



# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules

**Entry Deadline: no later than May 1st, between 5 - 7 pm**

**Orientation to follow on May 1 at 7 pm at the Otero County Fairgrounds,  
Extension Classroom (located on north side of main building)**

**Pageant Director: Teddi Cardiel at 575-415-5949 or [oteroqueens@gmail.com](mailto:oteroqueens@gmail.com)**













We remind everyone that the Queens Committee for the Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queen Pageant and Scholarship Program consists of volunteers who donate many hours without monetary compensation.

## **Conduct:**

The Otero County Fair Dusty Diamonds, Fair Duchess, Rodeo Duchess, Rodeo Princess, Fair Queen, Fair & Rodeo Queen, and contestants serve as ambassadors for the Otero County Fair Association and Otero County Fair & Rodeo. They exemplify sportsmanship, high moral and ethical character, and humane treatment of animals. These young ladies are expected to act professionally, speak intelligently, and dress appropriately both in person and on social media. The program aims to boost participants' confidence, communication skills, agricultural knowledge, and sportsmanship while preparing them for higher titles at regional, state, and national levels. Each participant becomes an ambassador for rodeo and agriculture.

## **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 they or their parent(s)/guardian(s) are Active Duty: the resident requirement is 6 consecutive months prior to entry date.
-  Have never been pregnant or married.
-  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 engage in any act, including social media, which if made public would reasonably be likely to cause harm or damage to the 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, Expectation Statement and Code of Conduct as well as abide by the terms and conditions set forth in the Contract 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 sponsors to the pageant, Otero County Fair & Rodeo, and coronation.
-  Sponsors **will** receive Thank You cards from the contestant(s) they have supported; these will be distributed by the contestants.
-  If selected as titleholder, she must surrender the title if for any reason, she is not able to fulfill her obligations and must not compete in other pageants during her reign.

# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules

## 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 the entry deadline of the current year of competition. Entries are limited to the first **six (6)** completed entries.
- 👑 Each **Fair Duchess** Contestant must:
  - 👑 Have obtained the age of **10** and shall not have exceeded the age of **13** years of age by the entry deadline of the current year of competition.
- 👑 Each **Rodeo Duchess** Contestant must:
  - 👑 Have obtained the age of **10** and shall not have exceeded the age of **13** years of age by the entry deadline of the current year of competition.
- 👑 Each **Fair Princess** must:
  - 👑 Have obtained the age of **13** and shall not have exceeded the age of **15** years of age by the entry deadline of the current year of competition.
- 👑 Each **Rodeo Princess** must:
  - 👑 Have obtained the age of **14** and shall not have exceeded the age of **17** years of age by the entry deadline of the current year of competition.
- 👑 Each **Fair Queen** Contestant must:
  - 👑 Have obtained the age of **16** and shall not have exceeded the age of **19** years of age by the entry deadline of the current year of competition.
- 👑 Each **Fair and Rodeo Queen** Contestant must:
  - 👑 Have obtained the age of **18** and shall not have exceeded the age of **23** years of age by the entry deadline of the current year of competition.

## Expectations:






- 👑 Each contestant will keep all social media that she is involved with appropriate and positive. (Even if it isn't fair/rodeo related.)
- 👑 Pageant winners will be announced at the conclusion of the pageant.
- 👑 Each contestant/titleholder must also enter an exhibit in the Otero County Fair and follow entry guidelines outlined in the Fair book for that exhibit.
- 👑 Any contestant/titleholder not meeting the qualifications set forth above shall be denied the right to complete her reign in the Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queen Program and will forfeit all awards and all prizes.

# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules





## Entry:

-  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 could be extended by two (2) weeks for that age division only.**

Each **entry** must be accompanied by:

-  **Completed** entry application. (Handwritten for all age divisions).
-  One-page essay stating reasons to be considered for the title/age division applying for. (Handwritten for all other age divisions).
-  8 x10 color, studio quality photograph headshot, wearing a cowboy hat (head and shoulders, no crowns).
-  Must have copyright **release from your photographer** so it can be reprinted for pageant and program use,
-  Entry fees and entry sponsorship paid in full by May 31<sup>st</sup>. **Half due at the entry deadline (May 1<sup>st</sup>) and other half due no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>.** Mailed entries must be postmarked prior to entry deadline and not deadline date.

## Entry fees:











-  **All contestants:** \$250 will be given as a deposit for all crowns in case of loss or unrepairable damage. **Undated checks/cash will be collected when entries are due.** If a contestant does not become a titleholder, then the crown deposit will be returned to the contestant/parent/guardian no later than 1 week after the conclusion of the pageant/when titleholders are announced.
-  **Dusty Diamonds** – Seventy - Five dollars (**\$75.00**) entry fee, minimum seventy - five dollars (**\$75.00**) sponsorship, plus crown deposit (**\$250.00**). For a total of **\$400.00**.
-  **Duchesses** – One hundred twenty-five dollars (**\$125.00**) entry fee, minimum of one hundred twenty-five dollars (**\$125.00**) sponsorship, plus crown deposit (**\$250.00**). For a total of **\$500.00**.
-  **All other age divisions (Princesses and Queens)** – One hundred fifty dollars (**\$150.00**) entry fee, minimum of one hundred fifty dollars (**\$150.00**) sponsorship, plus crown deposit (**\$250.00**). For a total of **\$550.00**.

## Contestant Requirements:

-  Contestants must meet **all** eligibility requirements.
-  Complete **entry & all entry fees submitted** by deadline.
-  Attend orientation, clinics, workshops, fundraisers, practices, rehearsals, and Otero County Fair and Rodeo Events as scheduled.
-  Represent Otero County Fair and Rodeo in parades, county functions and other activities always wearing appropriate western attire, including western hat, western boots, belt, sashes, unless otherwise specified. All appearances must be approved by the Queen Committee.
-  **Must participate in coronation**, and if selected as titleholder, must appear at the following year's coronation.


# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules

## Contestant Requirements (continued):

-  Contestants are expected to always appear in “full western attire” unless otherwise specified, including:
  -  Western felt hat.
  -  Hair, down and curled with wings.
  -  Age-appropriate makeup and jewelry.
  -  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 2” 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 western boots.
  -  Belt.
-  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.

## Judging Guidelines & Criteria:

Contestants are evaluated based on the overall impact of their performance, which includes factors such as appearance, personality, skill, charisma, gracefulness, and knowledge. The number of judges can change each year but there will always be at least three (3). After each category is assessed, scoresheets are signed and tallied. If there is a tie, it will be resolved first by the highest personal interview score, then by the highest speech score, and finally by the highest written test score. Should a tie remain, the judges will rank the contestants according to who they believe would best fulfill the role of title holder.

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

## Finality of Judge’s Scoring (Appeals/Grievances):

The Judges’ decision is final unless a protest is filed. Contestants must submit written protests to the Pageant Director(s) or Queen Committee within **one hour** after the pageant, including an affidavit stating grounds and a **\$100.00** deposit (forfeited if the protest fails). The Queen Committee will review all protests at their next meeting and notify the Otero County Fair Association, which will decide on any necessary action based on the Committee’s recommendation.







# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules

## Scoring system:

Fair Duchess, Fair Princess, and Fair Queen	Rodeo Duchess, Rodeo Princess and Fair and Rodeo Queen
Written Essay: <b>80 points</b>	Written Essay: <b>80 points</b>
Demonstration: <b>100 points</b> (Tie Breaker #1)	Horsemanship: <b>100 points</b> (Tie Breaker #1)
Personal Interview: <b>100 points</b> (Tie Breaker #2)	Personal Interview: <b>100 points</b> (Tie Breaker #2)
Written Test: <b>100 points</b>	Written Test: <b>100 points</b>
Appearance - Western Trendy- <b>40 points</b>	Appearance – Western Trendy: <b>40 points</b>
Impromptu Question: <b>60 points</b>	Impromptu Question: <b>60 points</b>
Appearance - Elegance: <b>40 points</b>	Appearance – Elegance: <b>40 points</b>
Prepared Speech: <b>60 points</b> (Tie Breaker #3)	Prepared Speech: <b>60 points</b> (Tie Breaker #3)
Congeniality (judged but not scored)	Congeniality (judged but not scored)
Photogenic: <b>20 points</b>	Photogenic: <b>20 points</b>
<b>Total Possible Points: 600 points</b>	<b>Total Possible Points: 600 points</b>

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.

**Judged Categories:** Divisions of judging include, but are not limited to:

-  **Written Essay** - Contestants must write at least one-page essay (handwritten for Dusty Diamonds age division)/(typed for all other age divisions) stating why they want to be selected for the title they are competing for.
-  **Demonstration** – All Fair titles (Fair Queen, Fair Duchess, 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 Duchess and Princess Contestants.**
-  **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, and/or current events. This may include discussion of personal opinions, as well as current affairs.
-  **Written Test** – **ALL Contestants** will take written test pertaining to Otero County Fair, Rodeo, Horsemanship, and Current Events. **Written Test will be appropriate** for each age division and will be title specific. Study Guides for the test will be provided by the committee at Orientation. The Study Guides will also be useful for studying in the Personal Interview and Impromptu Question.

# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules



## Appearance



**Western Trendy Modeling** - Modeling will be done individually. Must be trendy western attire. Western skirts or dresses are optional. Western style felt hat is mandatory. All contestants will compete in this division.



**Elegance Modeling** – Modeling will be done individually. Must be western formal attire. Western style felt hat is mandatory. All contestants will compete in this division.



**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.



**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, 2-3 minutes for Duchess and Princess Contestants.**



**Photogenic** - Pageant judges will provide feedback on each headshot provided by each contestant and score accordingly.



**Congeniality (judged but not scored)**- 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 demonstrates a genuine caring and friendliness to her peers throughout the pageant.



**Horsemanship** - Fair & Rodeo Queen, Rodeo Duchess and Rodeo Princess will participate in Horsemanship and **must have a minimum score of 70% in this division. If there is only one contestant and the contestant does not receive a 70% on their horsemanship scoresheet there will be NO titleholder awarded.**



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.



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

- Must complete the pattern for their age division, Duchess will complete Duchess pattern, so on and so forth per age division.
- Must complete a Flag Run and Queens Run.
- Must receive a score of **70%** 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.



# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules

## **Horsemanship judging includes:**

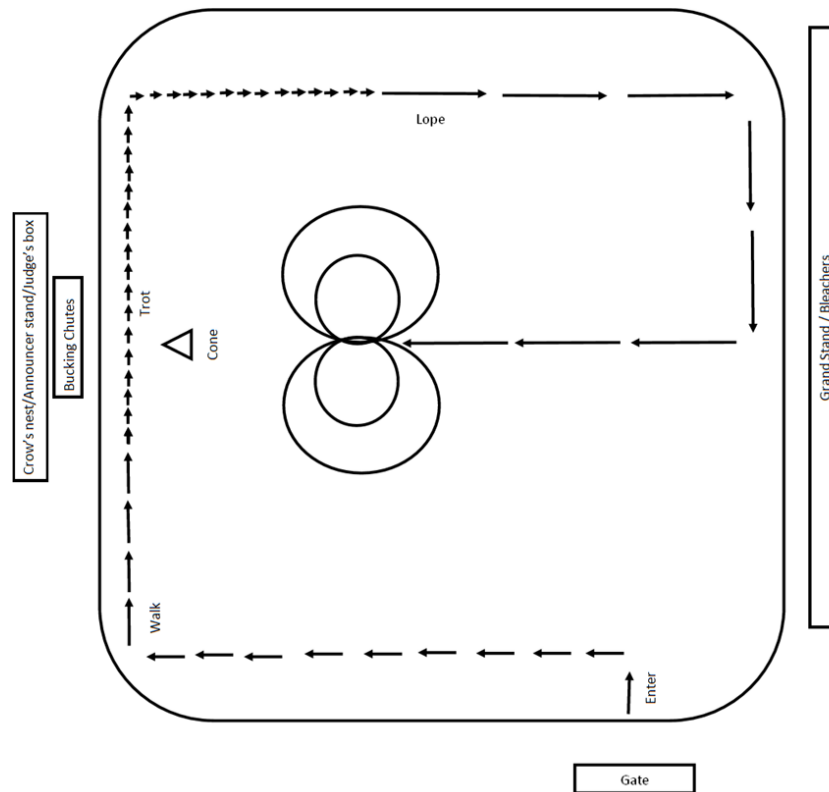
- Control of the contestant's mount and the way she handles any situation which may occur.
- Balance of the ability to sit properly in the saddle.
- Positions, positioning of hands and feet.
- Knowledge and execution of leads, backing and sliding stops.
- Mount and dismount. "Queen Mounts" are acceptable, 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 be allowed to use spurs, or other aids, if used properly during the horsemanship phase of the completion. Tack which is 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.

# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules

## Horsemanship Pattern – Fair & Rodeo Duchess Age Division:

Read through pattern carefully and break down each component. Contestant will provide own horse.

- 👑 Walk through gate past judges' box.
- 👑 Pick up trot at the center of arena.
- 👑 Pick up lope.
- 👑 Do a small figure eight, starting to right at a lope.
- 👑 Do a large figure eight, stop and back, 4 steps.
- 👑 Walk to cone, stop, and dismount.
- 👑 Wait for judges' instructions on whether to leave arena or if they want you to further your demonstration.
- 👑 The judges reserve the right to make alterations and/or additions to this pattern.
- 👑 *It will be the judges' discretion whether to require a demonstration of mounting and dismounting, saddling, and unsaddling, or any other horsemanship skills.*
- 👑 Exit arena at a walk. Prepare for next portion of horsemanship.
- 👑 After all contestants have completed patterns, Flag Run and Queen's Run, contestants will enter arena for Horsemanship Interviews, at a walk and dismount. Contestants will hold their horse and face away from the judges. Judges will call each individual to them for their interview. Contestants who are not being interviewed will stay facing away from the judges and contestant being interviewed as to avoid distracting contestants interviewing. Once interviews are complete, contestants will mount and proceed to arena entrance at a walk.

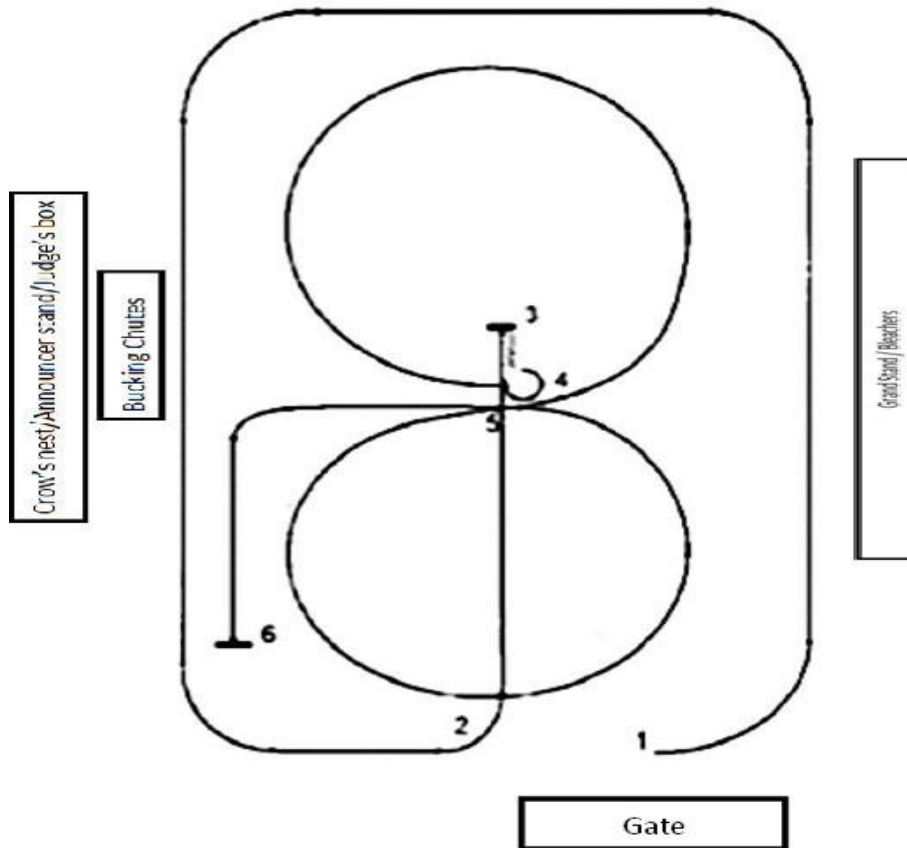


# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules

## Horsemanship Pattern Fair & Rodeo Princess Age Division:

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, 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.
- 👑 *It will be the judges' discretion whether to require a demonstration of mounting and dismounting, saddling, and unsaddling, or any other horsemanship skills.*
- 👑 After all contestants have completed patterns, Flag Run and Queen's Run, contestants will enter arena for Horsemanship Interviews, at a walk and dismount. Contestants will hold their horse and face away from the judges. Judges will call each individual to them for their interview. Contestants who are not being interviewed will stay facing away from the judges and contestant being interviewed as to avoid distracting contestants interviewing. Once interviews are complete, contestants will mount and proceed to arena entrance at a walk.

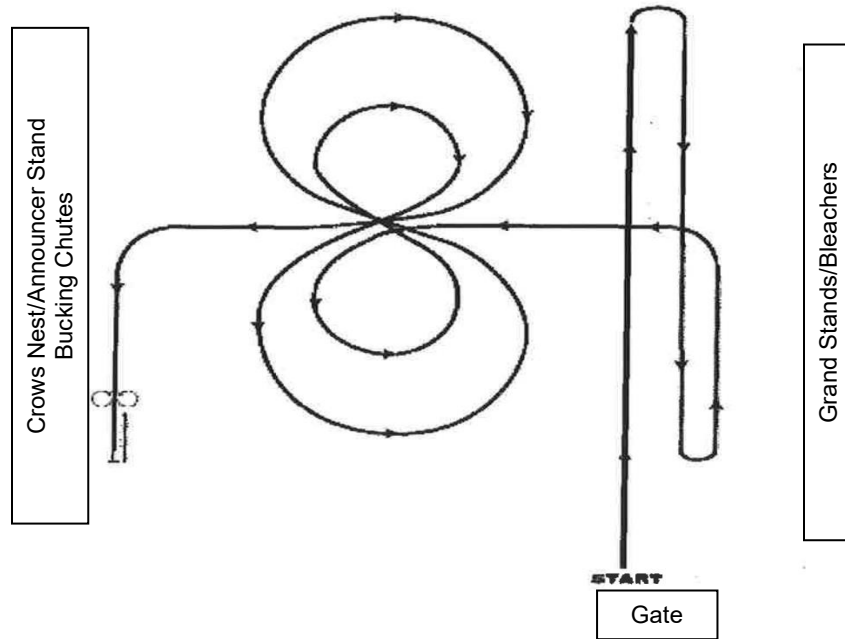


# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules

## Horsemanship Pattern Fair & Rodeo Queen Age Division:

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

- 👑 Start on the right side of the arena and lope to the far end of the arena.
- 👑 Stop and rollback to the right. Continue to opposite end of arena.
- 👑 Stop and rollback to the left. Continue to center of arena.
- 👑 Lope small, **slow** circle to the left. Change leads.
- 👑 Lope right small circle with **medium** speed. Change leads.
- 👑 Lope large **fast** circle to left. Change leads.
- 👑 Lope **fast** circle to right. Change leads.
- 👑 Continue down arena.
- 👑 Stop and back 10 to 15 feet.
- 👑 Do 360-degree spin right or left.
- 👑 Do 360-degree spin opposite direction taken in.
- 👑 Hesitate/stop to show completion of pattern.
- 👑 The judges reserve the right to make alterations and/or additions to this pattern.
- 👑 *It will be the judges' discretion whether to require a demonstration of mounting and dismounting, saddling, and unsaddling, or any other horsemanship skills.*
- 👑 Exit arena at a walk. Prepare for next portion of horsemanship.
- 👑 After all contestants have completed patterns, Flag Run and Queen's Run, contestants will enter arena for Horsemanship Interviews, at a walk and dismount. Contestants will hold their horse and face away from the judges. Judges will call each individual to them for their interview. Contestants who are not being interviewed will stay facing away from the judges and contestant being interviewed as to avoid distracting contestants interviewing. Once interviews are complete, contestants will mount and proceed to arena entrance at a walk.



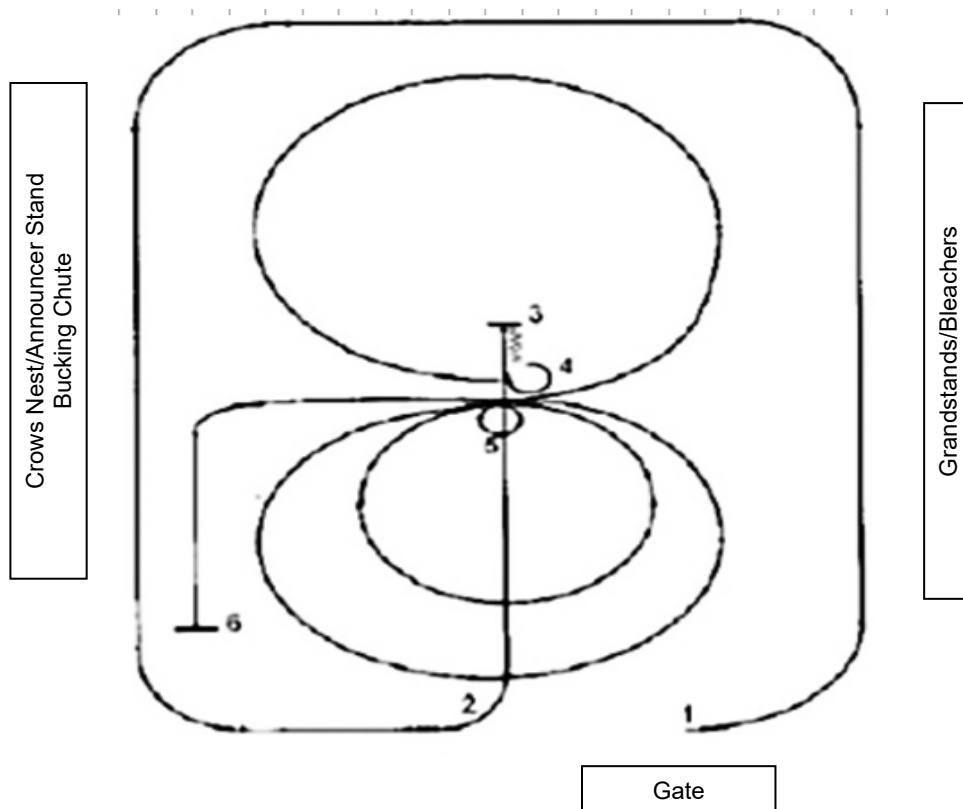
# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules

OR

## Horsemanship Pattern Fair & Rodeo Queen Age Division:

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 at **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 with **moderate** speed.
- 👑 Stop in the center; execute a 360-degree turn, to the left, followed by a larger, **faster**, circle to the left. At the center of the arena, rate back to the **slower** speed, and continue loping on the left lead toward the end of the arena.
- 👑 Stop and pause to show completion of the pattern.
- 👑 The judges reserve the right to make alterations and/or additions to this pattern.
- 👑 *It will be the judges' discretion whether to require a demonstration of mounting and dismounting, saddling, and unsaddling, or any other horsemanship skills.*
- 👑 Exit arena at a walk. Prepare for next portion of horsemanship.
- 👑 After all contestants have completed patterns, Flag Run and Queen's Run, contestants will enter arena for Horsemanship Interviews, at a walk and dismount. Contestants will hold their horse and face away from the judges. Judges will call each individual to them for their interview. Contestants who are not being interviewed will stay facing away from the judges and contestant being interviewed as to avoid distracting contestants interviewing. Once interviews are complete, contestants will mount and proceed to arena entrance at a walk.



# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules

## Wardrobe Requirements:

- 👑 **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. For Horsemanship: Chaps, leggings, jackets or vests, or gloves are not 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 fashion forward 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)/Prepared Speech:** 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:** Western style attire with a business twist, western hat, boots and belt. May wear, vest, jacket, blazer, 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, traditional western/cowboy boots (no “Twisted X” or loafer type shoes “Hey Dudes” or “Fat Babies”) and no hip hugger low rise pants with “bling” on back pockets.
- 👑 Stay traditional, mix and match to conserve funds and outfits. Black felt hats and boots match almost everything. **No straw hats.** Hair should always be curled except where noted. Make-up and jewelry should always be age appropriate. Clothes should be fitted and clean. Hats, boots, nails should always be clean and well maintained. Remember that a titleholder should always reflect grace, style and modesty.

## Awards:

**Awards are awarded as funds are available.**

- 👑 Awards will be presented to category winners and titleholders during coronation.
- 👑 Any cash, big ticket awards such as saddles, tack, show boxes, or scholarships **will not** be awarded until after the fulfillment of the contest and/or titleholders’ reign, which the date will be set by the committee, usually during coronation.
- 👑 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. All crowns are perpetual and must be returned at the completion of the titleholders’ reign and are property of the Otero County Fair and Rodeo. Crowns will be relinquished to the committee upon completion of their year.



# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules

- 👑 **Trophy Buckle – Titleholders**
- 👑 **Sash** - Dusty Diamonds will not receive a sash as an award, however sashes may be purchased at contestant’s expense.

👑 **Award Categories:**

👑	Written Essay	👑	Demonstration
👑	Impromptu Questions	👑	Horsemanship
👑	Appearance – Western	👑	Congeniality
	Trendy	👑	Photogenic
👑	Appearance – Elegance	👑	People’s Choice
👑	Personal Interview	👑	Top Hand – Contestant
👑	Prepared Speech	👑	Top Hand – Titleholder
👑	Written Test		

👑 **People’s Choice** – Public will vote on the required 8 x 10 color vertical, head and shoulders photograph submitted by each contestant. A contestant’s strength of character and personality are reflected in her photograph. If the photos are unable to be displayed at the Otero County Fair, the pageant judges will make the final decision.

👑 **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.

👑 **Top Hand Titleholder** – Titleholder 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.

👑 **Crowns, chaps, saddle drapes etc. – Perpetual and property of the Otero County Fair and Rodeo Queens Program.** Crowns and other perpetual items will be used during official events only and will be relinquished to the committee upon completion of their year, or in the event of failure to complete title year due to disciplinary action or other circumstances.

👑 **An undated check/cash for \$250 will be given as a deposit for all crowns in case of loss or unrepairable damage. Money is due when entries are due. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

# Otero County Fair & Rodeo Queens Pageant 2026 Rules

**Dates to remember (Attendance is mandatory):** *Dates may be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.*

-  **May 1, 2026** – Entries due no later than 5pm, Extension Classroom.
-  **May 2026** – Queens Dance Fundraiser or workshop – New Exhibit Building
-  **June 5 – 7, 2026** – Rodeo De Santa Fe Contest
-  **July 1- July 4, 2026** - Mescalero & Smokey Bear Stampede, Cloudcroft or Alamogordo Independence Day Events
-  **July 6, 2026** – All sponsorships are due if they are to be printed in pageant book. Any sponsorship received after this may not be printed in official pageant book.
-  **July 24 - 25, 2026** – Rehearsal – Otero County Fairgrounds
-  **July 31 – August 1, 2026** – Pageant – Otero County Fairgrounds.
-  **September 19, 2026** – Buyer’s Baskets are due.
-  **September 23 - 26, 2026** – Otero County Fair and Rodeo events.
  - Junior Livestock Shows
  - Rodeo both performances.
  - Junior Livestock Sale
-  Any other dates set forth by committee to meet program requirements.

**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.*