



HARRIS COUNTY FAIR AND RODEO

**EXHIBITOR HANDBOOK
AND RULES**

2024

Date: 7/5/24 Revision

PRESENTED BY: HCF&R PAGEANT COMMITTEE

PAGEANT and ROYALTY RULES

Entry Deadline: September 1, 2024 at 11:55 pm
Late Entry Deadline: September 6, 2024 at 11:55 pm
Zoom Interviews: Saturday, September 14, 2024
Contest Date: Sunday, September 17, 2024 at 9:00 am

Jacinto City Town Center
1025 Oats Rd. Jacinto City, TX 77547

Purpose:

The purpose of this event is to select individuals who are most representative of Harris County Fair & Rodeo that possess outstanding attributes of personality, intelligence, presentation and grace.

Eligibility:

Eligibility requirements are per the latest release of the 2024 Harris County Fair General Rules ([HCF General and Livestock Rules](#)). Participants must compete in their accurate school grade, age and gender as of September 1st, 2024.

Divisions:

Girl's Pageant:

- Queen -12th Grade
- Princess -9th thru 11th Grade
- Junior Princess -6th thru 8th
- Little Princess – Kinder thru 5th

Boy's Royalty:

- King -12th Grade
- Prince -9th thru 11th
- Junior Prince -6th thru 8th
- Little Prince -Kinder thru 5th grade

Contest Format:

Contestants will be scored on appearance, presentation, *natural presentation*, and personality.

Attire is to be Western wear "Show Clothes": Jeans or length appropriate skirt, boots & western style shirt of their choice, hats are optional. Contestants attire shall be modest, no shorts, no cleavage, no mid drift shown, no tattoos, no body piercings, no guns/weapons (real or fake). Contestants must arrive ready. There will be no changing rooms and no hair/make up application setups allowed in the lobby or in Restrooms.

Each of the above age group representatives will be complete by participating in the following activities:

- Personal interview (high school ages only)

- Written exam (high school ages only)
- On stage introduction & thought question (littles can get help by the Pageant MC asking generic questions like name and age).

High school age interviews will occur over Zoom the day before the contest. A schedule will be emailed the week before the interviews occur. Interview Scoring: Interviews will be conducted with a panel of judges on a video conference call the day before the contest.

On contest day, a written test will be given and includes questions about the History of Harris County and basic livestock information. A study guide will be emailed to the email address listed on the entry form no less than 1 week prior to the contest.

The thought questions will be created by the committee and emailed to the email address listed on the entry form. The contestant's verbal Introduction must be no longer than 2 minutes.

Awards:

The King & Queen will be awarded a buckle, sash, crown and scholarship. The scholarship will be payable to the college of their choice at the end of their reign and fulfilling all their required duties. All other age divisions will be awarded a buckle and sash.

Entry Fees:

Entry Fee each contestant: \$30 Deadline: September 1st, 2024
 Late Entry: \$60 Deadline: September 6th, 2024

Additional Optional Divisions:

a. Age Divisions Best of:

Contestants may also enter the following categories for an additional \$10 entry fee. The following division will be judged during their onstage interview, thought question & runway walk. Each age division winners will receive a prize.

- i. Best Smile (All age divisions)
- ii. Best Hair (All age divisions)
- iii. Best Outfit (All age divisions)
- iv. Best Personality (All age divisions)

b. Best Resume:

For a \$10 additional fee, any 9th-12th grade contest may bring a Job Resume to be judged all together for a prize.

c. Photography:

Each contestant of any Age Division may enter up to 3 plain 8x10 portrait/photographs in each of the divisions listed below. Contestant must be in each photo and the only person in the photo. The photo must include the contestant's name and age on the back. Photos shall not be mounted on boards, framed or matted in any way.

- i. Western Outfit
- ii. Patriotic Outfit
- iii. Black and White Portrait/Photography
- iv. Color Portrait/Photography

d. Top Hand:

This title will be awarded to the participant who earns the highest dollar amount from sponsorships. To be eligible, a contestant must be entered in the Harris County Fair & Rodeo Pageant & Royalty contest.

The winner of this event will receive a crown, belt buckle and sash.

Every Contestant will be entered into the Top Hand award which is given to the exhibitor who raises the most money in sponsorships. Contestants can sell Sponsorship Buckles, Livestock Premiums, Buckles, and/or Packages through our website before the day prior to the Contest. The Sponsorship Packages are Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze and come with several benefits to the sponsor. If buckles remain to be sponsored, contestants may also sell 1 or more buckles towards their sponsorship. Packages may be easier to raise sponsorships which come with benefits vs just asking for donations. There is no entry fee for this Top Hand division. Contestants cannot win multiple scholarships or titles. Should a contestant win their category and Top Hand, they will forfeit the Top Hand awards and the Top Hand awards will go to the contestant with the next highest sponsorship total.

Sponsorship payments may be paid online at [Become a Sponsor \(hcfairandrodeo.org\)](https://hcfairandrodeo.org). If checks are mailed, they must be received by Thursday, September 12th, 2024 @ 600 Hwy 290 East, Hempstead Texas, 77445. Sponsorship Checks can be made out to Harris County Fair and Rodeo Association.

PAGEANT RULES AND WINNER REQUIREMENTS:

- 1.) As stated in the Harris County Fair General Rules, all Contestants are required to be in a FFA chapter or 4-H club within Harris County. Additional proof of residence or verification of enrollment is requested on the entry form online. If it is not supplied online, it shall be supplied by the contestant at the contest check in.
- 2.) All title holders must remain a resident of Harris County for the duration of their reign, that ends during the sequent year's Pageant & Royalty Contest.
- 3.) Each pageant/royalty court title holder must maintain eligibility during their reign.
- 4.) Each contestant **MUST** secure a minimum of \$100 in sponsorship. Sponsorships are DUE Friday night before (Sept. 13, 2024, by 11:55 pm) the competition September 15, 2024. Sponsorship payments may be paid online at [Become a Sponsor \(hcfairandrodeo.org\)](https://www.becomeasponsor.com). If checks are mailed, they must be received by Thursday, September 12th, 2024 @ 600 Hwy 290 East, Hempstead Texas, 77445. If you are unsure about if your sponsor sent a payment, you may send an inquiry to info@hcfairandrodeo.org.

Note: no cash or money can be exchanged on the day of the contest.

- 5.) Each Contestant (on the day of the contest) shall bring Thank you notes with stamped and addressed envelopes for each sponsor they have received from.
- 6.) Judges will be selected by the Pageant and Royalty Committee. Any protests must be in writing and accompanied by a deposit of \$200, which will be forfeited if the protest is not sustained. Such protest must state plainly the cause of complaint and must be sent to the fair email addressed to the Committee Chairman no later than 9 AM the morning after the judging.
- 7.) Each title holder will have an assigned liaison from the Harris County Fair & Rodeo Pageant & Royalty Committee. They will Communicate with their liaison at least once a month for events, Academic Eligibility, etc.
- 8.) All title holders and anyone who accompanies them to events must conduct themselves in a manner appropriate of a representative of the Harris County Fair & Rodeo at all times. No alcohol, no disruptive behavior is allowed.
- 9.) The 6th- 12th grade Title holders of the Harris County Fair pageant & Royalty contest shall attend various functions of the Harris County Fair throughout their reign and support the Fair when asked for assistance. They shall promote the principals of the Harris County Fair in all their endeavors at a minimum of 4 events.

- Little divisions are **NOT required** to do presentations but strongly encouraged.
 - Appearances must take place between November 1, 2024 till August 1, 2025.
 - Appearances do not include the 2024 Harris County Fair & Rodeo, Jackpot show, or Fair fundraisers where title holders' appearance is mandatory.
- 10.) Each title holder must return for the 2025 Pageant to crown the new Pageant & Royalty Winners.
- 11.) Only pageant/royalty court are to wear sashes, crown &/or belt buckle. Including but not limited to teachers, parents, siblings, friends, family. When the pageant/royalty court is wearing the sash, crown, &/or belt buckle they are to wear them properly. Crown is to be on center of head, or western hat. Crown can NOT be around neck or tilted on side of head. Sash is to be worn crossbody only and NOT over the shoulder or tied off of objects, like bags or backpacks.
- 12.) If a member of the 2024 pageant/royalty court violates any rules during their reign or is unable to fulfill their duties, they shall lose the title, crown, buckle, sash, and scholarships and will be required to return them. The title is contingent upon maintaining good behavior and adhering to the established guidelines throughout their reign. It is important to understand that the buckle, crown and sash are not prizes that can be kept, but symbols of the honor and responsibilities of the title, which must be upheld at all times. The Harris County Pageant & Royalty Committee will make the final decision on rule violations where deemed necessary.

HARRIS COUNTY FAIR AND RODEO PAGEANT & ROYALTY CONTEST

Important Dates

September 1st, 2024 by 11:55 pm - Entry deadline

September 6th, 2024 by 11:55 pm - Late entry deadline (entry fee doubles)

September 12th, 2024 - All Sponsorship checks are to be received by Thursday, at 600 Hwy 290 East, Hempstead Texas, 77445.

September 13th, 2024 by 11:55 pm - All online submitted Sponsorship payments are to be received at [Become a Sponsor \(hcfairandrodeo.org\)](https://hcfairandrodeo.org).

September 14th, 2024 – Zoom interviews for high school contestants

September 15th, 2024 - Harris County Fair & Rodeo Pageant & Royalty Contest

Schedule

**Times are Subject to change per the committee and will be updated here **

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| 9:00 am | Doors Open for check in (high school ages only) |
| 10:00 am | King, Queen, Prince & Princess contestants begin written exams |
| 11:00 am | All other age divisions arrive to check in |
| 11:30 am | All ages on stage introduction, runway walk & thought question, starting with youngest to oldest. |
| 12:30 –1:00 pm | Estimated - Crowning begins |