeo, Black Hills Roundup and engage in community events in which the Black Hills Roundup Committee endorses. Individuals chosen for the titles should be prepared to attend all appearances and events during the Black Hills Roundup Celebration week and events throughout the year.

The Black Hills Roundup Committee is confident that the individuals chosen to represent this rodeo will honorably represent with their vast knowledge, horsemanship and will continue to strive to learn more about their western heritage. Awards are given for speech, appearance/modeling, photogenic, horsemanship along with titles.

If you have any questions, please contact the Black Hills Roundup Queen Coordinator:

Raye Brown (605) 641-5096

### Past Winners of the Contest:

Year	Miss Black Hills Roundup	Jr Miss Black Hills Roundup	Black Hills Roundup Princess
2018	Victoria Hagg	^Kiara Brown	Remi Crago
2019	^Adrienne Schaunaman**	Nautica Hagg	Atty Eastman
2020	Callie Mueller **	*Bailey Feistner	Tava Sexton
2021	^Kayla Engwicht	Rachel Stranberg	Katelyn Kammerer
2022	Anna Bossman	Tava Sexton	Izabella Kastner
2023	^Kiara Brown	Capri Cammack	Draya Haase
2024	Kiara Brown as appointed	Atty Eastman	Addison Brownell
2025	Bethany Behrandt	Morgan McGucken	Kendall Gillen

\*\* Denotes Miss Rodeo SD \* Teen Miss Rodeo SD ^ Denotes Jr Miss Rodeo SD

## Eligibility

The Black Hills Roundup offers three titles. Ages are determined as of the January 1 of contest year.

Miss BH Roundup	18 years – 26 years
Jr. Miss BH Roundup	13 years – 17 years
BH Roundup Princess	8 years – 12 years

2. All titleholders' reign will be from the time of their coronation to the time of coronation of the next queen the following year unless the committee specifically clears her to run in consecutive years.
3. The contestant may not run for another title during her reign unless nearing the end of her reign and having cleared it with the committee and coordinator. The only exception will be competing for Miss Rodeo South Dakota or Teen Miss Rodeo South Dakota, respectively.
4. If the contestant has a current title of any kind, it is recommended that she fulfill this title before she enters the Black Hills Roundup Contest. In the event she is given permission by that titles committee, a written permission email should be sent to the Black Hills Roundup coordinator [queens@blackhillsroundup.com](mailto:queens@blackhillsroundup.com) by that coordinator.  
It is discouraged to have multiple titles during the reigning year as the individual will be not be able to give full attention to the title.
5. No contestant may have been married or pregnant, have a child, nor become engaged, married, or pregnant during the year of her reign. In the event this happens the titleholder will return all prizes and the 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up will be eligible to assume the title.
6. All contestants must pay the required entry fee or have it sponsored.
7. Contestants must have executed all consents and/or waivers of liability presented as conditions required prior to competition.
8. The committee reserves the right to adjust all eligibility and guidelines in this handbook as needed for extenuating circumstances.

## Judging Guidelines

1. Best attempts will be made by the Committee to have a three-judge panel consisting of highly qualified individuals.
2. The Committee reserves the right to have a secret judge behind the scenes (watching such things as behavior, manners, and personality).
3. Judges may attend any or all pageant events that are not scored; therefore, you should be yourself at all times.
4. Scores are tallied by an independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party Certified Public Accounting Firm.
5. In the event that someone on the Queen Committee board has a relation, mentorship, or other close relationship with a contestant, an external auditor will tally the scores that will be delivered in an envelope that is sealed by the judges. Additionally, in this situation, any impromptu topics, interview questions, test questions, draw questions, position draws, and anything of the like will be created by an external source. Said committee members will not have access to these prior to pageant day.
6. In the event of any division ties, the contestant with the highest overall horsemanship score becomes the winner. If there is a tie for the winner of horsemanship, then the highest score on the first go-round will be the winner. If a tiebreaker is still needed, the highest score in the second go-round of horsemanship followed by the highest score on the personality category, then appearance category. If a tie remains, the Queen committee will select the winner.

7. If there is a tie for Miss Congeniality, the contestant with the highest personality score will win.
8. The contestant receiving the highest number of points pursuant to the foregoing shall be crowned Queen, Jr. Queen, or Princess based on age category. **Judges' decisions are final!**
9. Contestants and individuals related to a contestant may not contact judges before, during, or after the pageant in order to influence or harass. Action of this type will be reported to the Queen Committee and disqualification of that contestant may result.
10. Score sheets will not be returned, but comment sheets will be given to contestants following the pageant. Comment sheets will be completed at the judges' discretion.
11. In the event that a reigning queen would like to compete in the next age division, she must wait one title year before running again. For example, the reigning princess may not run in the following junior title contest but must wait one year before re-entering.
12. Scoresheets will be broken into 4 categories. See attached score sheet

## **Contest 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, smoke or vape, use any type of recreational drug, or use foul language at any time during pageant functions or anytime while representing the Black Hills Roundup.
2. Contestants must provide appropriate western apparel in good taste for all phases of competition.
3. No chaps are to be worn for the horsemanship competition.
4. Spurs are optional for the horsemanship competition.
5. A flag boot is mandatory for the flag presentation portion of horsemanship. If you do not have one, one will be provided.
6. Position draws will take place prior to the start of the pageant and be completed by the BH Roundup Queen Committee blindly.
7. All contestants should leave their cell phones and devices put away throughout the entire contest. They should not use family members' devices, either. Failure to comply may lead to disqualification.
8. An adult (parent or family member) must be available to accompany all contestants under age 18 at all times.
9. Should circumstances occur that a contestant is conducting herself in an improper manner, a meeting of the BH Roundup Queen committee will be held and proper measures will be taken, up to and including dismissal and/or disqualification of the contestant.
10. In the event that there is only one contestant in an age group, the contestant will still be required to compete in every division of the contest successfully, without disqualification to be considered for the title. The judges and committee then must unanimously agree that she is a good fit for the title. If the one contestant is a Queen contestant, she will need to have earned 70% of the available points to be crowned.
11. Each contestant shall provide her own transportation to each such function, performance and or event.
12. After check-in, parents should be seated in the audience. One parent can help with clothing changes for Jr Miss and Princess contestants. Queen contestants are expected to prepare independently. All contestants may travel to the arena with parents. Parents should otherwise be in the audience.

13. The Queen Committee shall have the sole right to publish or cause 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 BH Roundup Pageant, Parade, and Rodeo.

14. Should there be a pandemic or other reason to restrict gatherings, the queen committee will hold the right and option to postpone, cancel, or have the reigning queen continue her reign into the next year.

15. All contestants and Parents must submit a signed statement that they have read and understand the Black Hills Roundup Official Rules and Regulations.

## **Contest Schedule and Order of Events-**

**The committee reserves the right to change the order of events or schedule.**

### **Clothing Fashion Forward**

- Check-in ▪ Orientation ▪ Photogenics ▪ Welcome Introductions ▪ Modeling ▪ Media questions
- This outfit is a trendy, fun, party attire type outfit. It must have at least cap sleeves or longer, skirt/dress no shorter than 3" above knees or leggings/slacks, western boots, western hat, western belt with trophy buckle.

### **Western Glamour**

- Modeling ▪ Impromptu speech for Jr Miss and Queen contestants. Prepared Speech for Princess
- This is a long formal "western" dress, western boots, western hat, western belt with trophy buckle

### **Interview**

- Public Media Interview ▪ Personal Interview
- This outfit should be interview appropriate (suit jacket and slacks or skirt) with western hat and western boots. Note: Princess contestants can wear the same outfit for Western Glamour and Interview if they chose to do so, this will not affect their points.

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### **Horsemanship**

- Horsemanship ▪ Horsemanship interview
- This outfit should include a blouse and jeans of your chosen color, western boots, western hat, and western belt with trophy buckle as appropriate for arena and horsemanship.

### **Coronation (will be held the following evening)**

- Coronation – you will be mounted on your horse.
- Arena blouse and jeans of your choice or your horsemanship outfit.

## Contest Category Information

### Photogenics

After checking-in, you will go to a private photoshoot.

You must pose yourself to your best advantage. The photographer will not help you.

You will have a standing photo, a sitting photo, and an action/fun photo.

Two of each of these photos will be judged for photogenic award.

Each contestant must submit an 8x10 color photograph of herself. The 8x10 will be used for promotional purposes and may be displayed at events during the pageant. The photograph should be a vertical head and shoulders shot. The contestant must be dressed in tasteful western attire, including a cowboy hat, no crown. Copyrighted pictures must have a copyright release. The photo must not be framed or mounted. This photo may be used to break a tie in the photogenic category.

### Public Media Interview

Each contestant will go in front of the judges and audience individually; the other contestants will be secluded in a room off stage. You will be asked 3-4 questions. Then, you will be seated, and the next contestant will come out and answer the same questions. You should be well-versed in the Belle Fourche and Black Hills Roundup history, general rodeo knowledge, and general SD knowledge as well as current events.

### Speech

Speeches allow the judges to evaluate contestants' public speaking ability, poise, confidence, correct use of grammar, creativity and personality.

1. Jr Miss and Queen contestants will have 10 mins to prepare an Impromptu speech with the topic given at the contest. Princess contestants will be given the topic of their speech prior to the contest, so they can learn to develop a speech and practice the delivery of a speech prior to the contest.

2. The same topic may be given to each contestant or contestants may have different topics.

3. If all contestants have the same topic, then the contestants who have not presented may not watch or listen to the contestants before them.

4. If the contestants are drawing random topics, they may or may not all be present to observe. This is to be determined by the queen committee.

### Personal Interview - 12 minutes for senior, 8 minutes for junior miss, 5 minutes for princess

The purpose of the interview is to allow the judges to observe the personality, intelligence, common sense, conversational ability, and maturity of each contestant. The questions posed by the judges are not limited to any subject but may include rodeo knowledge, current events, general horse health care, contestants' goals and aspirations, contestants' life experiences, Black Hills Roundup, History of Belle Fourche, etc. These times are subject to change at judges' discretion. The interview session will be closed to the public and all other contestants.

## **Personality, Modeling, and Appearance**

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

1. Grooming, this should include neatness, cleanliness, fingernails, hair, hat, boots, and other western apparel.
2. Posture: How the contestant carries herself is very important, the judges will be looking for contestants to carry themselves straight, tall and exude self-confidence and poise.
3. 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.
4. Western fashion sense: contestants should pick outfits that reflect fashionable and tasteful western clothing. Judges will pay particular attention to the contestant's ability to use colors to enhance her natural coloring and enhance appearance and eye appeal.
5. Proper fit of clothing: above all contestants should pay attention to the fit of their 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.
6. This is not a fashion contest and we do not want contestants to spend a fortune on clothing; we just want to see you at your best in all styles.
7. Intelligence and good common sense.
8. Conversational ability in varied areas with an emphasis on grammar and enunciation.
9. Good sense of humor
10. Self-confidence, high moral standards, sincerity, and integrity
11. Genuine interest in other people and consideration of others
12. Self-Projection
13. Maturity
14. Educational background and aspirations

## **Horsemanship**

Contestants may begin warming up their horse upon arrival at the arena. The second go-round will not be revealed until this round at the contest. As horsemanship skills are a big part of rodeo and the equine industry, in-depth horsemanship questions will be asked following the second pattern.

The purpose of this category is to select the young lady who rates the highest in the following areas and per the guidelines below.

1. Horsemanship: Control of mount and the way each situation that may occur is handled
2. Balance: ability to sit correctly in the saddle
3. Position of hands, feet, and seat
4. Mounting and dismounting

5. Presentation of Queens Salute
6. Presentation of the flag
7. Showmanship
8. It is the responsibility of the contestants to make sure their hats stay securely on their heads. Failure to do so will result in point penalties.
9. The judges may elect to require the contestants to perform any other horsemanship related task they deem relevant.
10. Execution of a flag run will be required for Queen and Junior contestants.
11. Contestants must ride in a western style saddle with split reins. Two-handed riding is not permitted.
12. Should an unfair situation occur, at no fault of the contestant, a re-ride will be granted. Re-rides are at the sole discretion of the pageant judges.
13. Every element of the horsemanship portion of the competition will be scored regardless of execution of set pattern.
14. Failure to execute the set pattern will not constitute disqualification of contestant – Contestant will not receive full points
15. The judges have the right to ask the contestants questions during the horsemanship competition.
16. The contestants will provide their own horse for the horsemanship portion.
17. 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.

## **Knowledge**

The purpose of this division is to discover each contestant's ability to understand and comprehend the sport of rodeo and its events. Each contestant should be well versed in the following:

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. Tack                       | 6. Explanation of standard events                  |
| 2. Horse science              | 7. Championship standings                          |
| 3. Professional rodeo history | 8. Current issues of the pro rodeo circuit         |
| 4. Rodeo terminology          | 9. History of Belle Fourche, BH Roundup and Parade |
| 5. Rodeo rules                |  |

## **Miss Congeniality**

The contestants will pick the winner of this award. A ballot will be given to the contestant after their personal interview.

This will not be included in the total overall score it is just a way for the girls to recognize the contestant that they feel was the most congenial contestant. The Miss Congeniality award will be given in each of the three divisions voted on by all the contestants. In the event of a tie- the current Queen, Jr Miss and Princess will vote to break the tie.