Pennsylvania Fair Queen Program

OFFICIAL FAIR CONTEST PACKET

RESPOND BY

May 31

To receive the 2023 State Competition Application

\ *Pennsylvania*

Fair Queen Program

2022 PA Fair Queen
Anna Haldeman

TO PSACF FAIR MEMBERS

The ***PA Fair Queen Program*** invites your Fair to conduct a Fair Queen Contest at your 2022 event.

Winners become eligible to advance to the 2023 State Competition at next year's PSACF Convention. The new PA Fair Queen and her Alternate both receive a scholarship as well as the opportunity to travel PA gathering memories, forging new relationships, and enhancing skills and abilities…all while promoting PA Fairs and agriculture.

It has been exciting to watch the Program grow from just 14 Fairs in 1987 to as many as 61 contestants! Fairs are seeing how the fair queen experience helps many of these young women to build confidence, further their education, and open doors to meaningful careers in agriculture, management, education, science, healthcare, law, politics, public relations, marketing, foreign exchange, and administration.

Being part of the Fair Queen Program is a great way for your Fair to invest in the future generation of Pennsylvania's young women. The enclosed packet contains information to get you started:

1. **Contest Rules, Judging Criteria and Obligations** – Also includes estimated costs* associated with participation in the 2023 State Competition.

2. **Request Form for the PA Fair Queen** – Having the PA Fair Queen at your Fair is a great way to publicize your special events. And there is little cost to the Fair! (*see Form for details*).
   Requests are to be made using the Official Form and should be submitted at least 8 weeks prior to your event. They are handled in the order they are received and based on the PA Fair Queen's availability.

We hope that your Fair will be part of our PA Fair Queen family in 2022!

Contact:
Karen Dobson, State Contest Coordinator
Mail: 9 Ebelhare Road, Pottstown, PA 19465
Phone: 610-212-6180 **Email:** pastatefairqueen@gmail.com

Released March 2022

* *based on the previous Convention*

Pennsylvania Fair Queen Program

WHAT THE FAIR NEEDS TO DO

❑ **SIGN UP** – register to be in the database and receive changes/updates throughout the year

1. Complete the Google online form
   https://forms.gle/Qe4rt2ucNHKBowmYA
   OR
2. Mail or email the paper form included in this packet

❑ **DOWNLOAD** the Fair Queen Contest Packet
https://www.pafairs.org/p/members/queen-program

1. Contest Rules
2. Behavior and Dress Code Policies
3. Rules, Judging Criteria, Obligations
4. Estimated Costs for State Competition
5. PA State Fair Queen Obligations and Visitation Expenses

❑ **PLAN & CONDUCT CONTEST**

1. Advertise the **2022 Official Contests Rules** in your Fair's Premium Book.
2. **Accept contestants who meet the age and other eligibility requirements** as set forth in the official PA State Fair Queen Program Rules.

❑ **POST CONTEST**

1. **Certified winner of the fair's queen contest completes the online State Contest Application form** and uploads the required application documents by 11:59 pm, November 15.

WHAT THE PA FAIR QUEEN PROGRAM DOES

Provides the following:

1. Official **Rules, Policies, Judging Criteria** and **Contest Requirements**
2. **Courtesy Email and Social Media reminders** about upcoming deadlines and contest updates
3. **Contestant Handbook** after November 30 to all eligible state contestants and their coordinators.
4. **Training and webinars** as necessary

Pennsylvania Fair Queen Program

CONTEST STRUCTURE, RULES, JUDGING & OBLIGATIONS

The purpose of the Program is twofold: (1) to promote the education of young women in Pennsylvania through the operation of a scholarship program providing educational opportunities for selected applicants; and (2) to promote greater public understanding and awareness of agriculture and its importance to Pennsylvania.

CONTACT INFORMATION: For questions or concerns, contact the appropriate Committee person

- **Applications and State Contest** - Karen Dobson - 610-212-6180
- **Fundraising – Baskets/Auction -** Amy Hawn – 814-386-1860
  50/50 Raffle - Ruth Trumbetta – 724-433-3571
  Sponsorships - Judy Kmetz – 570-675-2952
- **PA Fair Queen Event Appearances -** Martha Ebersole - 717-834-4435

COMPETITION STRUCTURE:

PSACF member fairs in good standing are invited to conduct a preliminary Fair Queen contest for the purpose of sending a contestant to the State competition.

The purpose of the State competition is to select the new PA State Fair Queen and one (1) Alternate from this group of contestants who will represent the PA State Association of County Fairs and the Department of Agriculture for one (1) year. The Queen and Alternate receive a $2,500 and $1,000 scholarship, respectively, upon meeting all obligations.

After the State competition, the new PA State Fair Queen will serve in the following capacities:

1. Attend and participate in events/activities at Fairs across Pennsylvania.
2. Represent Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs at State-sanctioned events and appearances
3. Promote greater public understanding, awareness, and interest in Pennsylvania agriculture.

RULES:

Below are the Official PA Fair Queen Program rules. All Fairs participating in the Program must use all of the Contest Rules listed below for their Queen contest. Rules must be listed in the Fair's Premium Book. All contestants must have received all rules in advance of the competition. All contestants must comply with all the rules to be eligible for competition. These same rules will be used for the State Competition.

The PA State Fair Queen Program is not responsible for any other rules that a fair adds to PA Fair Queen Program-approved rules *(ex: county residency, talent, entry fees, etc.)*

Each Fair Queen contestant must

1. Be a female who is a U.S. citizen and a resident of Pennsylvania.
2. Be at least age 16, but no older than 20, years of age as of June 1 of the year entering the local contest.
3. Be certified as the winner by the local fair where she was crowned.
4. Have not been a former local Fair Queen winner, nor a former PA Fair Queen contestant.
5. Not hold any other State title for any other commodity group or pageant during her reign.
6. Have her parent(s)' or guardian(s)' consent to enter the competition.
7. Be single, have never been married, have not been pregnant nor given birth to a child.
8. Act in accordance with the PA Fair Queen "Behavior Policy" – *see attached*
9. Meet all time commitments, Queen obligations and "Dress Code" as set forth by the PA Fair Queen Program – *see attached*.

STATE COMPETITION JUDGING CRITERIA:

1. **Written Essay** on the topic **"What My Fair Means To My Community".**
   (300 words or less)
   Judging Criteria: Content, Grammar, and Spelling.

2. **Personal Interview** - each contestant will meet alone with the panel of 3 judges.
   Judging Criteria: Conversational ability, the answers to the questions, appearance/poise/presence, activities, interview conduct, and knowledge of the fair industry.

3. **Speech Presentation** on the topic **"Why You Should Come To My Fair"** (3-5 minutes; timed event).
   Persuasive speech appropriate for an audience of adults. The audience is the panel of 3 judges along with any other parents, fair members, or guests who wish to view the presentations.
   Props that enhance this speech for this targeted audience are permitted, but not required. Contestants are judged on the effectiveness of their public speaking skills; not "entertainment".
   Overhead projectors or Powerpoint presentations are not permitted.
   Judging Criteria: speech content (to include agriculture), speech format, conveys the importance of PA Fairs, public speaking ability, and poise/presence.

4. **Evening Gown/Introduction** - this segment is conducted on stage, in front of the convention banquet guests (approximately 1,000 people) including the 3 Judges. Each Contestant makes a personal introduction to the audience, similar to that which a Fair Queen would give when visiting a Fair or other public event. The Contestant has approximately **15 seconds** to make this introduction.
   Judging Criteria: content, stage presence, and appearance.

FAIR QUEEN BEHAVIOR POLICY:

The Contest's governing Board shall have the sole discretion to determine whether, in its judgment, the Queen, Alternate or Contestants may continue to participate in the Program, in the event that the Board determines that any statement or representation is not true and accurate, or that any action is inconsistent with the rules, standards and dignity of the Program.

The following will be considered violations of the Policy and will be grounds for immediate disqualification, dismissal and/or being banned from future Queen competitions:

1. Any infractions of any Queen Contest rules.
2. Smoking, drinking alcoholic beverages, chewing gum, foul language and/or public displays of affection to dates/boyfriends while wearing crown and/or sash and representing the Queen Program.
3. Engagement in any illegal, unpartisan, unethical, indecent and/or morally questionable behavior, including but not limited to online representations on the Internet such as social networking sites (*Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok, etc.*)
4. Use of any illegal controlled dangerous substances or abusing the use of alcohol or other dangerous substances.
5. Any defamation of the Queen Contest, its winners and contestants, and the Fair or the PA Fair Queen Program and their Directors and Committee members, whether it be oral or written. This includes postings on social media.
6. Any uncooperative or unsportsmanlike conduct before, during or after the competition.
7. Appearing in crown and banner at any event without an official invitation from an authorized event coordinator or event board member.

FAIR QUEEN DRESS CODE:

Wearing of the Fair Queen crown and/or sash is to be considered an honor and privilege. The bearer is now an ambassador representing herself, her family, her community and Fair. Put the effort into making a good impression!

While fashion styles may change, good taste does not!

Therefore responsible, appropriate, and professional appearance is expected while the Queen is wearing her crown and sash.
Attire should be conducive to the specific appearance or event (i.e. banquet, business casual, formal, etc.)
Alterations to the attire rules may be made only if

1. severe weather or unsafe conditions exist and
2. the Fair Queen's official coordinator or Board Member has approved an alteration consistent with the professional appearance expectation.

GENERAL APPEARANCE ATTIRE RULES

1. No Jeans
2. No outfit that shows cleavage.
3. Dresses/skirts must be no shorter than the height of a dollar bill (approx 2.5") from the bottom of the dress/skirt hem to the top of the knee cap.
4. No clothing that advertises, promotes, or glorifies the use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or anything inconsistent with the dignity of the Queen Program.
5. No visible piercings (other than earrings); no visible tattoos

FOOTWEAR RULES

1. No Sneakers
2. No Flip Flops
3. No Boots – rule applies to
   a) NO cowboy/western style boots
   b) NO thigh-high or over-the-knee boots,
   c) NO muck boots,
   d) NO work boots
   "Shoe Boots", with or without a heel, are permitted if the shoe boots are no higher than ankle height (*see Figure 1)*

LIVESTOCK BARNS & SHOW RING ATTIRE

1. If the fair queen is a visitor in the livestock barns or show rings:
   a. follow the General Appearance Attire and Footwear Rules (slacks, dresses, skirts)
   b. Crown and Banner
   c. Closed-toe shoes for safety reasons.
2. If the fair queen is in the show barns and/or ring as an exhibitor:
   a. Khaki or similar boot-cut style pants and a presentable shirt (no jeans) (*See Figure 2)*
   b. NO Crown. NO Banner
   c. Closed-toe shoes for safety reasons.
   d. If the fair queen is also presenting ribbons or awards during her time as an exhibitor, then she may only wear her crown and banner for presentation segment; but not while showing livestock.
3. Boots may be permitted in livestock barns and/or show ring if worn with pants (*see 2.a. above*) and the pant legs are worn out over the boots (*see Figure 3)*

Figure 1: shoe boots no higher than ankle height

Figure 2: livestock exhibitor attire

Figure 3: boots permitted in livestock barns and show ring if worn with pants and the pant legs are worn out over the boots

Released March 2022

STATE COMPETITION COSTS:

Below is a summary *of the estimated costs that are associated with being a contestant in the State competition. Prices subject to change*. *

Contest Registration fee **$125.00**
Pays for Contestant Handbook mailing, (1) Convention registration, (1) Convention banquet meal ticket, (1) Pizza Party ticket, (1) Coronation ticket, and other contestant items.

Hotel Accommodations ($125 @ 3 nights, double occupancy)..... $375.00
Mileage ..... *depends on distance from Hershey*

Meals (beyond what is included in the Registration Fee) *price per person*
- Thursday breakfast (hotel restaurant)..... $18.00
- Thursday lunch (hotel restaurant)..... $22.00
- Friday breakfast (Communication Awards)..... $20.00
- Friday lunch (hotel restaurant)..... $22.00
- Saturday breakfast (hotel restaurant) $18.00

Clothing (suits for interview/speech; gown for banquets).....varies
Raffle Item – Restaurant Gift Card for Live Auction..... $25.00

OPTIONAL
Contestants' Group Photo (optional) $15.00
Commemorative Queen Program Blanket or Tote (optional) $40.00
Hair Styling & Makeup (optional service through the Queen Program)..... $12.00

NOTE[1]: Each Fair is responsible for all other costs associated with the State Contestant's participation in the competition including travel, hotel accommodations and other meals.

* NOTE[2]: Additional costs apply for the Contestant's parents/guardians/chaperones, as well as any other family members. Guests can purchase banquet tickets only, but if they are participating in any Convention events, they must also pay Convention registration.

PA FAIR QUEEN OBLIGATIONS:

The winner receives a $2,500 scholarship upon meeting the following obligations:

1. Attend all PA State Fair Queen Program sanctioned events including, but not limited to: Cornucopia (*Harrisburg*), Ag Progress Days (*Rock Springs, PA*), Farm-City Day (*Harrisburg*), the Pennsylvania Farm Show (*Harrisburg*), and the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs' convention (*Hershey*).
2. Attend fairs in each of the four (4) zones of the PA State Association of County Fairs (PSACF), when invited.
3. Attend other events/obligations that may arise on behalf of the PSACF.
4. Keep an Event Summary log (Event name and location, purpose/target audience, number of attendees, and contact person).
5. Make a Scrapbook and create a Display for the 2023 PSACF Convention showing how she promoted fairs and agriculture during her reign.
6. Write and submit an article for the quarterly PSACF newsletters.
7. Attend and participate in the entire 2023 PA Fair Queen competition and crown the 2023 PA Fair Queen.
8. Show proof of scholarship eligibility by presenting a current tuition bill or grade report from her college/university.
9. Be exclusively the PA Fair Queen for her entire reign and do not participate in any other pageants nor hold a title for any other commodity group during that time.

PA FAIR QUEEN VISITATION EXPENSES:

1. The PA Fair Queen Program will reimburse the PA Fair Queen's mileage (based on current IRS rate) upon receipt of a signed Voucher from the inviting Fair that verifies the correct mileage and the visitation date.

2. The inviting Fairs are responsible to reimburse the PA Fair Queen for:
   a) her meals during her time on the fairgrounds and
   b) her overnight lodging *(if necessary).*

3. Fairs are not obligated to reimburse any other visiting fair queens for any expenses.

4. The PA State Fair Queen Program reimburses only the PA Fair Queen for her approved expenses for her obligated sanctioned events.

5. If Fairs choose to invite both the PA Fair Queen and the Alternate, the PA Fair Queen Program will only reimburse the PA Fair Queen for her mileage expenses. It is the responsibility of either the inviting Fair or the Alternate to cover the Alternate's mileage expenses.

END

Pennsylvania Fair Queen Program

REQUEST FOR STATE COMPETITION APPLICATION PACKET

NOTE: It is preferred that this information be submitted online. Complete the Google online form at https://forms.gle/Qe4rt2ucNHKBowmYA
If you are unable to use the online option, then submit this paper form by mail or email (*Instructions below*).

The PA Fair Queen Program requires each Fair interested in entering a fair queen contestant in the 2022 state competition to complete and **submit this form by MAY 31**.

The information will be used to update the Program's database and ensure that the fair receives contest news and updates.

There is no obligation. This request form simply puts the fair on the list of potential contestants for planning and notification purposes by the PA Fair Queen Program.

FAIR NAME: _____
List name exactly as it is to appear in all contest documents

Date of your local 2022 Fair Queen contest _____

FAIR'S QUEEN CONTEST
PRIMARY CONTACT PERSON*: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____
Street or PO Box

_____ PA _____
City *Zip Code*

EMAIL: _____
This must be an active email account that is monitored frequently.

PHONE NUMBER: _____ TEXT: _____
This must be an active phone line that is monitored frequently. *OPTIONAL if you would like to Opt-In to the PA Fair Queen Coordinators' text group*

CERTIFICATIONS:

- I understand that the 2023 State Competition Application Packet will only be available by download from the pafairs.org website after June 1. Packets will NOT be mailed. ☐ YES
- I understand that the completed State Application will be due by November 15, 2022 and must be submitted online. Paper applications will NOT be accepted. ☐ YES

COMMENTS:

SUBMIT BY MAY 31. Submit Options:

Complete & Submit form online at https://forms.gle/Qe4rt2ucNHKBowmYA
Mail to: Karen Dobson, 9 Ebelhare Rd, Pottstown, PA 19465 Scan to Email to: pastatefairqueen@gmail.com

2022 *Pennsylvania Fair Queen Program*

PA FAIR QUEEN APPEARANCE REQUEST FORM

The PA Fair Queen and First Runner-Up are great assets for promoting events at your Fair or Agricultural Show. To schedule an appearance, complete this form and return it to the ***PA State Fair Program, c/o Events Coordinator Martha Ebersole, 640 Dellville Rd. Duncannon, PA 17020 **** *Home Phone (717) 834-4435 or email your request to* **mebasket@embarqmail.com** *Please note mileage reimbursement policy below**

Today's Date: _____ **Appearance Request Date**: _____

Requestor's Name: _____

Fair or Organization's Name: _____

Specific Instructions for the PA Fair Queen as to her activities during the Fair appearance
(*e.g. opening ceremony, parade, present awards, contests, etc. Give as much detail as possible*)

Event Address (*give the GPS - Physical Address*)

Street: _____

Nearest Crossroad: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Start Time of the Appearance/Event: _____ **Time to Arrive By**: _____

Where to Report once PA Fair Queen arrives onsite: (*e.g. fair office, main stage, etc*.)

_____

Event Contact Person: _____ **Title**: _____

Contact Phone: (day) _____ (evening) _____

Contact Email: (please print clearly) .....

Name of Person authorized to sign the PA Fair Queen's Voucher verifying mileage* and date of visit:

_____

* The PA Fair Queen Program will reimburse the PA Fair Queen for approved mileage upon receipt of the Voucher signed by the authorized Event Contact Person. The inviting Fair is only responsible to reimburse the PA Fair Queen for: a) her meals while she is at the event location and b) her overnight lodging (*if necessary*)