

2016 Miss GRAND NATIONAL QUEEN Contest

Contest Date:
Saturday October 24, 2015
8:00 AM Cow Palace San Francisco

Entry Deadline:
Post Marked by September 1, 2015

MISS GRAND NATIONAL CONTEST

The Miss Grand National Contest is held annually to select a young lady who has the desire and enthusiasm to serve as a good-will ambassador for the sport of rodeo and the community.

WHO IS MISS GRAND NATIONAL RODEO?

Miss Grand National Rodeo is a young lady, who wishes to promote the sport of rodeo, and in doing so, promotes the great Western way of life. She is the ideal Western type American girl who has an appealing appearance, a congenial personality and knowledge of the equine industry, our community, and the sport of rodeo.

WHAT TYPE OF YOUNG LADY DOES THE MISS GRAND NATIONAL RODEO CONTEST ATTRACT?

- A young lady who wishes to be a representative of the community she represents, as well as the rodeo.

- A young lady who loves horses and everything they represent, and who is willing to show the rest of our community what can be accomplished when surrounded by this environment.
- A young lady who portrays excellent sportsmanship and high moral ethical character.
- A young lady who understands the sport of rodeo and is able to explain and “sell” rodeo to anyone with whom she may come in contact, especially those unfamiliar with the sport.
- An ambitious young lady who is interested in furthering her chosen career through higher education or special training.
- A young lady who is able to speak intelligently and display dignity.

Important Information

- The Contest will be held on **Saturday, October 24th 2015 at the Cow Palace. Coronation will be during the Evening Performance of the Grand National Rodeo on Saturday October 24, 2015.**
- Each contestant will be required to sell tickets to any of the four evening performances of the Grand National Rodeo (**Ticket forms and money to be turned in by October 9, 2015**)
- You will receive a Ticket order form once you submit your completed application. There will be a Grand Prize of a Cow Palace Belt Buckle for the highest ticket sales
you must sell a minimum of 100 tickets to qualify for the belt buckle

****Only 1 belt buckle will be awarded to the overall highest ticket seller over 100****

Qualifications

1. Queen Contestants must not be less than 18 years or age or more than 24 years of age as of January 1, 2015
2. Contestants must never have been married
3. Contestants must not have had any children
4. Contestants must be residents of California

Rules and Regulations

1. Contestants must complete the contest application and submit the required documents along with two 8 x 10 Black & White photographs to enter the contest.
2. Each contestant must conduct herself in a professional manner, portray high moral standards and good sportsmanship, or she will be disqualified. 3. If Miss Grand National Rodeo is or becomes pregnant during her reign, she will forfeit her

crown and all benefits derived from the contest.

4. The contestant's horsemanship ability, skill, and overall appearance, as well as the grooming and cleanliness of the horse and tack will be judged. The horses and equipment will not be judged

5. Contestants are to provide their own transportation to and from the contest and all promotional activities.

6. Contestants are required to have a suitable horse for use at the Rodeo and other related events, but it need not be the horse used in the contest.

7. Coaching from the sidelines is not permitted. This could be grounds for complete disqualification.

8. Final decision in all categories will be that of the judges.

9. Contestants are required to provide their own wardrobes.

10. Parents, friends, and relatives are welcome to attend any or all activities designated and as long as they agree to abide by all rules and regulations for the activity. Un-sportsmanship like conduct from parents, friends and relatives beginning from the time the application is received until the contest is over, or in the case of the newly crowned queen, until her reign is over, may result in disqualification of the contestant/queen.

11. Contestants are not permitted at any time during the contest or as reigning queen to drink alcoholic beverages, smoke, or use foul language in public.

12. All contestants and winner of the contest are required to dress western when representing the Grand National/Cow Palace in any capacity.

13. The Miss Grand National perpetual crown and chaps are the permanent property of The Cow Palace. If the contest winner chooses to keep them in her possession during her year as reigning queen, she will be responsible for returning them in the same condition that she received them.

14. Any problems that arise should quickly be directed to your Queen Coordinator or Grand National Manager.

15. After the coronation, each contestant is expected to stay and behave appropriately as well as show good sportsmanship. Misconduct could cause ineligibility for future contests.

NOTE: *These rules and regulations are designed for your safety and to keep the contest running properly and in a professional manner.*

JUDGING PROCEDURES:

Judges will score entries individually. You will be judged in the following categories:

1. Appearance
2. Horsemanship
3. Poise and Personality
4. 3-5 Minute Open Speech
5. Impromptu Questions
6. Interview
7. Ticket Sales
8. Knowledge of Grand National Rodeo, Horse Show & Livestock Show
9. Miscellaneous-to be announced on the day of the contest

1. Appearance: The purpose of this judging is to select the contestant who is highest in:

- a. Attractiveness – appealing quality
- b. Grooming – this should include neatness and cleanliness in every detail such as complexion, hands, fingernails, hair, hat, boots, and other wearing apparel.
- c. Photogenic Quality – Judges will see a picture of each contestant. A contestant's strength of character and personality are reflected strongly in a wholesome appearance. Also, the actual appearance of the contestant will be compared to the photo to determine similarity.
- d. Posture.
- e. Professional behavior in every situation.
- f. Contestant's awareness of what is fashionable western dress with particular attention given to color coordination. Contestants should be aware of how the use of various color combinations can enhance appearance and eye appeal.

- g. Judges will observe how a contestant's clothes fit and suit her personality, the length of her trousers and jackets, the crease and shape of her hat as well as how she carries out the "total look". This is not a clothes contest, however, the contestants are expected to appear in "full western dress", which means a suit of pants, western blouse or shirt, jacket, hat, belt and boots at all times, unless otherwise specified. It is not necessary to invest in an excessive amount of expensive clothing. Judges will be looking for versatility and imagination displayed by the contestants.
- h. Contestants should be familiar with western wear, and more specifically, the outfits worn during competition.

2. Horsemanship: Contestants will be required to perform a reining pattern that will be provided to them once their application is received. Prior to the reining pattern there will be a flat class in which all the contestants will ride in the arena together. The purpose of this division is to select the contestant who rates highest in:

- a. Horsemanship – Control of mount and the way each situation is handled.
- b. Balance – The ability to sit in a saddle.
- c. Position of hands, feet, and seat.
- d. Mounting and dismounting.
- e. The understanding and skill of the contestant will be judged, and the overall appearance (grooming and cleanliness) of horse and the equipment.
- f. Each contestant will be interviewed on each of the following categories:
 - Knowledge of tack, horse care, feeding, disease, anatomy, etc.
 - Knowledge of professional rodeo
 - History
 - Organization
 - Rodeo terminology or vernacular
 - Explanation of standard events
- g. The contestant will be required to mount and dismount and perform a queen's presentation ride.
- h. Dress wear for horsemanship is:
 - Wrangler Jeans and Western Shirt
 - Hats, boots, and belts are required.
 - Chaps are not permitted.
- i. Since a contestant's personality projects from horseback to the audience and judges, showmanship should be considered.
- j. Excessive use of spurs will not be permitted.

k. Hats must be secured to ensure that they do not come off while performing.
****Contestants are required to warm up their own horses. If anyone other than the contestant is seen on the horse in the main arena this could be grounds for disqualification. ****

3. Poise and Personality: The purpose of this division is to select the contestant who rates highest in:

- a. Intelligence – Good common sense and logic.
- b. Education – Good grammar and general education.
- c. Conversational ability in varied areas.
- d. Sense of humor.
- e. Genuine interest in other people, noticeable consideration of others, and good sportsmanship at all times.
- f. Projection – Ability to project one’s personality whether from horseback in an arena, on television, or before an audience.
- g. Showmanship – Being able to present oneself in a gracious manner.
- h. Happy outlook on life in general.
- i. Promptness in keeping pageant schedule.
- j. Ability to keep composure in public.

4. 3-5 Minute Open Speech: Prepare a 3-5 minute speech to perform in front of the judges and spectators the day of the queen contest. The speeches will be done after horsemanship. Because you will be required to make public appearances as a representative and liaison for the Grand National Rodeo, you will be judged upon your public speaking abilities.

Among other criteria, you will be judged on:

- a. Preparedness
- b. Presentation
- c. Voice
- d. Enthusiasm
- e. Delivery
- f. Effectiveness
- g. Value and validity of the information you present

5. Impromptu Questions: Each contestant will be asked several general ‘impromptu’ questions about herself and rodeo knowledge. The judges will score each contestant according to how well she presents herself, her composure and mannerisms while answering the questions. This will be added to her final scoring.

6. Personal Interview: Each contestant will have a 10-15 min interview.

7. Miscellaneous: To be announced on the day of the contest. Each contestant will be asked to perform an impromptu task that relates to possible queen duties.

TICKET SALES:

Ticket Sales for any of the four Rodeo Performances will account for 5% of the overall score. Full points will be awarded for contestants who sell 100 tickets or more. Each contestant will receive a ticket form when their completed application is received. There will be **1 overall Grand National Cow Palace Belt Buckle Awarded** to the highest ticket Seller (must sell 100 tickets to be in the running for the Buckle)

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Include two 8 x 10 black and white, same pose, headshots in western hat and outfit with your entry. One will be sent to your local paper with a press release, and the other will be kept with your entry for photogenic judging. The pictures should be taken without any crown or sash.

DRESS CODE:

Please do not invest a lot of money in new clothes for the contest. We want you to feel comfortable, look neat, and enjoy your day with us. Your horsemanship outfit (**outfit #1**) should be a pair of Wranglers, a western shirt, boots, belt, and western cowboy hat. The outfit to be worn during the speech and impromptu (**outfit #2**) should be shirt and skirt, or a dress, all to be worn with boots, a belt, western cowboy hat and accessories. For the interview, contestants may choose to wear (**optional outfit #3**) a suit, shirt and skirt or a dress with boots, a belt western cowboy hat and accessories. (Please note: You do not have to have a third outfit, you may wear outfit #2 for your interview as well).

For more information please contact:

Missi Elliott 209-988-1135 or Mellott2@student.yosemite.edu

Miss Grand National Rodeo Queen

Instructions: Please type (No handwritten applications will be accepted). Include with your application:

- This entry form,
- two 8" x 10" black & white photos of the same pose
- signed participant contract and waiver
- must be postmarked by **September 1, 2015**

Name: _____ Phone #: (____) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Age as of January 1, 2015: _____ Birth date: _____

Email: _____

Parents' Names: _____

Parents' Address: _____

Your employer (if applicable): _____

Middle/High School: _____

College: _____

Major: _____

Career Goal(s): _____

How long have you been riding? _____

Do you own your own horse? _____

Daily newspaper in your area: _____

Weekly newspaper in your area: _____

Belt Size: _____ Shirt Size: _____

Information about you and your horse (description of horse(s), events that you compete in, horse related awards that you have won, etc.): _____

Participant Contract

I, the undersigned Miss Grand National Rodeo contestant (MGNR), agree to abide by the following statements, and understand that violation of any may result in my immediate disqualification from this contest:

1. I will attend all required activities and events as scheduled and directed (schedule and activities will be available at a later date).
2. I will maintain a desirable attitude, professional conduct, and be honest.
3. I will meet all eligibility requirements.
4. I will not act, appear, or be under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs at any time while representing the Grand National Rodeo/Cow Palace.
5. I will not attempt to influence or affect the outcome of the contest at the expense of a fellow contestant, a contestant's property or horse, or any other behavior or conduct deemed unacceptable by the Coordinator and/or Judges.
6. I agree for pictures to be released to newspapers as well as other publications for publicity of the Grand National Rodeo/Cow Palace

Should I be selected as the 2016 Miss Grand National Queen, I also agree to the following:

1. As Miss Grand National Rodeo's official ambassador, MGNR shall represent The Cow Palace and rodeo in a positive, professional and honorable manner.
2. I will adhere to and demonstrate high moral, ethical and professional character.
3. I will represent excellent sportsmanship and humane treatment of animals in all competitive and recreational activities.
4. I will act, dress, and speak properly at any time while in public, including appearing in full western attire with hat, crown and banner when appropriate.
5. I will be available to all reasonable requests and opportunities to appear in public on behalf of The Cow Palace and the Grand National Rodeo.
6. I will allow my name and likeness to be used at no obligation in the promotion of The Cow Palace and the Grand National Rodeo.
7. I will routinely consult with the Coordinator to schedule approved appearances, and not appear as MGNR unless previously approved by the Coordinator or Grand National Manager.

8. I will be present through the 2016 contest and coronation for Miss Grand National Rodeo and will attend at the 2017 Miss Grand National Contest and Rodeo to pass on Crown and Chaps and to help with the 2017 Pageant and opening of the 2016 Grand National Rodeo.
9. I understand that the crowns and chaps are property of Cow Palace, and should a crown or chaps be lost or damaged while under my control I will be held responsible for replacing them

I understand and accept that in the event that I fail to comply in part or whole with any of the above requirements as MGNR, I will promptly be relieved of my title and its inherent duties, responsibilities and benefits, and return all gifts and prizes. The first runner-up will then assume the position, including its duties and responsibilities for the remainder of the reign, provided that she meets the eligibility requirements. Should the first runner-up fail to meet those qualifications, or be unwilling to assume those duties, the second runner-up will be the new MGNR, also contingent upon meeting eligibility standards.

All of the information contained within this application is true and correct. I understand, accept, and am willing to carry out the duties and responsibilities as outlined in this application, as MGNR or a runner-up.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Phone #:(_____)_____ Other contact #:(_____)_____

Participant Waiver

I, _____ (PARTICIPANT) ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE VOLUNTARILY APPLIED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MISS GRAND NATIONAL COMPETITION OF THE 2016 GRAND NATIONAL RODEO AT THE COW PALACE.

I AM AWARE THAT THE ABOVE DESCRIBED ACTIVITIES ARE HAZARDOUS ACTIVITIES, AND I AM VOLUNTARILY PARTICIPATING IN THESE ACTIVITIES WITH KNOWLEDGE OF DANGER INVOLVED, AND AGREE TO ASSUME ANY AND ALL RISKS OF BODILY INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE. I VERIFY THIS STATEMENT BY PLACING MY INITIALS HERE: _____

AS CONSIDERATION FOR BEING PERMITTED BY THE COW PALACE TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE ACTIVITIES AND USE THEIR FACILITIES, I HEREBY AGREE THAT I, MY ASSIGNEES, HEIRS, DISTRIBUTEES, GUARDIANS, NEXT OF KIN, SPOUSE AND LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES WILL NOT MAKE CLAIM AGAINST, SUE, OR ATTACH THE PROPERTY OF THE COW PALACE OR ANY OF THEIR

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS FOR INJURY OR DAMAGE RESULTING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OR OTHER ACTS, HOWEVER CAUSED, BY EMPLOYEE, AGENT, OR CONTRACTOR OF THE COW PALACE OR ANY OF THEIR AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS AS A RESULT OF MY PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED ABOVE. I FOREVER RELEASE THE COW PALACE AND ANY OF THEIR AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS FROM ANY AND ALL ACTIONS, CLAIMS OR DEMAND THAT I, MY ASSIGNEES, HEIRS, DISTRIBUTEES, GUARDIANS, NEXT OF KIN, SPOUSE AND LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES NOW HAVE OR MAY HEREAFTER HAVE FOR INJURY OR DAMAGE RESULTING FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED ABOVE.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN ME AND GRAND NATIONAL /COW PALACE AND/OR THEIR AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

EXECUTED AT _____, _____ ON _____ 2015
CITY STATE DATE

PARTICIPANT / RELEASER

ADDRESS