

Sonoma County FAIR

Dear Contestant,

The Sonoma County Fair Miss Wine Country Rodeo Queen contest is fast approaching. We invite you to apply for this special competition. The young woman selected will receive a specialty belt buckle and the title of Miss Wine Country Rodeo Queen. This year's competition will take place on Sunday, April 16th, at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds.

The contest consists of three main categories: horsemanship, speech and a personal interview. The panel of judges carefully evaluates the contestants, choosing the young woman best suited to serve as Sonoma County Fair's Miss Wine Country Rodeo Queen for the upcoming year.

The winning contestant represents and promotes the Sonoma County Fair at several parades, rodeos and other special events throughout California during her one-year reign as the Wine Country Rodeo Queen. She also performs at our annual fair rodeo and the Farmers' Day celebration. Awards will be announced during the pageant social on April 16th.

Included in this informational packet, you will find the written application, the pageant expectation statement, a release and hold harmless waiver, rules and regulations as well as contestant guidelines including judging criterion. There is no entry fee for the 2023 contest. For an application to be complete contestants must submit a written application, signed pageant expectation statement and hold harmless waiver as well as a 5x7 photograph to the Sonoma County Fairgrounds by 5:00p.m. March 17, 2023 (Applications can be mailed to 1350 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95404 or scanned and emailed to entryoffice@sonomacountyfair.com).

If you would like to consider participating in the Miss Wine Country Rodeo Queen pageant. Please give us a call (707-338-0956) or send us an email (bbpalm88@att.net) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Hope Marshall
Exhibits Coordinator

Miss Wine Country Rodeo Pageant Rules & Regulations

1. Applications may be submitted (in person, by mail, or e-mail) and received by the Sonoma County Fair Entry Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 17th.
2. To be eligible contestant must have graduated from a high school located in Sonoma, Lake, Napa, Mendocino, Solano or Marin counties.
3. Each Contestant will supply Miss Wine Country Rodeo Pageant with:
 - 5"x7" color photo to be used for publicity & photogenic judging. (These will not be returned.)
 - The photos should be head and shoulder photos in full western attire including hat. They can be in print format or in digital format.
4. Contestants must sign Expectation Statement as well as Release and Hold Harmless waiver and submit with completed application.
5. Contestants must conduct themselves in a proper lady-like manner and portray high moral standards. Contestants will not be permitted to take any illegal drugs, drink alcoholic beverages, smoke or use foul language at any time during the competition.
6. A minimum of two contestants will be required for the contest to be held.
In the event of cancellation, the Sonoma County Fair reserves the right to contact lone applicant for a qualification interview to become the appointed Miss Wine Country Rodeo. Applicant will be contacted with details.
7. A contestant, or any individual related to a contestant, must not approach Judges with the intent to influence or harass. Action of this type will be reported to the Sonoma County Fair Board and disqualification of that Contestant could result.
8. Contestants will be required to provide their own horses.
9. During the Miss Wine Country Rodeo Pageant Contestants will:
 - Complete a horsemanship segment
 - Complete an interview highlighting their knowledge of the sport of rodeo, rodeo and industry current events, equine science as well as the Sonoma County Fair
 - Introduce themselves and family members
10. Contestants will provide their own transportation to and from their home to the Sonoma County Fairgrounds.
11. Please consult wardrobe guidelines for suggested attire.
12. The winning Contestant is expected to travel to a minimum of four or more rodeo events outside the Sonoma County Fair and Rodeo.
13. The Sonoma County Fair expects each Contestant to display the highest degree of sportsmanship during the Pageant and particularly following the Coronation Ceremony. Poor sportsman-like conduct will not be tolerated and could result in the Contestant being disqualified and may affect future eligibility to compete in the Miss Wine Country Rodeo Pageant

Miss Wine Country Rodeo Pageant Rules & Regulations Continued

Eligibility Requirements:

Each Contestant in the Miss Wine Country Rodeo Pageant on the date of competition and final selection of Miss Wine Country Rodeo must meet the following eligibility requirements:

1. Contestants must have reached the age of 18 years of age by December 31, 2022 and must not reach the age of 25 years of age by December 31, 2023. (Proof of age may be required.)
2. Must be a resident of California and have graduated from a Sonoma, Lake, Napa, Mendocino, Marin County, or Solano high school.
3. Must not have previously been, or presently be, married and/or pregnant.
4. Must execute all consents and/or waivers of liability presented as conditions prior to competition and sign contract if selected.
5. Shall abide by all rules and regulations of the Miss Wine Country Rodeo Pageant.
6. Must not have ever been convicted of a crime.

Contest Awards and Prizes:

- ◆ 2022-2023 Miss Wine Country Rodeo Queen title
- ◆ Belt Buckle
- ◆ \$1000 Travel Allowance
- ◆ Horsemanship Award
- ◆ Speech Award
- ◆ Photogenic Award
- ◆ Contestant Awards

Miss Wine Country Rodeo Appearance Calendar

The 2022 Wine Country Rodeo Queen is expected to attend, make an appearance, or participate in some manner at the following events:

Pre-Fair Events:

Saturday, April 22	Butter and Eggs Day Parade in Petaluma, CA
TBD	Luther Burbank Rose Parade in Santa Rosa, CA
TBD	Sonoma-Marin Fair - Farmers' Day Event

During the Sonoma County Fair: (August 4-14, 2022)

Friday, August 4	Barrel Racing
Saturday, August 5	Hog/Poultry/Rabbit Auction
Saturday, August 5	Wine Country Rodeo featuring Four Star Rodeo Company
Sunday, August 6	Farmers' Day
Sunday, August 6	Lamb/Goat/Beef Auction
Sunday, August 13	Junior Exhibitor Awards Ceremony
TBD	Hat Day

There will also be a named race for the Wine Country Rodeo Queen at our annual Horse Racing meet during the fair, likely scheduled during the Rodeo/Farmer's Day weekend.

Event details, times, and locations of events will be confirmed by Entry Office.

Contestant Guidelines for the Miss Wine Country Rodeo Pageant

Wardrobe Guidelines:

1. **Horsemanship Outfit.** The Horsemanship outfit and arena interview outfit should consist of western jeans of any style or color with a coordinating blouse that should be tucked in. Accessories (hat, boots, belt, etc.) may be any color. Chaps are not permitted.
2. **Afternoon Social.** As a suggestion, you may want to bring a change of clothes for the personal interview and speech portions of the pageant. The interview outfit can consist of a western style skirt or pant suit with boots and a hat. The speech outfit is traditionally a lambskin dress with a hat and boots. This is not required but encouraged.

Appearance Guidelines:

1. Attractiveness **with self-confidence.**
2. **Grooming:** This should include neatness and cleanliness in every detail. This includes yourself, your horse and all tack.
3. **Photogenic Quality:** Judges will conduct a review of a single 5x7 color photo that the Contestant will have submitted with her entry.
4. **Posture:** How a Contestant carries herself is very important. The judges will be looking for Contestants to carry themselves straight and tall and exude self-confidence and poise.
5. **Poise and ladylike behavior** in every situation: Judges will be looking for Contestants to handle each situation in which they are involved with grace and style. Judges will also be looking for Contestants to have a substantial knowledge of proper etiquette.
6. **Western Fashion Sense:** Contestants should pick outfits that reflect fashionable and tasteful western clothing. Judges will be paying particular attention to Contestant's ability to use colors to enhance her natural coloring, appearance, and eye appeal.
7. **Proper fit of clothing:** Contestants should pay particular attention to the fit of their outfits. Outfits should be figure flattering and altered to fit her personally. Judges will be looking for a properly fitting hat that is shaped to flatter the Contestants face. Contestants should remember that this is not a clothing contest. It is not necessary to invest an excessive amount of money in clothing. Judges will be looking for versatility and imagination and a Contestant's ability to carry out a "total look".

Personality Guidelines:

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

1. **Intelligence and good common sense.**
2. **Conversational ability** in varied circumstances, with an emphasis on grammar and enunciation.
3. A good **sense of humor.**
4. **Self-confidence, high moral standards, sincerity, and integrity.**
5. **Genuine interest in other people and consideration of others.**
6. **Self-Projection** – the ability to project one's personality, whether it is from the horseback or appearing on stage before a crowd.
7. **A happy outlook on life.**
8. **Promptness** in keeping the pageant schedule.
9. **Maturity.**
10. **The ability to clearly express** ones educational backgrounds and career goals.

Contestant Guidelines for the Miss Wine Country Rodeo Pageant Continued

Horsemanship Guidelines:

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

1. **Horsemanship** – Control of the horse and the way the Contestant handles each situation that may occur.
2. **Balance** – The ability to sit steady in a saddle.
3. **Position** of hands, feet, and seat.
4. **Mounting and dismounting.** Contestant will be asked to drop bridle.
5. **Understanding and skill** will be judged and not the horse or equipment.
6. **Horsemanship pattern.** The pattern used can be found in the contestant packet. At the discretion of the judges, patterns may be altered due to the arena conditions. Any changes and/or alterations to the Horsemanship patterns will be announced to the contestants before the Horsemanship competition begins. The patterns will be demonstrated beforehand.
7. **Each Contestant will be interviewed on each of the following categories:**
 - Knowledge of tack (example: parts of saddle/headstall/bits etc.)
 - Equine science (example: parts of the horse)
 - Professional rodeo and history
 - Rodeo terminology
 - Explanation of “standard” rodeo events, championship standings, current issues of the PRCA website
 - Knowledge of the Sonoma County Fair
 - General horse maneuvering
8. **Showmanship:** How well a contestant projects her personality to the audience from horseback.

Judging Guidelines:

Total	605 points
Horsemanship	280 points
Pattern	100 points
Spins (Fluid, complete, on the haunches, no walking out; spins do not need to be fast but executed correctly.)	10 points
Rollbacks (No walking or trotting out of a roll-back)	10 points
Circles (Shows size/speed difference, correct use of arena, comes through center, consistent circles on both sides)	10 points
Lead Change (Smooth, center of arena; flying lead change or can break down in 4 strides or less)	10 points
Rundowns (Straight line, controlled, proper speed; stays off arena fence by at least 20 feet)	10 points
Stops (On hind end, doesn't walk out, rider stays in saddle, smooth)	10 points
Back-up (Smooth, straight, compliant horse, complete)	10 points
Executes pattern correctly	10 points
Basic Horsemanship (Centered and balanced, nice seat, legs and hands quiet, heels down, eyes up, relaxed, demonstrates correct cues)	10 points
Mount/Dismount (Correctness, smooth, fluid, no jump down or up, reins do not touch the ground, does not touch cantle, check's equipment prior to mounting)	5 points

Horsemanship Questions (Knowledgeable, poised)	5 points
Flag Run	50 points
Use of Arena (Uses whole arena, appropriate speed and control)	25 points
Flag position (Flag is upright and controlled)	25 points
Rail Pattern	80 points
Executes Pattern	5 points
Basic horsemanship (centered and balanced, nice seat, hands and legs quiet, heels down, eyes up, demonstrates correct cues)	10 points
Walk	10 points
Trot	10 points
Lope	10 points
Reverse	5 points
Rider (Centered, balanced, nice seat, quiet hands/legs, eyes up)	20 points
Presentation & Appearance (Smiles, energetic, hair pulled back, appropriate make-up, horsemanship dress code, color compliments rider/horse; clean/pressed tailored outfit, overall pleasing to the eye polished look. Horse coat, mane and tail clean, face and ears clipped, good cover, clean/proper equipment)	10 points
Queen Run	50 points
Use of Arena (Uses whole arena, appropriate speed and control)	10 points
Queen Wave (Compliments the rider's style, controlled/consistent around entire arena, leaves a good impression)	10 points
Rider (Centered, balanced, nice seat, quiet hands/legs, eyes up)	20 points
Presentation & Appearance (Smiles, energetic, hair pulled back, appropriate make-up, horsemanship dress code, color compliments rider/horse; clean/pressed tailored outfit, overall pleasing to the eye polished look. Horse coat, mane and tail clean, face and ears clipped, good cover, clean/proper equipment)	10 points
Personal Interview:	125 points
Knowledge of PRCA (History, year-end standings, sponsors, stock contractors)	20 points
Rodeo Knowledge (Events, Rules, Regulations)	20 points
Current Events Knowledge (State, National, World-wide)	15 points
Response to Personal Questions (Genuine, interesting, confident)	10 points
Response to Hypothetical Questions (Interesting, positive, thoughtful)	10 points
Eye Contact (Maintains good eye contact)	10 points
Entrance and Exit (Confident, shakes hand, smooth, smile, good presence)	5 points
Posture (Sits up straight, no fidgeting, not tense)	5 points
Conversation Ability (Easy to talk to, good grammar, friendly)	20 points
Poise and Personality (Honest, sincere, confident, smiles, interesting, courteous, mature, positive body language, sense of humor etc.)	5 points
Appearance (Appropriate hair and make-up, nails clean; Clothes-clean and pressed, tailored to figure, appealing to the eye, boots clean and polished, hat clean and shaped etc.)	5 points

Speech:

Stage Presence (friendly, approachable, interesting)

Content (interesting to listen to, informative)

Appearance (presentable, good posture)

Audience Interaction (eye contact, friendly to audience)

200 points

50 points

50 points

50 points

50 points

Wine Country Rodeo Queen Contest Timeline
Sunday, April 16th, 2023
Sonoma County Fairgrounds, Santa Rosa, CA
1:00 PM

1:00-1:30 p.m. Contestant Check-In at Chris Beck Arena*

1:30-2:00 p.m. Warm-Up Horses in Arena

2:00 p.m. Introductions and Review of Day's Schedule

Horsemanship – Lyttle Cow Palace

- ◆ Each contestant will be asked to mount
- ◆ Each contestant will run pattern (see enclosed diagram)
- ◆ Each contestant will be asked to dismount and drop bridle
- ◆ Each contestant will perform a Queens Run
- ◆ Each contestant will perform a Flag Run
- ◆ Each contestant will participate in a rail pattern

Interview- Arena Office

- ◆ Each contestant will have an individual interview with the judges
(See Wine Country Rodeo Queen Pageant Guidelines for topic areas.)

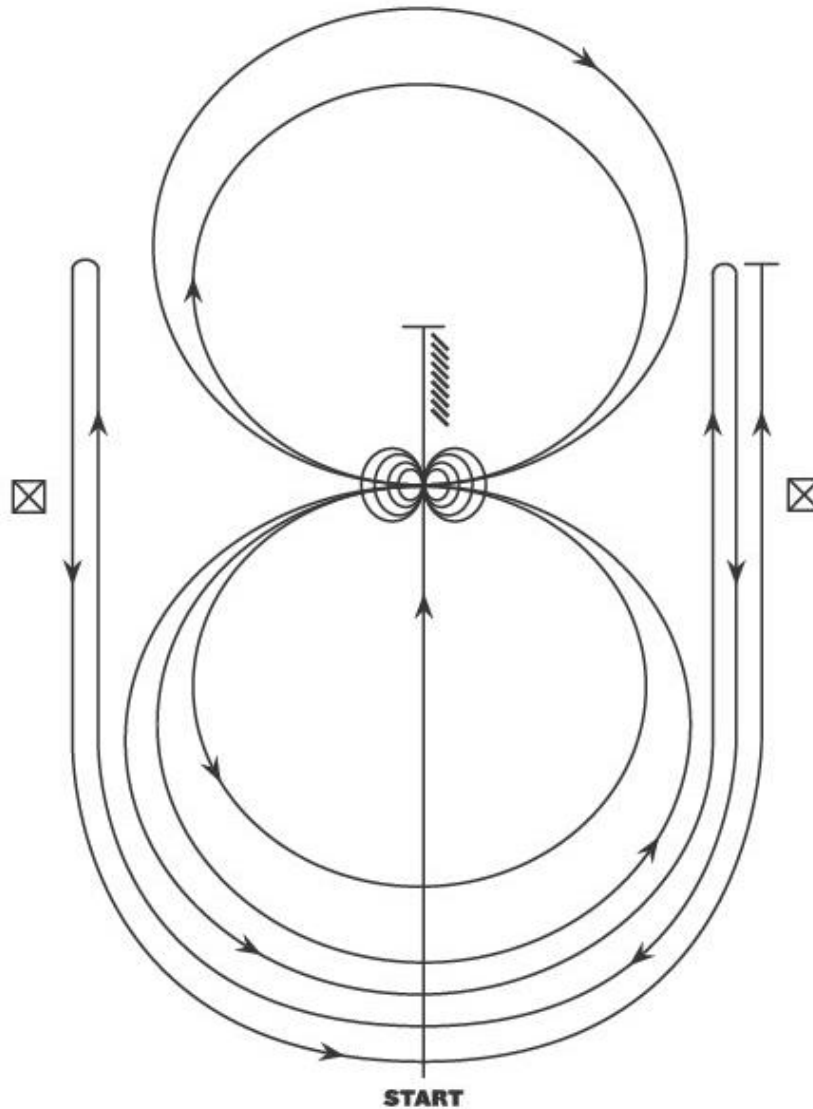
3:30 p.m. (finished in arena) Contestants will have 30 minutes to freshen-up

4:00 p.m. Afternoon Social

4:30 p.m. Coronation and Completion of Contest

Arena Pattern:

VRH AND RHC RANCH REINING PATTERN 5



Mandatory Markers along Fence or Wall: The judge shall indicate with markers on arena fence or wall the center of pattern. Judge shall also place markers on fence or wall at least 50' from each end of the arena.

Ride pattern as follows:

1. Run past the center marker and do a sliding stop. Back to center of arena or at least 10 feet. Hesitate.
2. Complete four right spins. Hesitate.
3. Complete four and one-quarter left spins. Hesitate. Horse to be facing left fence.
4. Beginning on left lead, complete two circles to the left - the first one small and slow, the second one large and fast. Change leads at center of arena.
5. Complete two circles to the right - the first one small and slow, the second one large and fast. Change leads at center of arena.
6. Begin a large circle to the left, but do not close this circle. Run up the right side of the arena, past the center marker, and do a right rollback at least 20 feet from the wall or fence.
7. Continue back around the previous circle, but do not close circle. Run up the left side of the arena, past the center marker, and do a left rollback at least 20 feet from the wall or fence.
8. Continue back around previous circle, but do not close this circle. Run up the right side of the arena, past the center marker, and do a sliding stop at least 20 feet from the wall or fence. Hesitate to show completion of pattern.

Revised 06-07-2021

Miss Wine Country Rodea Contestant Application

Completed application must be submitted along with signed Expectation Statement, Hold Harmless Waiver and required photo no later than **5:00 p.m.** on

Friday, March 17, 2023 to the Sonoma County Fair Entry Office (1350 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95404)

Name _____ Age _____ Birth Date _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip code _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email address _____

Education

High School attended _____ GPA _____

College(s) Attended _____

Please list your major and/or degrees you hold _____

School Activities (Extra-Curricular)

High School: _____

College: _____

Goals and Future Plans: _____

Special Interests, Awards and Activities (Not Horse Related): _____

Rodeo and other horse related activities which you enjoy or participate: _____

Miss Wine Country Rodeo Pageant Expectation Statement

- I understand that if I win the title of Miss Wine Country Rodeo, I will be Sonoma County Fair's official representative and responsible to present the sport of rodeo in its true light to the general public.
- I will strive to represent unexcelled sportsmanship, while exhibiting high moral and ethical character during the pageant. I have read the rules regarding sportsmanship and proper conduct during the pageant and agree to follow these rules.
- I will educate myself concerning the proper treatment of animals used in rodeos and agree to treat all animals in a humane way.
- I understand that the Miss Wine Country Rodeo Pageant is not a beauty contest. Rather it is a competition that recognizes a number of attributes: horsemanship, personality, public speaking, and appearance. Therefore, it will be my responsibility, as Santa Rosa's official rodeo representative, to act, speak and dress according to the esteem my title deserves, any time that I am in the public eye.
- Riding and horsemanship skills are key to the promotion of the sport of rodeo. Therefore, I will strive to improve my riding and horsemanship skills so that I can better promote the sport of rodeo.

If I become Miss Wine Country Rodeo Queen, I will:

- Wear my Miss Wine Country Rodeo Banner, Western Hat, Western Boots, as well as suitable western attire, any time I am acting in the capacity as Miss Wine Country Rodeo.
- Avail myself of all opportunities to appear as Miss Wine Country Rodeo to the public and to be prepared for photographs and interview opportunities to promote the sport of rodeo.
- Attend specific rodeos and other events as requested by the Sonoma County Fair. *(See page 3 for the 2023 Calendar of Events traditionally attended by the Miss Wine Country Rodeo Queen.)*
- I agree to uphold the title of Miss Wine Country Rodeo, encourage others to participate in future pageants, fulfill the provisions of my reign to act as hostess to contestants in future pageants and assist in the promotion and conduct of the pageant in every way.
- I understand that during my reign as Miss Wine Country Rodeo, I will make the Sonoma County Fair and the Rodeo Queen Committee aware of all my appearances and submit information to be posted on social media.
- I agree that during the term of my entry as a contestant and throughout my reign as Miss Wine Country Rodeo, I shall remain unmarried and shall observe a high standard of moral and ethical behavior befitting my title and setting a good example to the public, to future competitors and the Miss Wine Country Rodeo Pageant.
- I agree that I have read and understand the guidelines, rules and regulations and will abide by these rules during the entire Miss Wine Country Rodeo Pageant and during my reign as Miss Wine Country Rodeo, should I earn the title.
- I understand that all travel and lodging associated with any appearances are at my own expense and not reimbursable. However, Miss Wine Country Rodeo is encouraged to seek sponsors to offset cost of travel.
- I agree that I have carefully read the above statements and agree to abide by these and all other rules set by the Sonoma County Fair & Exposition, Inc.

Contestant's Signature

Date

RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS WAIVER

In consideration of my acceptance by the Sonoma County Fair & Exposition, Inc., as an entrant, participant or exhibitor in Miss Wine Country Rodeo events, it is agreed and understood that neither the Sonoma County Fair & Exposition, Inc., Harvest Fair Association of Sonoma County, the County of Sonoma, nor their officers, agents and employees, shall be held legally liable or responsible for any loss, injury or damage which may occur or arise to myself or to any livestock or equipment which may be exhibited by me or any other person, by reason of negligence, misconduct or conduct of any person or entity whomsoever or whatsoever, including the Sonoma County Fair & Exposition, Inc., Harvest Fair Association of Sonoma County, the County of Sonoma, it's officers, agents, or employees.

Each entrant, participant or exhibitors shall be solely responsible for any loss, injury or damage sustained by her or caused by her to any other exhibitors or person whether occurring by or arising from any animal or article exhibited by her or otherwise, and she hereby agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Sonoma County Fair & Exposition, Inc., its officers, agents, and employees from any and all claims, losses, and demands which may occur or arise hereunder.

I promise to abide by the rules and regulations pertaining to the above event. I also agree to abide by the decisions of the judges and flagman officiating over this event.

I hereby release all right, title and interest in any photographs of myself that may be taken by themanagement. Please fill out information below COMPLETELY.

PRINTED NAME OF ENTRANT _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

X

REQUIRED - SIGNATURE OF ENTRANT