



U.P. Rodeo, Inc. 105 Theodore Street

U.P. Championship Rodeo

Iron River, MI 49935

www.uprodeo.com

Miss U.P. Rodeo Queen/Princess Contestant Rules and Regulations

1. A queen contestant shall be no less than 16 years of age and no more than 24 years of age and a princess contestant no less than 11 years of age and no more than 15 years of age by the first day of the pageant to compete.
2. A contestant must have never been married, had children, or been pregnant. If Miss U.P. Rodeo/ U.P. Rodeo Princess marries or becomes pregnant during her reign, she shall forfeit her title and all the benefits, prizes, and monies awarded from the pageant.
3. Should Miss U.P. Rodeo/U.P. Rodeo Princess be unable to complete her reign, a majority vote is needed by the U.P. Championship Rodeo Board for the first runner-up to assume the title. In which case the majority is in favor, all benefits that were forfeited will go to first runner-up.
4. The contestant must be a citizen of the United States but need not be a resident of the State of Michigan.
5. Contestants are required to dress in appropriate western attire for each appearance.
6. Contestants are not permitted at any time during the pageant to smoke, drink alcohol, or use foul language.
7. A contestant must be an experienced rider and own or have access to a horse for use in the horsemanship competition, grand entries, parade, and future rodeo appearances should she be crowned queen/princess.
8. Any horses that are deemed dangerous by the U.P. Championship Rodeo Queen/Princess Committee, U.P. Rodeo, Inc. Board, and/or the horsemanship judges will not be allowed to compete. Dangerous is defined as bucking, rearing, running off, or otherwise out of control. Horses must be able to enter the arena, carry a flag, and run back cattle.
9. Throughout the competition, the same horse must be used. **Proof of negative coggins is required; two copies will need to be provided prior to unloading on the grounds.**
10. Contestants may not bring or ride a stallion.
11. Application must be accompanied by a vertical format (portrait) "head shot" in western wear, including a hat. **Contestant name should be printed on the back of each picture.** These DO NOT need to be professional photos. **Please include five (5) 4x6 photos (all the same picture) as well as a digital copy.** Prints will not be returned.
12. The entry application must be signed by the contestant and, if under the age of 18, by a parent or legal guardian.
13. Contestant must provide **three (3) written and signed character references.** Family members are not valid. Examples are teachers, youth leaders, employer, etc. References should provide their address and phone number and should accompany application.

14. Each contestant will be required to sell 50/50 tickets at each performance. The newly crowned queen/princess will not sell 50/50 during the final performance as they will be running event flags.
15. Campsites will be available for immediate family members wishing to stay on the grounds. Please call ASAP to let us know if you will be needing a spot.
16. Each contestant will be assigned one stall on the upper grounds which the contestant or designated party will be responsible for maintaining and cleaning. A stall deposit of \$25 is required and will be refunded after the barns have been thoroughly inspected. Any stalls left unclean will forfeit their deposit and it will also impact future applications. Contestants are responsible for their own feed throughout the weekend. Shavings for stalls will be provided for you.
17. **All contestants must be present at the final rodeo performance until the performance is complete.**
18. Each contestant must have a sponsor or sponsors, but only one will be designated to be represented on the contestant's sash. Sashes will be provided by the U.P. Championship Rodeo.
19. All contestants will be given two (2) all-access wristband passes, one for contestant and one for handler. These wristbands must be worn at all times. Only those designated and wearing the wristbands will be permitted in the contestant/chute area.
20. Should a contestant's handler reflect poorly or do anything to misrepresent the U.P. Championship Rodeo, it will reflect on the contestant. Any conduct non-becoming of a contestant or handler will be reviewed by the U.P. Championship Rodeo Board and dismissal may be the end result.
21. At the U.P. Championship Rodeo, we realize the value of social media in today's society. It plays an important part in helping to promote our rodeo and that is why we would like to express the importance of always holding the rodeo and our contestants in a positive light. The role of a PRCA rodeo queen or princess is to help promote our PRCA rodeo and the sport in general. **ANY** degrading posts, photos, or comments on any platform of social media or defamation of the U.P. Championship Rodeo name or contestants' names in any way, will not be tolerated and may cause for expulsion from the competition or reign.
22. Contestants acknowledge that they have not engaged in any act, which if made public, would be reasonably likely to cause harm or damage to her reputation or to the goodwill and reputation of the U.P. Championship Rodeo. If any contestants have concerns about the applicability of this provision, she acknowledges that she has been advised to discuss this with a U.P. Rodeo Board Member prior to signing this form.
23. Contestants must be on time and prepared for all appearances.
24. Contestants are responsible for their own tack and other property while on the U.P. Championship Rodeo grounds. The U.P. Championship Rodeo is not liable for any lost or stolen property.
25. The judges are carefully selected and have been instructed to seek a queen/princess exemplifying sincerity, integrity, intelligence, high moral standards, maturity, public speaking skills, horsemanship ability, and knowledge of rodeo, horse science, and current events.
26. The judges reserve the right not to award a title to any or all participants who they feel are not deserving or qualified of being awarded Miss U.P. Rodeo Queen/Princess title.
27. If there is only one contestant in the princess division, she must achieve a minimum of 1,200 points out of the total points available.

28. If there is only one contestant in the queen division, she must achieve a minimum of 1,230 points out of the total points available.
29. Awards will be given to the high-point earner in each division in: Horsemanship, Personality, Appearance, Rodeo Knowledge, and Public Relations.
 - The Miss Congeniality Award will be voted on by the contestants Saturday morning of the pageant. There will be one Miss Congeniality Award given, this can be awarded to a queen or princess contestant. Miss Congeniality is known by her peers as the most friendly, helpful, genuine, and outgoing contestant in the pageant.
30. In the event of a score tie for a single award category an additional award will be obtained and mailed to the contestant who did not receive the award following the completion of the pageant.
31. In the event of a score tie for Miss U.P. Rodeo or U.P. Rodeo Princess (and first runner-up) the public relations scores will be utilized as the tie breaker. The contestant with the highest score in public relations will receive the higher ranking.
32. As in all competitions, there can be only one winner. Each of you are winners and enriched individuals participating. Please remember to practice good sportsmanship as this is a learning experience where you will attain skills that will benefit you for the rest of your lives. It is said that "it takes a greater person to be a gracious loser than to be a winner". Each contestant can do a lot to promote the great sport of rodeo and create further interest in the pageant regardless of their placing.
33. Score sheets will not be returned to contestants following the pageant. Judges' comments will be compiled and given to contestants within two weeks following the completion of the pageant.
34. A complete schedule of events and official welcome packet, including horsemanship patterns, will be sent to all contestants after the final application deadline.

Rodeo Queen/Princess Contest Details

a. Horsemanship	d. Rodeo Knowledge
b. Personality	e. Personal Interviews
c. Appearance	f. Extemporaneous
Questions	

a. Horsemanship:

- Each contestant will be judged on their horsemanship skills by performing a horsemanship pattern. Patterns will be given to contestants after the final application deadline. Each contestant must abide by AQHA rules and regulations.
 - Round one: Pattern chosen by the judge panel will be announced before the pattern is set. The pattern selected will be demonstrated by the reigning queen/princess. Contestants will complete the selected pattern and dismount by the judges where the judges will conduct a brief interview by asking two questions that may include knowledge of any equine related topic. Contestants will remount and complete a flyby.
 - Round two: Queens will complete rail work on another contestant's horse. Horses will be swapped based on a random draw system. Princesses will not participate in round 2.
 - Flag run for all contestants.

b. Personality:

- Contestants will be judged on personality during all appearances throughout the competition. Judges will be looking for a contestant who is sincere, has a positive attitude, and passion for promoting the sport of rodeo, as well as how they interact with the group.

c. Appearance:

- Through the competition, contestants will be judged on their appearance. Contestants should wear well-fitted western styled clothing that is clean, pressed, and in good condition. Grooming of hair, nails, and makeup is also taken into consideration. Sleeveless or revealing clothing is not permissible. Sashes are to be worn at all times.

d. Rodeo Knowledge:

- Each contestant will be given a written rodeo knowledge test with questions comprised of, but not limited to, PRCA, general rodeo, equine, national/local sponsors, and U.P. Championship Rodeo Pageant Rules.

- Testing accommodations can be made but MUST follow an educational plan that is in place by a private/public school. Please contact a U.P. Rodeo Board member to further discuss if accommodations are needed.
- Tests will be scored by one board member and one individual selected by the U.P. Championship Rodeo Board.
- The highest score for each division will be the winner of this category.

e. Personal Interviews:

- Judges will be conducting an interview with each contestant individually. The personal interviews will allow judges to distinguish the contestant's personality and the ability to converse. Questions for the personal interview may cover a wide variety of topics.

f. Extemporaneous Questions:

- During the “welcome dinner”, contestants will be asked one current event question. On Friday, immediately following the modeling portion of the contest, each contestant will be asked an impromptu question as well as two extemporaneous questions related to the sport of rodeo, animal welfare, or rodeo related events.

The following items need to be post marked by June 2, 2026. Late entries will be accepted and must be post marked by June 16, 2026.

Please mail to:

U.P. Championship Rodeo
Queen Committee
105 Theodore Street
Iron River, MI 49935

Don't forget to include:

- Signed U.P. Championship Rodeo Queen/Princess Application
- Signed Rules and Regulations form.
- Five copies of contestant photo (with contestant name on back)
- Proof of age (birth certificate or driver's license)
- \$75 entry fee (\$100 after June 2, 2026)
- \$25 stall fee (please issue separate check, will be returned if stall is clean)
- Three (3) reference letters with address and phone number

- Please email copy of contestant photo to info@uprodeo.com

- Please hand in 2 copies of negative coggins upon arrival.

Contestant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____
(if contestant is under 18)