

MISS COWBOY CULTURE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Official Rules & Regulations

Revised
December 20, 2009

MISS COWBOY CULTURE CELEBRATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship Program is held annually to select a young lady who has the desire and enthusiasm to serve as a goodwill ambassador for the Cowboy Culture Celebration.

The Cowboy Culture Celebration Board of Directors has pledged to make the program memorable for each contestant. The Board is confident that the young lady chosen will represent the Cowboy Culture Celebration and this city in a grand manner, while promoting our Western Heritage.

WHO IS MISS COWBOY CULTURE?

Miss Cowboy Culture symbolizes the youth of our community and those who wish to promote and preserve our Western Heritage. In so doing, she will promote the great western way of life. She is an ideal Western type American girl who has an appealing appearance, a congenial personality, and knowledge of the equine industry, city of Dublin, TX, and Dublin's great ranching and rodeo history. She is a young lady who enjoys travel and has a sincere interest in garnering educational experiences that will assist in laying a solid foundation for her future.

WHAT TYPE OF YOUNG LADY DOES THE MCC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ATTRACT?

- ∞ The young lady who wishes to be a representative of her state, city of Dublin, and our Western Heritage.
- ∞ The young lady who loves horses and rodeo and everything they represent.
- ∞ The young lady who portrays unmatched sportsmanship, high moral and ethical character.
- ∞ The young lady who understands and loves the Western way of life and who has the knowledge of that lifestyle to promote sport it to someone who may know nothing of it.
- ∞ The ambitious young lady who is interested in furthering her chosen career through higher education and special training.
- ∞ The young lady who is able to speak intelligently and display dignity in all situations.

THE ROLE OF MISS COWBOY CULTURE

- Promote the Cowboy Culture Celebration via speaking engagements within the local communities – Rotary, Lions, Optimist, etc.
- Promote the Cowboy Culture Celebration through on-air radio interviews at local radio stations.
- Represent Cowboy Culture Celebration at local parades and rodeos.
- Interact with Cowboy Culture Celebration sponsors.
- Attend Cowboy Culture Celebration planning meetings throughout the year as available.
- Attend and support the Cowboy Culture Celebration.
- Help organize and promote the 2011 Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship Program.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Miss Cowboy Culture contestants must be between the ages of 16 and 20 as of Jan 1, 2010.
2. Contestants must live in Texas and commit to attending two or more monthly events in and around the Dublin/Comanche/DeLeon/Stephenville area. Additionally, Miss Cowboy Culture must attend the Cowboy Culture events in Dublin, TX April 23-24, 2010.
3. Contestants must be single and have never been married.
4. Contestants may not have children.
5. Eligible contestants may be high school students or attending a community college, technical college or university. Contestants who have completed high school but are not currently at a college, technical college, or university must provide proof of admission or enrollment no later than May 1st, 2010.
6. Contestants under the legal age of 18 as of January 1, 2010 may not participate in the Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship Pageant without written consent from her parents or legal guardians. All contestants shall agree in writing to observe and comply with all of these rules and regulations, as they exist now and as subsequently amended.
7. No person shall be deemed a contestant until an application to act as a contestant has been approved in writing by the Cowboy Culture Celebration Board of Directors, either directly or indirectly. The CCC Board of Directors expressly reserves the sole right to accept or reject any application as it may in its sole discretion deem appropriate.

8. Contestants must not have been convicted of any crime.
9. Contestants must be born a female.
10. Contestants must never have, nor will she during her reign, pose for any photography, video, or film associated with any nudity or pornography. Nor has she ever or is presently involved in any form of employment that involves partial or complete nudity.
11. Contestants agree all decisions of the judges at the Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship Pageant and the decisions of the CCC Board are final and irrevocable and that they will abide by all rules and regulations.

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. Contestants shall attend all public and private functions connected with the Cowboy Culture Celebration and the Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship Program as are designated by the MCC Scholarship Program Executive Director. Miss Cowboy Culture is responsible for attending and promoting events as assigned by Travis Bickham and/or Mary Beth Marks, Program Director. Any events Miss Cowboy Culture wishes to participate in must be approved by either Travis Bickham or Mary Beth Marks.
2. Contestants shall be in attendance during the entire Cowboy Culture Celebration unless specifically excused by the Program Executive Director.
3. At all such functions, performances, and events, each contestant shall be dressed in western attire all of which shall be furnished at the sole cost and expense of the contestant. Proper attire consists of cowboy boots, pressed jeans, a ladies western style blouse, western belt and buckle (if necessary), cowboy hat, and Miss Cowboy Culture sash. Blouses do not need to be tucked in, but should be an attractive fit and appropriate for the event.
4. At any event requiring the contestants to be mounted, each contestant shall provide the horse to be used by her, together with all necessary saddles, bridles, and or other equipment, and at her sole cost and expense transport the horse to and from the site of the function. Additionally, contestant agrees to furnish proof of negative coggins test and up to date vaccinations for her horse. Contestants agree not to hold CCC Committee Members, Executive Director, and any other facility liable for equine related accidents.

5. Each contestant shall provide her own transportation to each such function, performance, and or event unless otherwise instructed by the Program Executive Director.
6. Cowboy Culture Celebration Scholarship Program Executive Director shall have the sole right to publish or cause the 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 Scholarship Program.
7. Contestants shall, without the permission of the Program Executive Director, publish or release any information, pictures, quotes, and/or other biographical information without the consent of the MCC Executive Director.

SELECTION OF MISS COWBOY CULTURE

1. At any time and place to be determined at the sole discretion of the MCC Scholarship Program Board of Directors, one Miss Cowboy Culture shall be selected from those contestants who have complied with all reasonable directions of the MCC Board of Directors.
2. Should at any time, the selected Miss Cowboy Culture fail to meet any of the above listed requirements or any other duties as assigned by the CCC Board of Directors or the Executive Director, Miss Cowboy Culture forfeits her title and prizes, repays the scholarship in full, and reimburses the CCC BOD for the value of the prize package
3. Should Miss Cowboy Culture forfeit her title, the CCC BOD shall select her replacement from the list of contestants who met all requirements in competing for the title of Miss Cowboy Culture. The MCC contestant with the second highest overall score will be selected. If she is not available, the BOD will move down the list in order of scores until a replacement is chosen.
4. The selection of Miss Cowboy Culture shall be by majority vote of a panel of not less than (3) judges appointed at the sole discretion of the CCC Board of Directors. Judging of horsemanship, personal interview, personality and appearance, and knowledge of Dublin's rodeo and ranching history may be sub-panels.
5. The procedure to be followed by the panel of judges in selecting Miss Cowboy Culture shall be as follows:
 - a. The contestants who are eligible for consideration as Miss Cowboy Culture under these rules shall be ranked in descending numerical sequence percentage to reflect the relative number of points earned in the following categories
 - i. Horsemanship shall account for 25% of the judging

- ii. History of Dublin's rodeo and ranching heritage shall account for 25% of the judging
 - iii. Personality and appearance shall account for 25% of the judging
 - iv. Personal interview shall account for 25% of the judging
- b. Each judge shall in its own discretion award to each contestant a number of points between 0 and 100 to recognize the degree of skill in horsemanship displayed by the contestant at a time and place in such a manner as shall be determined by the CCC Board of Directors.
- c. Each judge shall in its sole discretion award to each contestant a number of points between 0 and 100 to recognize the Personality and Appearance displayed by the contestant at a time and place established by the CCC Board of Directors for the judging.
- d. Each judge shall in its own discretion award to each contestant a number of points between 0 and 100 to recognize the results of the Personal Interview as displayed by the contestant at a time and place to be established by the CCC Board of Directors.
- e. In establishing the number of points to be awarded by the judges for horsemanship, appearance and personality, and personal interview the highest number shall be awarded to the contestant or contestants deemed by the judges to display superior skills in each category.
- f. Knowledge of Dublin's rodeo and ranching history will be equal to 25% of the total score achievable and will be based on any questions asked at any time by the CCC Board of Directors or the judges.
- g. The contestant receiving the highest number of points pursuant to the foregoing shall be awarded the title of Miss Cowboy Culture. Respectively, ties resulting in category winners, i.e. referring back to Judge #1 will break down Appearance and Personality, Personal Interview and Horsemanship. Judge #1 scores will break the tie.
- h. Scholarship Program officials will not have access to completed judging sheets. The judges will select from among themselves one person to serve as Head Judge. That Judge will gather the completed score sheets from all the Judges, put them in a sealed envelope, and personally see that the Auditor receives them.
- i. Each contestant may review her personal scores at the completion of the auditor's review by request made to the Program Executive Director.
- j. No contestant or person on the contestant's behalf shall be in direct contact with any personnel of the accounting firm.
- k. No verbal agreement can supersede this written agreement.

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 use foul language at any time during CCC functions.

2. Each contestant will supply the Miss Cowboy Culture Board of Directors one 5X7 head shot. Photos must be head and shoulder pose (no action) in western attire. Western attire will include western blouse, suit or dress, hat, and accessories.
3. A contestant or any individual with the intent to influence or harass may not approach a judge or the auditor before or after any event. Action of this type will be reported to the Cowboy Culture Celebration Board of Directors and disqualification of that contestant could result.
4. Each contestant will provide horses and tack necessary for horsemanship competition.
5. Contestants will be expected to present a biography speech, which will be at least 2 and ½ minutes and no more than 3 ½ minutes in length. It is recommended that speeches are memorized and no props will be allowed.
6. Contestants must provide their own transportation to and from all Cowboy Culture Celebration functions as well as Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship program activities. Contestants must be punctual. Contestants that arrive late to any event will result in a point loss of five points per event.
7. Entrants must sign a Waiver of Liability and an Application. If under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must also sign a consent form along with the liability form.
8. Contestants must provide their own wardrobe and agree to follow the wardrobe guidelines. It is required that each contestant have at least one complete western dress outfit, one complete western pant suit or dress outfit, one complete horsemanship outfit, and two complete arena outfits.

WARDROBE GUIDELINES

1. Each contestant should have at least one complete western dress or skirt outfit with accessories.
2. Each contestant should have at least one complete horsemanship outfit and accessories. This consists of jeans of any color with complimenting long sleeve ladies western blouse with tucked in shirt tails, belt with buckle, clean and appropriate cowboy hat and boots.
3. Each contestant will have one complete coronation ceremony outfit, which will consist of jeans and a complimenting blouse or jacket with blouse underneath.
4. No chaps are to be worn for the horsemanship competition.

5. Spurs are permitted. Whips, crops, tie-downs, martingales and other training equipment are not permitted. Excessive spurring will be penalized.

PROGRAM DIVISIONS

PERSONALITY AND APPEARANCE; PERSONAL INTERVIEW

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

1. Attractiveness
2. Grooming. This includes neatness, cleanliness, fingernails, hair, hat, boots, and other western apparel.
3. Posture. How the contestant carries herself is very important. The judges will be looking for contestants to carry themselves straight and tall and exude confidence and poise.
4. 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.
5. Western fashion sense. Contestants should pick outfits that reflect fashionable and tasteful western clothing. Judges will pay particular attention to contestant's ability to use colors to enhance her natural coloring while choosing colors with eye appeal.
6. Proper fit of clothing. Contestants should be attention to the fit of their outfits. Outfits should be figure flattering and altered to fit. In addition, contestants should have a hat that is properly shaped, flattering to their face, and fits well.
7. Intelligence and common sense.
8. Conversational ability in varied areas with 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. Happy outlook on life.
14. Maturity.
15. Educational background and career goals.

HORSEMANSHIP

The purpose of this category is to select the young lady who rates the highest in:

1. Horsemanship – Control of mount and the way each situation that may occur is handled.
2. Balance – Ability to sit in the saddle.
3. Position of hands, feet, and seat.
4. Mounting and dismounting.
5. Presentation wave.
6. Showmanship – how well the contestant projects her personality to the audience from horseback.

The understanding and skill of the contestant will be judged and not the horse or equipment.

Each contestant will be interviewed on each of the following categories:

- knowledge of tack,
- horse science,
- rodeo terminology
- explanation of rodeo events

Horsemanship Competition will be as follows:

- Contestant will enter the arena leading horse.
- Contestant will lead horse to the judge and mount. At the judge's nod, the contestant will move into the horsemanship pattern.
- Contestant will complete the pattern and walk horse to the judge.
- At judge's nod, contestant will dismount horse and answer two questions from the categories above.
- Contestant will mount the horse and exit the arena.

- Once outside the arena, the contestant will prepare herself and her horse for two presentation runs. When ready, she will enter the arena again. Her presentation runs will consist of a flag run and a run to greet/acknowledge the audience. They may be done in any order – dropping off or picking up the flag between runs. These runs are typically done high speed, but collection and control of horse is first priority.

DUBLIN'S WESTERN HERITAGE KNOWLEDGE

The purpose of this is to discover each contestant's ability to understand and comprehend Dublin's many contributions to the NCHA, Professional Rodeo, and ranching.

Each contestant will be given the opportunity to share her knowledge of NCHA beginnings, Dublin's rodeo and ranching legends, Dublin's rodeo history, current rodeo and ranching legends in our community.

Each contestant must have the ability to represent the Western lifestyle, its heritage, and the Cowboy Culture Celebration.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PARENTS, FRIENDS, AND RELATIVES – The Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship Program welcomes and encourages the presence of parents, friends, and relatives during the competition. The Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship Program also requests complete cooperation from parents, friends, and relatives during Program activities. At no time during the competition, shall parents, friends, or relatives disturb the contestants. Parents, friends, and relatives are responsible for obtaining tickets for all events.

HORSEMANSHIP – The contestants will provide their own horse for the horsemanship portion. Horses will be all around type of horses that know their leads when asked correctly. Horsemanship patterns will be provided to the contestants. Tack used on a horse may not be unsafe or inhumane.

Contestants should remember that this will be judged on how the contestant cues the horse, not the horse's ability. Contestants should strive for a smooth pattern.

PROBLEMS AND COMPLAINTS – Any problems and complaints should be immediately referred to the MCC Executive Director or the Cowboy Culture Celebration Executive Director. Contestants only may report a problem or complaint and the Board(s) of Directors will address the problem immediately.

STUDY INFORMATION - Contestants are encouraged to visit the Dublin Rodeo Heritage Museum and the Dublin Historical Museum. Both are great sources of information. In addition, important information can be found by searching: Dublin Rodeo, Lightning C Ranch, NCHA Dublin, Harry Tompkins, and similar topics.

PHOTOGRAPHS – Photographs taken of contestants during the pageant by pageant personnel will become the property of the Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship Program and may be used for publicity.

SPORTSMANSHIP – The Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship Program Board of Directors expects each contestant, parents, friends, and relatives to display the highest degree of sportsmanship during the pageant and following the coronation. Each contestant should be mindful that they are representing the Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship Program, the Cowboy Culture Celebration, and the community of Dublin. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Unsportsmanlike conduct could result in disqualification and affect further eligibility to compete in the Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship Program.

By signing below, you agree that you have read and understood the rules for the Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship Pageant.

I agree to the requirements as listed above. I understand that these rules, regulations, and promotional activities are subject to change. Furthermore, I give Travis Bickham, the Cowboy Culture Board of Directors, and Mary Beth Marks, Executive Director of the Miss Cowboy Culture Scholarship Pageant permission to use my photos, biographical information, and appearances to promote the Cowboy Culture Celebration.

Contestant Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____