

Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2020 Rules

Entry Deadline: June 8, 2020 by 5 pm

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We would like to remind all who are involved that the Queens Committee for the Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queen Pageant and Scholarship Program are all volunteers who donate many hours without any kind of monetary compensation. They do this willingly out of passion and for their love of the young ladies who compete.

Conduct:

The Otero County Fair Dusty Diamonds, Fair Princess, Rodeo Princess, Fair Queen, Fair & Rodeo Queen and contestants serve as ambassadors of Otero County Fair Association, and Otero County Fair & Rodeo to the general public, portraying excellence in sportsmanship, high moral and ethical character, reflect careful and humane treatment of animals. All these young ladies are expected to act, always speak intelligently and dress according to the prestige of the titles.

Eligibility:

Each contestant regardless of category below must:

- 👑 Be a natural born female.
- 👑 Have been a resident of Otero County for 12 consecutive months prior to entry date, unless parent(s)/guardian(s) are Active Duty, the resident requirement is 6 consecutive months prior to entry date.
- 👑 Have never been pregnant or married.
- 👑 If selected as titleholder must surrender the title if for any reason not be able to fulfill her obligations and must not compete in other pageants during her reign.
- 👑 Must be of good moral character.
- 👑 Must not use or previously used any illegal or controlled substances (other than prescription medications and then only in the manner prescribed.) Not use abuse drugs or alcohol.
- 👑 Not engaged in any act, which if made public would be reasonably likely to cause harm or damage to your reputation of the title.
- 👑 Attend all required events.
- 👑 Must score a minimum of total score of 70% or higher of the total possible points.
- 👑 Shall abide by all the rules of the Otero County Fair and Rodeo Association Queen Program.
- 👑 Contestants are responsible for recruiting potential sponsors for the pageant and for the program. Each contestant will visit potential sponsors, invite the potential sponsor to the pageant, Fair & Rodeo and coronation. Sponsors will receive Thank you cards from the contestant(s) they have supported; these will be distributed by the contestants.

Age Divisions:

Each **Dusty Diamond** Contestant must:

- Have obtained the age of **6** and shall not have exceeded the age of **10** years of age by Wednesday of Otero County Fair of the year of competition. Entries are limited to the first **six (6)** completed entries

Each **Fair Princess** Contestant must:

- Have obtained the age of **10** and shall not have exceeded the age of **14** years of age by Wednesday of Otero County Fair of the year of competition.

Each **Rodeo Princess** Contestant must:

- Have obtained the age of **13** and shall not have exceeded the age of **16** years of age by Wednesday of Otero County Fair of the year of competition.

Each **Fair Queen** Contestant must:

- Have obtained the age of **14** and shall not have exceeded the age of **18** years of age by Wednesday of Otero County Fair of the year of competition.

Each **Fair and Rodeo Queen** Contestant Must:

- Have obtained the age of **17** and shall not have exceeded the age of **23** years of age by Wednesday of Otero County Fair of the year of competition.

- Any contestant not meeting the qualifications set forth above shall be denied the right to compete in the Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queen Pageant.

Entry¹:

Entry dates will be announced through various media, and entry deadlines **will not be extended, unless there are no entries for an age division the entry deadline will extended by two (2) weeks.**

Each entry must be accompanied by:

- Completed entry application,
- One-page essay stating reasons to be considered for the title/age division applying for.
- 8 x10 color, studio quality photograph headshot, wearing a cowboy hat (no crowns)
 - Must have copyright release from your \photographer so it can be reprinted for pageant and program use,
- Entry fees **paid in full** by the entry deadline. Mailed entries must be postmarked prior to entry deadline and not deadline date.

¹ All Entry fees, sponsorships and monies brought in are used for awards, other fees such as official photos and other miscellaneous costs to run the program.

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Entry fees:

- E** **Dusty Diamonds** - Fifty Dollars (**\$50.00**) Entry Fee plus minimum Fifty Dollars (**\$50.00**) Sponsorship. For a total of **\$100.00**
- All other age divisions** - One hundred dollars (**\$100.00**) plus minimum of one hundred dollars (**\$100.00**) sponsorship. For a total of **\$200.00**.

Judging Guidelines:

- J** Contestants will be judged on the over-all effect of their performance. This includes, but is not limited to appearance, personality, skill, charisma, gracefulness and knowledge. The number of Judges may vary from year to year but will be no less than three (3). Scoresheets will be signed and tallied after each category is judged. Ties will be broken by the highest personal interview score, then by the highest speech score and then by the highest written test score. If a tie still exists, the judges will be asked to rank the contestants as to who they think will do the best job as title holder.

Judged Divisions:

- J** Divisions of judging include, but are not limited to:

- Demonstration** - Fair Queen and Fair Princess Contestants will participate in a Demonstration. The Demonstration should be entertaining, resemble a typical demonstration with an introduction, body and a conclusion. Each contestant is responsible for providing all props needed for the demonstration. No live animals are allowed. No parents are allowed on stage; the current Queens Court will assist the contestant to set up their props. The time limit for Queen Contestants is 5 to 7 minutes and 3 to 5 minutes for Princess Contestants.
- Written Essay** - Contestants must write at least one-page essay stating why they want to be selected for the title they are competing for.
- Written Test** - Contestants will take written test pertaining to Otero County Fair, Rodeo, Horsemanship, and Current Events. Test will be age appropriate for each age division.
- Congeniality** - Contestants will be judged by how she interacts with other contestants and judges. Contestants will vote through secret ballot and an award will be given to the contestant who is demonstrates a genuine caring and friendliness to her peers throughout the pageant.
- Personal Interview** - Each contestant will have a personal interview before a panel of judges. Questions asked will test the contestant's knowledge of the pageant, rodeo, county fair, agriculture, or current events. This may include discussion of personal opinions, as well as current affairs.
- Photogenic/People's Choice** – Public will vote on the required 8 x 10 color vertical, head and shoulders photograph submitted by each contestant. A contestants' strength of character and personality are reflected in her photograph.

Judged Divisions (continued):
Crown Appearance

- Crown **Western Trendy Modeling** - Modeling will be done individually. Must be western trendy attire. Western skirts or dresses are optional. Western style felt hat is mandatory. All contestants will compete in this division.
- Crown **Impromptu questions** - Contestants will be asked an impromptu question during the Western Trendy Modeling portion of the contest. The question will be pulled from a hat and read aloud by the master of ceremonies (announcer). Questions will be age appropriate, and may relate to the sport of professional rodeo, county fair, agriculture and/or current events.
- Crown **Elegance Modeling** – Fair Princess, Rodeo Princess, Fair Queen and Fair and Rodeo Queen Contestants will compete in this division. Modeling will be done individually. Must be western formal attire. Western style felt hat is mandatory.
- Crown **Prepared Speech** - Contestant does not have to author speech. It should be memorized and reading off note cards may cause points to be deducted from score. Time limit is up to 3-5 minutes for Queen Contestants and 2-3 minutes for princess contestants.

- Crown **Top Hand Contestant** – Contestant attendance, and total sponsorship will be tracked. The contestant with the best attendance (no tardiness or leaving required events early or unexcused absences) and most sponsorship value will receive an award. Queen Committee members will track and make final determination during the competition.

- Crown **Top Hand Titleholder** – Titleholder attendance, Contestant attendance, and total sponsorship will be tracked throughout titleholder reign. The contestant with the best attendance (no tardiness or leaving required events early or unexcused absences) and most sponsorship value will receive an award. Queen Committee members will track and make final determination during the competition.

- Crown **Horsemanship** - Fair & Rodeo Queen and Rodeo Princess will participate in Horsemanship and **must have a minimum score of 75% in this division. If there is only one contestant and the contestant does not receive a 75% on their horsemanship scoresheet there will be NO titleholder awarded.**

 - Crown Contestants shall be prepared to compete in the horsemanship pattern as set forth in this document (please complete the appropriate pattern for the age division competing in). Contestants in this judged division shall ride a horse of their choosing, keeping in mind the safety of other riders. All horses will be healthy and in good physical condition.

Judged Divisions (continued):

👑 Horsemanship judging includes:

- Control of the contestant's mount and the way she handles any situation which may occur.
- Balance of the ability to sit properly in the saddle.
- Positions, positioning of hands and feet.
- Knowledge and execution of leads, backing and sliding stops.
- Mount and dismount. "Queen mounts" are acceptable, however not required, and should only be done if they are done properly.
- Horsemanship interview: knowledge ability to answer questions, delivery and grammar.
- Tack: proper fit, cleanliness and knowledge of purpose. All tack should be clean and in good working order - any safety issues with tack will be grounds for disqualification.
- Contestants will not be allowed to use spurs, chaps, or other aids during the horsemanship phase of the completion. Tack which are standard for the contestant's horse (i.e. tie-downs) will be allowed.
- Queens run: Smile, salute, speed and control.
- Flag run: Carry flag horseback, smile, speed and control.

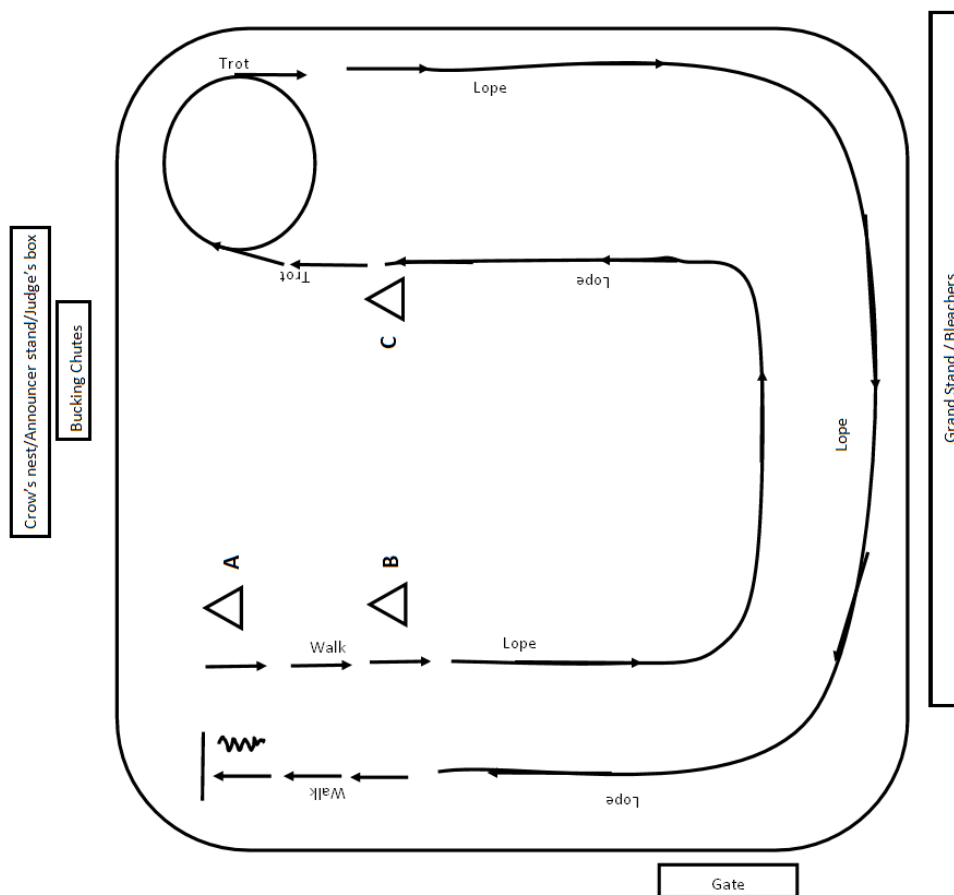
👑 **If a Fair Contestant (Dusty Diamonds, Fair Princess, and/or Fair Queen) would like to ride their horse in a rodeo carrying flags, parades, etc.,**

- Must complete the Dusty Diamond Pattern (for Dusty Diamonds age division). Rodeo Princess Pattern (Fair Princess and Fair Queen age divisions).
- Must complete a Flag Run and Queens Run.
- Must receive a score of 75% or higher. This score will not affect their total score of the competition, this allows the contestant to demonstrate they can safely handle their horse.
- Must have Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queen Committee approval.

Horsemanship Pattern – Dusty Diamond:

H Read through pattern carefully and break down each component.
 Flag Run and Queens Run follow the pattern. Contestant will provide own horse.

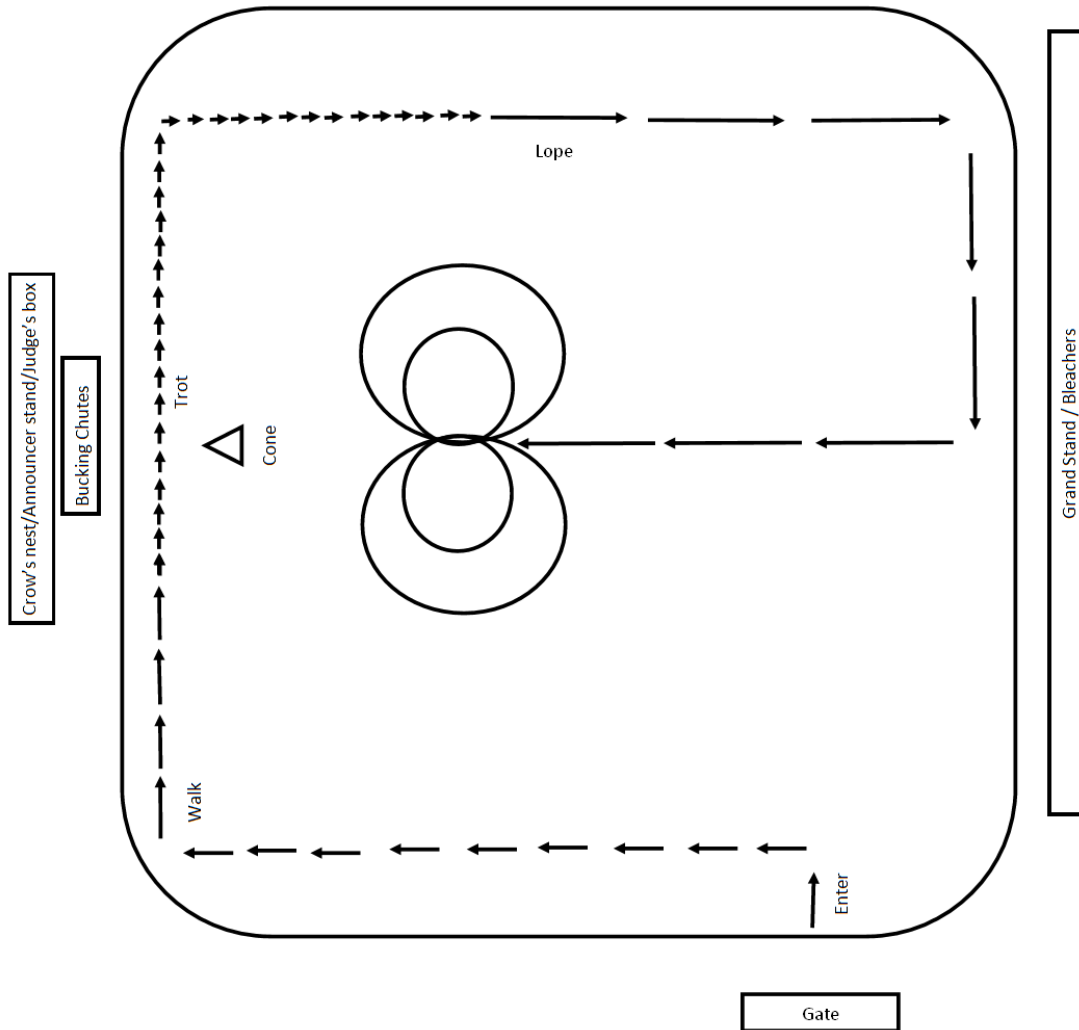
- 👑 Walk through gate to Cone A.
- 👑 Begin pattern at Cone A.
- 👑 Walk to Cone B.
- 👑 Lope, Left lead to Cone C.
- 👑 Break to a trot at Cone C, and trot 1 and ½ circles to the right.
- 👑 When become even with Cone C, pick up a lope in right lead, to Cone B. Once at Cone B, break to a walk to Cone A.
- 👑 At Cone A, stop and back up 6 steps, stop.
- 👑 Dismount.
- 👑 Wait for judges' instructions on whether to approach them or if they will approach you.
- 👑 It will be the judges' discretion whether to require a demonstration of mounting and dismounting, saddling and unsaddling, or any other horsemanship skills.
- 👑 Horsemanship Interview
 - Once interview complete mount and proceed to arena entrance at a walk, prepare for Flag Run and Queens Run.



Horsemanship Pattern – Rodeo Princess:

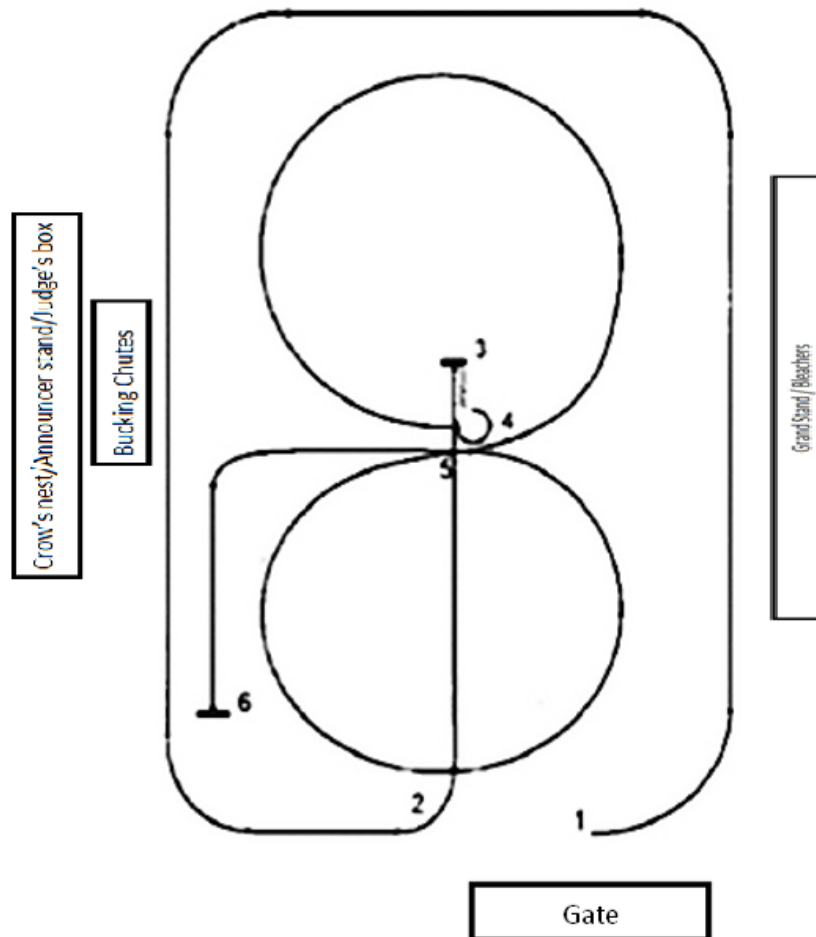
H Read through pattern carefully and break down each component.
 Flag Run and Queens Run follow the pattern. Contestant will provide own horse.

- 👑 Walk through gate to left past judges' box.
- 👑 Pick up trot at the center of arena/continue to south end.
- 👑 Pick up lope to center of arena/opposite judges' box.
- 👑 Do a small figure eight, starting to right.
- 👑 Do a large figure eight, stop and back.
- 👑 Walk to cone, stop and dismount.
- 👑 Wait for judges' instructions on whether to approach them or if they will approach you.
- 👑 It will be the judges' discretion whether to require a demonstration of mounting and dismounting, saddling and unsaddling, or any other horsemanship skills.
- 👑 Horsemanship Interview
 - Once interview complete mount and proceed to arena entrance at a walk, prepare for Flag Run and Queens Run.



Horsemanship Pattern Fair & Rodeo Queen:

- H** Read through pattern carefully and break down each component.
 Flag Run and Queens Run follow pattern. Contestant will provide own horse.
- 🐾 Circle the arena, on the left lead, at an extended lope.
 - 🐾 Guide left and lope down the center of the arena with moderate speed.
 - 🐾 Pass the center of the arena, stop and back to the center.
 - 🐾 Execute a $\frac{3}{4}$ turn to the right and lope a circle, to the right and lope a circle, to the right, with moderate speed.
 - 🐾 Change leads and lope a circle, to the left, with moderate speed. After completing the circle, continue loping on the left lead toward the end of the arena.
 - 🐾 Stop and pause to show completion of pattern.
 - 🐾 The judges reserve the right to make alterations and/or additions to this pattern.
 - 🐾 Wait for judges' instructions on whether to approach them or if they will approach you.
 - 🐾 It will be the judges' discretion whether to require a demonstration of mounting and dismounting, saddling and unsaddling, or any other horsemanship skills.
 - 🐾 Horsemanship Interview
 - Once interview complete mount and proceed to arena entrance at a walk, prepare for Flag Run and Queens Run.



Judging Criteria:

A contestant, even if she is the only competitor in her age division must receive a 70% or higher of the total available points in order to be crowned Titleholder in that age division.

Scoring system:








Fair Princess	Rodeo Princess	Fair Queen	Fair & Rodeo Queen
Written Essay – 75 points	Written Essay – 75 points	Written Essay – 75 points	Written Essay – 75 points
Impromptu Questions – 75 points	Impromptu Questions – 75 points	Impromptu Questions – 75 points	Impromptu Questions – 75 points
Appearance – Western Trendy – 100 points	Appearance – Western Trendy – 100 points	Appearance – Western Trendy – 100 points	Appearance – Western Trendy – 100 points
Appearance – Elegance – 100 points	Appearance – Elegance – 100 points	Appearance – Elegance – 100 points	Appearance – Elegance – 100 points
Personal Interview – 100 points (Tie breaker #1)	Personal Interview – 100 points (Tie breaker #1)	Personal Interview – 100 points (Tie breaker #1)	Personal Interview – 100 points (Tie breaker #1)
Prepared Speech – 100 points (Tie Breaker #2)	Prepared Speech – 100 points (Tie Breaker #2)	Prepared Speech – 100 points (Tie Breaker #2)	Prepared Speech – 100 points (Tie Breaker #2)
Written Test – 75 points (Tie Breaker #3)	Written Test – 75 points (Tie Breaker #3)	Written Test – 75 points (Tie Breaker #3)	Written Test – 75 points (Tie Breaker #3)
Demonstration – 100 points	Horsemanship – 100 points	Demonstration – 100 points	Horsemanship – 100 points
Congeniality (judged but not scored)	Congeniality (judged but not scored)	Congeniality (judged but not scored)	Congeniality (judged but not scored)
Photogenic (judged but not scored)	Photogenic (judged but not scored)	Photogenic (judged but not scored)	Photogenic (judged but not scored)
Total Possible Points: 725 points	Total Possible Points: 725 points	Total Possible Points: 725 points	Total Possible Points: 725 points

Dusty Diamonds are not scored in each pageant division shown above as this age division is part of the mentorship program. Judges will provide comments for Dusty Diamonds. Dusty Diamonds will participate in Written Essay, Impromptu Questions, Appearance – Western Trendy, Personal Interview, Congeniality, and Photogenic.

Finality of Judge's Scoring:

The decision of the Judges is final, and no appeal will be considered with the Judges, except in the case of a protest. In the event the Contestant feels the need to protest the results of the Judges, all protests must be submitted in writing to the Pageant Director(s)/Queen Committee, accompanied by an affidavit setting forth ground for protest and a deposit of **\$100.00** which will be forfeited if the protest is not sustained. Protests must be filed no later than **one hour** after the conclusion of the pageant. The appeal will be considered at the first meeting of the Queen Committee following the pageant. All protests shall be reviewed by the Queen Committee and brought to the attention of the Otero County Fair Association. Action, if deemed necessary of said protest will be determined by the Otero County Fair Association upon the recommendation of the Queen Committee.

Contestant Requirements:

- C**  Contestant must meet all eligibility requirements.
-  Complete Entry submitted by deadline.
-  Attend orientation, clinics, workshops, rehearsals, and Fair.
-  Represent Otero County Fair and Rodeo in parades, county functions and other activities wearing appropriate attire at all times, including western hat, boots, belt, contestant sashes, unless otherwise specified. All appearances as a contestant must be approved by the Queen Committee.
-  Must participate in coronation, and if selected as titleholder, must appear at the following year's coronation.
-  Contestants are expected to appear in "full western attire" at all times unless otherwise specified, including:
- Western felt hat.
 - Long sleeve collared shirt or blouse, shirttails must be tucked in unless style indicates otherwise.
 - Vest and/or jacket (if outfit deems necessary). A jacket is required for all tops and dresses that have less than a cap sleeve. Halter, spaghetti strap, strapless, midriff or low-cut tops/clothing are not acceptable and skirt length should not be more than 3" above the knee. (Rule of thumb: skirt/dress length should be past the fingertips when placed on sides.)
 - Clean jeans/slacks (whenever wearing pants, no frays or tears, no distressed).
 - Clean boots.
 - Belt.
 - Contestant sash.
-  It is not necessary to invest in an excessive amount of expensive clothing. Judges will be looking for versatility and imagination displayed by the contestant.

Wardrobe Requirements:

- W**  **Demonstration/Horsemanship:** White long sleeve collared western shirt, blue denim "wrangler type" pants, black western style felt/wool hat, boots, and belt. NOTE: "Fashion" or "modern" type fat baby boots are not acceptable. Chaps, leggings, jackets or vests, or gloves are permitted. All attire should be neat and fit properly. Hair should be pulled back for Horsemanship division only. For Demonstration hair must be down and curled.
-  **Appearance (Western Trendy Modeling):** Western style attire, dress, skirt or pants chosen to reflect the contestants' style and personality, western hat, boots, and belt. Skirts, dresses and tops must meet the requirements stated above. Hair must be down and curled.
-  **Appearance (Elegance Modeling):** Dressy/elegant style attire that would enhance poise, posture and projection of self-confidence. All outfits should reflect a western theme with western hat, and boots. Dresses must meet the requirements stated above. Hair must be down and curled.
-  **Personal Interview/Prepared Speech:** Western style attire with a business twist, western hat, boots and belt. May wear skirt, dress or pants and must meet requirements stated above. Hair must be down and curled.
-  **Coronation:** Dusty Diamonds – Western Trendy outfit, all other age divisions wear Elegance outfit. Hair must be down and curled.
-  All clothing must be in clean and good order, no Fat Babies and no hip hugger low rise pants. Stay traditional, mix and match to conserve outfits. Basic black western felt hats

Wardrobe Requirements (continued):
and boots match almost everything. Hair should always be curled except where noted. Make-up should always be age appropriate. Clothes should be fitted and clean. Hats, boots, nails should always be clean and well maintained.

- A**wards:
- 👑 Awards are awarded as funds are available.
 - 👑 Awards will be presented to category winner and titleholders during coronation.
 - 👑 Any cash, or scholarships will not be awarded until after the fulfillment of the contest and/or titleholders' reign.
 - 👑 Contestants should be aware that titleholders do not receive a salary.
 - 👑 Titleholders will receive an official crown (perpetual), trophy buckle, and sash, as funds are available. Awards are funded through donations, sponsorships, and/or in kind. If the titleholder would like to purchase their own crown they may do so only if approved by the Queen Committee. All crowns are perpetual and must be returned at the completion of the titleholders' reign. A complete listing of awards will be posted when available.
 - 👑 Award Divisions:
 - 👑 Written Essay
 - 👑 Impromptu Questions
 - 👑 Appearance – Western Trendy
 - 👑 Appearance – Elegance
 - 👑 Personal Interview
 - 👑 Prepared Speech
 - 👑 Written Test
 - 👑 Demonstration
 - 👑 Horsemanship
 - 👑 Congeniality
 - 👑 Photogenic
 - 👑 Top Hand – Contestant
 - 👑 Top Hand – Titleholder
 - 👑 Crown – Perpetual: Dusty Diamonds, Princesses and Queens Titleholders
 - 👑 Buckle - Titleholders
 - 👑 Sash -Titleholders

- D**ates to remember (Attendance is mandatory): *Dates may be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.*
- 👑 **June 8, 2020 – 5 pm – Entries are due.** Submit completed entries to the Otero County Fair Association Office, Attention: Queens Committee at 401 Fairgrounds Road, Alamogordo, NM 88310.
 - 👑 **June 20, 2020 – Orientation**
 - 👑 **July 18, 2020 – Rehearsal** - Location and time to be determined. Announced during Orientation.
 - 👑 **July 25, 2020 – Pageant** – Location and time to be determined. Announced during Orientation.
 - 👑 **September 26 - Coronation** – Location and time to be determined. Announced during Pageant
 - 👑 **September 19, 2020 – Fair Parade**
 - 👑 **September 23-26, 2020 – Otero County Fair and Rodeo**

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED:

The Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queen Committee reserves the right to revise or modify these rules at any time upon reasonable notice.