

Columbia County Fair and Rodeo FLAG Court Application and Agreement

General Information

The Columbia County Fair and Rodeo Court Flag Team, (“Flag Team”) will consist of no more than 3 participants, as long as contestants receive eligible scores. The Flag Court travels throughout Columbia County representing the sport of rodeo at parades, and civic events.

Applicants must be between the ages of 13 and 18 as of January 1. The pageant will be held in conjunction with the Columbia County Fair and Rodeo, at the Columbia County Fairgrounds. Contestants will compete in a horsemanship, personal interview, modeling, speech, written test, and rodeo arena runs. Contestant’s application packets will also be judged and scored. Contestants will have scheduled appearances throughout the Columbia County Fair and Rodeo. A complete pageant schedule and information will be sent to each contestant upon the Fair Board receiving the contestant’s application. All contestants and their parents and/or guardians (if contestant is a minor) will be required to attend pageant orientation at the Columbia County Fair Office.

Applications are due by June 15th of the current year by 3:00pm to the Columbia County Fair Office at 58892 Saulser Rd, St. Helens, OR 97051. If June 15th occurs on a weekend or holiday, applications will be due the following business day.

Please include the following with your application packet in both hard copy and digital format (preferably a flash drive):

- Completed application
- Resume
- Statement on why you want to be on Flag Court (50 words or less)
- Bio (175 words or less)
- Written responses to each of the essay questions (350 words or less)
- 2 letters of recommendation
- 5”x7” color photo (vertical photo, with western attire including hat, no crown)

For more information or answers to your questions, please email Jessica Bickford by email at: jessica.j.bickford@gmail.com or cell phone: 503-523-7088.

Applicant Information

Name: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Emergency Contact: Name _____,
Phone _____, Address _____

Parent/Guardian Information (if contestant is a minor)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

E-mail: _____

Applicant Education / Training

Highest Level of Education: Name of School: _____

Cumulative GPA: _____ Expected Graduation Date: _____

Please List all Extra Curricular Activities:

Horse Information

Name of Horse: _____ Breed: _____ Age of Horse: _____

Description: _____

Do you own/have access to a horse trailer for transportation? YES or NO

*Please include a copy of signed Agreement if horse is leased.

Applicant Employment

Employer Name: _____

Location: _____ Part/Full Time: _____

Applicant Personal References (Family members not applicable): Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Relationship: _____

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Relationship: _____

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Relationship: _____

Have you been involved in Horse 4-H or FFA? _____. If so, please explain:

Have you previously represented another Rodeo Court as queen or princess, or represented another flag court? YES or NO

If so, please explain when and where:

On a separate sheet of paper, please include the following information typed in Times New Roman 12pt. font:

- Essay 1: 'My Ambition in Life entails...' (350 words or less)
- Essay 2: 'My equestrian experience includes...' (350 words or less)
- Essay 3: 'How I will manage Flag Court and my other commitments' (350 words or less)

Agreement

Before signing, the Rodeo Court Coordinator and Fair Board ask that you take a moment and reflect. Being a Flag Court member ("Member") is extremely demanding and it requires extreme dedication and drive from not only the Member, but their support system as well.

By signing this Agreement, the Rodeo Court Coordinator and Fair Board, expect that you understand that if chosen as a Member of the Flag Court you are agreeing to make Flag Court a top priority as you will not only be representing the Flag Court, but you will also be the face of Columbia County. You should think of this position as a job and it should be done to the best of your ability. With that, also realize that there will be times where you will have to put Flag Court before other aspects of your life.

Before you sign this Agreement, we want to make sure you are prepared and understand that this position is very demanding and we expect a lot from Members. We also want you to realize that if you decide to take this journey that we are here to support you and help you be successful and if you are committed 100% so are we. This could be a life changing experience and will help you grow, mature and develop many necessary skills but it will take hard work and determination.

If you understand and are willing to assume the responsibility of this position, please sign the Agreement, but if what we stated above does not sound doable and you're not willing to give this position 100% please deeply reflect on whether you really want to try out for this position.

1. I understand that I will be entrusted with chaps, and leather and Concho accents for the chaps (These will from now on be known as "rotating items"). By signing this, I understand that at no time are any of these rotating items my property and the Rodeo Court Coordinator has the right to take any of these items from me at any time.
2. I understand that any rotating item that I am entrusted with, I am responsible for all maintenance, repairs and/or replacement of these items. By initialing this I agree that if damages occur to these items I am responsible for paying for all repairs, maintenance and/or replacement of these items that the Rodeo Court Committee sees fit. I also understand that if the Rodeo Court Coordinator is not satisfied with how I am taking care of these items they have the right to take these from my possession and remove me from my position on the Rodeo Court as they see fit.
3. I agree to clean each of these items after each use. I agree to follow the specific cleaning instructions that I have been provided for these items. I understand that if I do not follow through with regular cleanings the Rodeo Court Coordinator has the right to recommend to the Fair Board to remove me from my position on the Rodeo Court.

I understand that by signing this, I agree to the terms set forth in this Agreement. I understand that if I do not sign this Agreement I am not eligible to be on the Flag Court.

I acknowledge that I have ready and fully understand the Columbia County Fair and Rodeo Flag Court Rules, attached and labeled as Exhibit B below, and I agree to comply with such rules as a contestant and if chosen, as a Member. I understand that if I do not follow the Columbia Court Fair and Rodeo Flag Court Rules, the Columbia County Fair Board may discipline me, up to and including dismissal from the Rodeo Flag Court, at the Fair Board's sole discretion.

Signature _____ Date _____
Member

I _____, parent/guardian of _____,
I understand that by signing this Agreement, I agree to abide by the Columbia County Fair and Rodeo Flag Court Rules, attached and labeled as Exhibit B below. I acknowledge that I have ready and fully understand the rules and I agree to comply with the rules as a parent/guardian if my child if chosen as a Member. I also understand that my child is liable for any damages that may occur to these items, and, by signing this I agree to be responsible for any damages of these items and that I, myself will pay for repair or replacement of these items if my child is unable to.

Signature _____
Parent/Guardian (if contestant is a minor)

Date: _____

FAIR BOARD ORDER 1-2020, EXHIBIT B

Columbia County Fair and Rodeo Court Rules

1. **Residential Requirements.** Each Columbia County Fair and Rodeo Flag Court member (“Member”) must be a Columbia County resident, unless the Fair Board approves non-resident participation on the Rodeo Flag Court. All non-Columbia County resident contestants must petition the Fair Board for approval prior to the application deadline of (JUNE 15TH) for the following year.
2. **Age Requirements.** Members must be between the ages of 13 and 18 as of January 1st.
3. **Physical Qualification.** Members must be physically capable of carrying out their Rodeo Court duties.
4. **Inherent Risks.** Members understand, acknowledge and accept that there are inherent risks of injury, damage or death that may result from performing equine activities and other duties as a Member.
5. **Education.** Members must either be a high school graduate or if still in middle or high school, be passing with a 75% in all their classes. Proof of passing grades may be required.
6. **Community Representation.** Appointment to the Flag Court is an honor that comes with significant expectations for each Member. Members act as the face of the Columbia County and the Rodeo & Fair Courts. Therefore, Members are expected to and must agree to conduct themselves in a professional manner while representing the Flag Court. Examples of professional conduct includes, but is not limited to, showing a positive attitude, acting as a team player, and using professional language. Examples of non-professional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - Use or possession of illegal drugs,
 - Use of tobacco, alcohol or marijuana,
 - Bullying or harassing behavior in any form, such as written, physical or verbal,

- Use of profanity or obscene language,
- Criminal activity,
- Public displays of a sexual nature,
- Public nudity (including, but not limited to, social media), and
- Abuse and/or neglect of Member's horse.

7. **Event Rules.** The Rodeo Court Coordinator is in charge of all Flag Court Events and will set specific rules of conduct for specific events as necessary. Members are required to follow all rules set by the Rodeo Court Coordinator. The following are general rules applicable to all events.

- Friends and family of members are not permitted to interact with Members during set up for, during, or after events until Members are released by the Rodeo Court Coordinator.
- Parents/guardians are permitted to drop off at designated event sites, and are encouraged to stay and watch the events. However, interaction with Members and the Rodeo Court Coordinator is not permitted while the Rodeo Court is preparing for an event or during the event. Rodeo Court Coordinator will determine when and where parents/guardians will meet Members after an event. Members are responsible for assuring that friends and family understand and abide by the event rules.
- Parents/guardians must comply with the Section 6, Community Representation, rules herein.

8. **Voluntary Services Agreement:** Members are required to sign and abide by the Columbia County Agreement for Voluntary Services.

9. **Code of Conduct Agreement:** Members agree to abide by the Columbia County Code of Conduct for Volunteers.

10. **Judging:** Members are selected by a panel of independent judges. Members will be judged on individual contestant performance in several categories which are finalized yearly by Coordinator. These categories include but are not limited

to Horsemanship (including in a parade, pattern, rail work, arena runs and flags), personal interview, modeling, speech, impromptu questions, written knowledge test (a broad base knowledge test including rodeo, horsemanship, horse husbandry, Columbia County facts, Columbia County Fair and Rodeo facts, and current events), personality, appearance, application packet and overall impression. Contestants must receive at least 75% in each category to be eligible for court.

11. **Court Reign:** The Flag Court will be chosen during the Columbia County Fair and Rodeo for the following year. A reign is for one calendar year (January 1 through December 31). Members may serve unlimited terms, provided that they are still eligible and are chosen at tryouts.
12. **Horses:** Members must own their own horse(s) or have a signed, long term lease. Members' horse(s) must be approved by the Coordinator before March 1 of their reign. Substitute horses must have the prior approval of the Coordinator. Members horses are required to have their 5 way and strangles vaccination by March 1 of their reign. Documentation of these vaccinations will be given to the Rodeo Court Committee to keep on file. Member's horse(s) are required to stay up to date on all worming's. Members will be required to have certified Horse Health Certificate and Cogins test done by March 1 of their reign. The Rodeo Court Committee will verify documentation of these tests. Members' horses must be kept clean, trimmed, and shod. The Rodeo Court Committee may require Members' horse(s) to wear shoes during the duration of the Members reign. No stallions, late term pregnant mares or mares with foals will be allowed.
13. **Member Travel:** Members are responsible for their own horse(s) and their own transportation. Travel and/or lodging and meal expenses are not provided, nor reimbursed. If the Flag Court chooses to fundraise or receive sponsorships for these expenses, they will be included.
14. **Tack and Clothing:** All items given to Members by the Rodeo Court Committee are property of the Flag Court until the completion of the members reign (December 31). The Rodeo Court Committee has the authority to remove any and/or all items from Members. All Members are expected to keep all tack, clothing or anything used for court purposes in good, presentable, working order. Any lost, stained, or torn clothing or tack must be repaired or replaced at

Member's expense immediately. No torn tack or clothing is acceptable at events. Revolving items (crown, tack, serape, etc.) are owned exclusively by the Columbia County and may not be altered in any way without the express permission of the Coordinator. Members will be required to sign the Flag Court Rotating Items Agreement. Members are required to carefully maintain revolving items during their reign. Any repair or replacements needed must be at the Member's expense and done so immediately.

15. **Court Presence:** Members are required to participate as a court (group) at all In-County events unless specified by the Rodeo Court Committee. A tentative schedule of events will be discussed, agreed upon and then presented to the Columbia County Fair Board for approval at their January Board Meeting prior to coronation. At which time they become "sanctioned events". The Rodeo Court Committee and Fair Board has the authority to add, change or remove events from the schedule at their discretion. Members will be notified of any additions to the schedule 30 days prior to the event. Any additional events the Flag Court wants to attend that are not sanctioned, or approved by the fair board, must have prior approval from the Coordinator and fair board prior to attending. All Members must be dressed in the appropriate Flag Court outfit, cleaned, pressed, hair and makeup done as designated by the Coordinator. The Rodeo Court Coordinator will decide what the flag court wears to events.

16. **Coaches/Trainers:** Coaches/Trainers are welcome and encouraged to watch the events. However, they are not allowed to be involved in decision making of any kind, whether related to court events, dress, or otherwise. The Coordinator will have the final authority of the Flag Court. Coaches/Trainers are not to "coach from the sidelines". Any Coach/Trainer that becomes disruptive may be asked to leave anytime at the Coordinator discretion. Court members are responsible for assuring that their Coaches/Trainers understand and abide by these rules.

17. **Financial:** The minimum amount each Member must raise is \$500.00. Members are required to have all \$500.00 turned in to the Rodeo Court Treasurer by December 1 to remain eligible to be on Flag court, failure to do so will result in immediate dismissal from the Flag Court. The funds raised will be deposited into the Columbia County Fair Fund, under the Rodeo Court & Flag Court Fund, for exclusive use by the Rodeo & Flag Courts. The monies can be raised through donations, sponsorships, or fundraisers. Sponsorships can be acquired from businesses, family, and friends. All sponsorships must have a sponsorship agreement filled out completely, signed by the sponsor and given to the Treasurer. All donations must have a donation receipt provided to the donor and a copy given to the Treasurer.
18. **Property Ownership:** Although court members may have input, all final decisions of clothing, tack, and other purchase decisions are the responsibility of the Coordinator. Any dispersal of funds is the responsibility of the Rodeo Court Treasurer. All items are the property of the Flag Court until the successful completion of the member's reign (December 31). If a court member does not complete her reign for any reason, all items must be returned to the Coordinator within 30 days of official dismissal.
19. **Attendance:** Attendance at all county events is mandatory. This includes Rodeo Court & Flag Court fundraising activities, daily attendance and participation at the Fair and Rodeo, practices, parades and other events or duties as assigned by Rodeo Court Coordinator. Any absences must have prior pre-approval by the Coordinator and with a valid reason. Valid reasons including, but are not limited to academic school activities (i.e. activities graded by Members school, that affect ones academic progress, ex. field trips, detention, graded choir/band concerts), 4H events, Family emergencies, and sickness. Valid reasons do not include extracurricular activities (i.e. sports, clubs, including OHSET, marching band, etc.). All requests to miss an event must be submitted to the Rodeo Court Committee at least one (1) month prior to the event. The Rodeo Court Committee will deliberate and respond to the request. The Rodeo Court Committee decision is final. If approval is not granted the Member will be required to attend the event. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence. The first unexcused absence will result in a verbal warning. The second unexcused absence will be a written reprimand and sent to the Fair Board. The third unexcused absence will result in dismissal from the Court. Members are

expected to arrive a minimum of 15 minutes early to each event as designated by the Coordinator. Tardiness may result in Member's exclusion from event. Excessive tardiness, (3 or more) may result in dismissal from the Flag Court.

20. **Agreement/Signature:** Members must agree to the Columbia County Fair and Rodeo Flag Court Rules herein and Columbia County Fair and Rodeo Flag Court Application Agreement, attached and labeled as Exhibit A above, at the orientation. Contestants and their parents/guardians (if member/contestant is a minor) who make it on the Columbia County Fair and Rodeo Flag Court must agree to sign the Rodeo Flag Court Rotating Items Agreement.
21. **Final Decisions:** The Rodeo Court Coordinator and the Fair Board have full authority in making final decisions in regards to the Flag Court, events, finances and disciplinary issues.
22. **Failure of a Member to comply with the Flag Court Rules may lead to discipline, but to and including removal from the Flag Court, in the Fair Board's sole discretion.**