



Jefferson County Fair Royalty Pageant Quick Reference Guide

Answers to frequently asked questions and information to help contestants prepare for pageant day!

Mission:

Our goal for the JCFA royalty pageant program is to provide young ladies who reside in Jefferson County with the following: the opportunity to showcase their talents, the opportunity to build leadership and public speaking skills, the opportunity to earn money toward higher education, and the opportunity to learn about the importance of our fair and the role of agriculture in Jefferson County and everyday life.

Committee:

Our committee is made up of fair board members and former fair queens as well as additional volunteers.

Judges:

Our panel of judges changes each year and is made up of judges who do not live in Jefferson County. This has been the practice for many years and we have found this to be the fairest way to score contestants. We also require that our judges must not have close ties to any school district or extracurricular activity that could afford any contestant an advantage. In addition, we also employ an auditor with the same requirements who tabulates the scores for the overall totals.

Scoring:

Our scoring system aligns with the PA State Fair Queen scoring in order to give our queen contestants an experience that most closely resembles the state competition. Final scores and point values are never disclosed in order to protect the integrity of our scoring system. Fan's choice awards may be voted on by participating members of the audience--fan's choice votes do not count toward overall results. The areas of competition which factor into final scores are listed below.

<p>Princess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction: content, stage presence, poise/appearance • On-Stage Question: accuracy, appropriateness, expression/diction/grammar, poise/appearance, personality • Talent: entertainment value, execution/technique/degree of difficulty, stage presence, poise/appearance <p>Junior Queen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction: content, stage presence, poise/appearance • On-Stage Question: accuracy, appropriateness, expression/diction/grammar, poise/appearance, personality • Talent: entertainment value, execution/technique/degree of difficulty, stage presence, poise/appearance 	<p>Queen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written essay: content, grammar, spelling • Pre-Pageant Interview: conversational ability, quality of answers, poise/appearance, fair knowledge, conduct, activities • Speech Presentation: content, format, public speaking ability, poise/appearance, presence • Introduction/Evening Gown: content, stage presence, poise/appearance • On-Stage Question: accuracy, appropriateness, expression/diction/grammar, poise/appearance, personality
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Event:

At present, this event is being held the same day as the opening ceremonies for the fair. The committee will continue to accept feedback and respond accordingly in order to address any concerns regarding the overall length of the pageant. It is the request of the committee that junior queen and princess pageant participants arrive in time to celebrate the opening of the fair by observing the opening ceremonies which start at 1:30 pm. The pageant start time is approximately 2:30 pm. Queen contestants must arrive earlier to accommodate speech and interview time slots, TBA.

Format:

In 2019, the pageant format evolved to include all competition areas followed by coronations of all age groups. In 2021, the pageant will follow the same overall format, however the queen speeches will be removed from the main pageant portion and will be performed prior to the start of opening ceremonies. The running order for the pageant will be as follows:

1:00-1:25 Pageant Check-In (Receive participation gifts and materials)

1:30 Opening Ceremonies

2:30 (approx.) Start of pageant by 2019 royalty

Contestant Introductions: Princess, Junior Queen, Queen

Princess: On-stage question, talent

Junior Queen: On-stage question, talent

Queen: On-stage question

Coronations (fans choice, auxiliary awards, royalty): Princess, Junior Queen, Queen

Photos



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Frequently Asked Questions

How many girls compete in each age division?

The number of participants vary from year to year, however the registration is capped at 15 contestants per age group. If more than 15 participants register to compete, a waiting list will be created. Registration is first come, first served.

What type of clothing should be worn?

Contestants should wear attire that makes them feel and appear comfortable, confident, and polished. The judges are looking for age-appropriate, flattering attire. Short casual dresses and longer gowns are both acceptable. Costume/attire for talent should be appropriate for the performance. Queen contestants should wear business appropriate attire for their speech and pre-pageant interview.

What is expected for the introduction?

Contestants should introduce themselves to the crowd and judges and include basic facts such as their name, age, and contestant number. Contestants can also include additional facts about themselves such as extracurricular hobbies, hometown, likes/dislikes, etc. The introduction should last no more than 10-15 seconds. The introduction should be unique and afford the judges the opportunity to see the contestant's personality.

What should be involved in a talent presentation?

Talent presentations can be as short as necessary to convey the talent adequately, and cannot be longer than 5 minutes. Talent presentations lasting longer than 5 minutes will be subject to point deductions. Accommodations can be made for almost any type of talent presentation, however it should be noted that contestants who perform a gymnastic/tumbling routine requiring mats will be grouped together in running order to minimize stage set-up/tear-down. Parents and contestants are responsible for setting up and tearing down stage items that are needed for talents including (but not limited to): props, instruments, music stands, tumbling mats, etc.

What are some of the expectations for the winning contestants during the fair?

Royalty court members should expect to be at the fairgrounds for a couple of hours each evening throughout the duration of the fair, as many evenings as possible. The Fair Authority strongly encourages the winners and runners up to attend as many evenings of the fair as possible by extending free admission all week to crown-and sash-bearers and two additional week-long passes for family members/guardians. Some activities the royalty court may participate in include awarding livestock ribbons, handing out grandstand event trophies, singing the national anthem for grandstand events, etc.

Do the winners have any other responsibilities?

The fair pageant committee will help to facilitate any winning contestants who want to participate in parades throughout the region during the year of their reign. In the past, winners have ridden in the Brockway and Corsica 4th of July parades, the Laurel Festival parade, the ALF parade, and others. There are also numerous events at the fairgrounds throughout the year as well as fundraisers for the royalty program where titleholders are encouraged to attend. Finally, contestants are encouraged to request permission to attend any event as a titleholder—we want you to be a shining star in our community on behalf of the fair. The fair queen should plan to participate in the PA State Fair Queen pageant (the following January).

How can contestants and families get additional information?

Registered contestants are required to attend the pre-pageant meeting to be held the week preceding the pageant (date and time TBA). At this meeting, contestant running order will be determined and contestants can bring their music selections to practice their talent and ensure compatibility with the sound system. Contestants will also use this time to decorate their fan's choice vote box, materials will be provided for this activity.

Any other questions or concerns can be addressed using the contact information below. The Jefferson County Fair Authority looks forward to a great 2021 royalty pageant. Thank you for your interest in our program.

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