

2009 Fort Bend County Fair Queen Contest Rules

Director in Charge – Tammy Osina

General Rules

The purpose of this contest shall be to select a Queen for the Fort Bend County Fair. Also, to supply the Fort Bend County Fair Association with a means of selling fair entrance tickets prior to the Fair's opening date, to provide scholarships to winning contestants and a means for raising revenue for sponsoring organizations. This contest shall be open to non-sponsored individuals and to non-profit sponsoring organizations, both youth and civic. Documented proof of 501c non-profit status must be presented with your application if you have a sponsoring organization.

Each contestant shall be a Fort Bend County resident who is a female student between the ages of 15 and 19 years, unmarried and never having been married, and having no children, having reached their 15th birthday on or before September 1, 2009, and not having reached their 20th birthday by September 1, 2009.

All contestants must participate in the FBCF Style Show to be held on August 22, 2009. In addition, all contestants must participate in an interview with a panel of judges to be held on August 22, 2009.

All participants must participate in the Fair Parade on Friday, September 25, 2009. The contestant must ride on a float or in a vehicle, which is to be provided by the candidate's sponsor or the candidate. The Fort Bend County Fair Association does not provide a float or car for the candidate. The chosen Fair Queen will represent the Fort Bend County Fair by being present at several activities during the Fair, to include but not limited to, auctions, receptions, horse shows, livestock judging, etc., and other events that may be requested by the Fort Bend County Fair Association. A list of many of these events will be provided at the mandatory meeting of the Queen Contestants on August 9, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. The chosen Fair Queen will serve a term of one year as an ambassador of the Fort Bend County Fair. Attendance at the following year's coronation, participation in the following year's parade, and participation in the following year's style show are also mandatory. The chosen Fair Queen shall also participate on the Fort Bend County Fair Association Queen Committee for the following year. If for any reason the chosen Queen is unable to fulfill her term of one year, any scholarship amount to be awarded will be prorated in accordance with the length of time the chosen Queen has served. The remainder of the scholarship amount that was to be awarded will be given to the 1st Runner Up. Further, if the chosen Queen is unable to fulfill her term, she is to return the Crown to the Fort Bend County Fair Association.

The introduction of all Fort Bend County Fair Queen candidates, coronation of the queen and the presentation of the runners-up and marketing winner will be at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, September 25, 2009. All candidates are required to participate in the coronation ceremonies. The location of the coronation will be provided to the Candidates at the initial meeting of the Candidates held on August 9, 2009.

In the Event of a Natural Disaster or other event, the Fort Bend County Fair Association Executive Committee may change the dates and times of the contest. It is the responsibility of the Contestant to provide the Queen Committee with at least two telephone numbers at which they can be reached and it is the responsibility of the Contestant to remain in contact with the Chairman and/or the Fort Bend County Fair Office to obtain any changes in locations, times and rules. Queen Candidates will be issued a sash at the initial meeting and will be charged \$35.00 if the sash is lost or damaged. The Sash must be turned in or paid for prior to individual scores being released or any scholarship monies being dispersed.

The crowned Queen is to be escorted at all times by a parent and/or member of the Fort Bend County Fair Queen Committee while attending any function during the Fort Bend County Fair in her capacity as Fort Bend County Fair Queen.

Commissions and Selection Criteria of Fair Queen

A sponsoring organization is optional. If the contestant chooses to run with the help of a sponsoring organization, the organization will receive a commission for the contestant's ticket sales and the contestant could possibly receive a scholarship depending upon her final contest score. If a contestant chooses not to solicit the help of a sponsor, the contestant will receive a commission for her ticket sales as set forth below, and could possibly receive a scholarship depending upon her final contest score. The commission will be tabulated on a sliding scale as follows:

10% commission on ticket sales under \$5,000.00 (in the form of a check from fair)

15% commission on ticket sales between \$5,001.00 and \$19,999.99 (scholarship)

20% commission on ticket sales equal to and exceeding \$20,000.00 (scholarship)

Winners will be selected according to the following criteria:

1. Contestants shall sell a minimum of \$5,000.00 of pre-fair tickets to be eligible for The Queen Contest finals.
2. Points from 1 to 100 will be awarded to each contestant based upon the following scale:
 - A. Ticket Sales – up to 50 points
 - 1 point for every \$1,000.00 of pre-fair tickets sold, rounded to the nearest \$1,000.00
 - The ticket sales amount will be determined by the amount of money turned in or deposited by the reconciliation date.
 - B. Presentation score by a panel of judges – up to 15 points. This will take place at the style show.
 - Showmanship– possible 5 points
 - Appearance – possible 5 points
 - Poise – possible 5 points
 - C. Interview score by a panel of judges – up to 35 points. These interview sessions will be scheduled for all contestants.
 - Personal Activities/Involvement – possible 10 points
 - Personality – possible 5 points
 - Appearance – possible 5 points
 - Interview skills – possible 15 points
 - D. In case of a tie in total score or in any category, placement will be determined by the amount of money turned in by the final ticket reconciliation date.

Scholarships

Contestants must sell a minimum of \$5,000.00 in pre-fair ticket sales to be eligible to receive a Queen or runner-up scholarship, and the Marketing Winner must sell a minimum of \$7,500.00 in pre-fair ticket sales to be eligible to be the Marketing Winner. The scholarships are as follows:

\$2,000.00 – Queen

\$1,400.00 – 1st Runner-up

\$1,000.00 – 2nd Runner-up

\$800.00 – 3rd Runner-up

\$500.00 – 4th Runner-up

\$2,000.00 – Marketing Winner

Buckles will be awarded to the Queen and the winners of the Style Show and Interview Categories.

Meeting

A mandatory first meeting for all Fair Queen candidates will be held at Safari Texas Ranch, 11627 FM 1464, Richmond, Texas 77469 at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 9, 2009 or at such other location as may be determined by the Fair Queen Committee. At least one parent or legal guardian must accompany each contestant if the Candidate is under 18 years of age. If the candidate has a sponsor, one parent or legal guardian (if the candidate is under 18 years of age), and one adult representative from the sponsoring organization must accompany her. The pre-fair tickets will be distributed to each sponsoring organization, adult representative and/or parent in the amount requested (subject to reasonable limitations), and then issued as needed from designated Fair Queen Committee members. A parent or legal guardian (if the candidate is under 18 years of age) must sign for all pre-fair tickets if the candidate does not have a sponsor. If the candidate has a sponsor, both an adult from the sponsoring organization and a parent or legal guardian (if the candidate is under 18 years of age) must sign for all pre-fair tickets. Both the organization and parents and/or Candidate will be responsible for the tickets or money at turn-in time. Internet sales will begin April 1, 2009 and will continue through September 24, 2009.

Ticket Sales

A Sign in Grid for Sale locations will be available at the Initial Meeting, after the meeting, a Candidate may only register for 10 additional locations from the Grid per week.

A candidate may contact Sale locations other than those listed on the Grid to sell tickets and may be allowed to sell tickets at that location with the express permission of the location's owner and/or manager.

If a candidate gets permission from a Sale location, which is on the Grid provided at the initial meeting of the Candidates, to sell tickets at a time that IS NOT allotted as a time for other candidates to sell at that location, a Candidate may sell tickets from that location.

Tickets may be sold on the internet through the Fair website www.fbcfa.org. Each contestant shall have a link through this page directly to their individual sales page. Individual sales pages will be standardized and provided by the Fort Bend County Fair. Sales will not be monitored by the Fair Office or any member of the Fair Queen committee or otherwise during the sale period. Monitoring will be done by an off-site ticket company and total sales for each Contestant will be downloaded at 2 p.m. on September 24, 2009 directly to the Director in Charge and kept confidential until the coronation on September 25, 2009.

Money from Ticket Sales

Money from the sales of tickets shall be deposited by the candidates in a bank account designated by the Fort Bend County Fair Association. ANY MONEY deposited in the designated bank account on Thursday, September 24, 2009 must be deposited by 2:00 p.m. Candidates should write their name in the memo section of any check deposited and will be responsible for any insufficient funds on deposited checks. Should a check be returned, scholarship money will be withheld until the funds are repaid in full. Candidates must have a bank-stamped proof of each deposit.

Each contestant must be accompanied by an adult and must present all such bank-stamped proofs of deposit for account reconciliation by the Fair Queen Committee at the Bud O'Shieles Community Center at 4:00 p.m., Thursday, September 24, 2009. Any revenue from ticket sales occurring between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on September 24, 2009 must be brought to the ticket reconciliation and be in the form of cash or a cashier's check. **DO NOT** deposit any money after 2:00 p.m. on September 24, 2009. The bank will post these deposits to September 25th and the deposits will not be available to the committee for final tally and will **NOT** count towards the contestant's ticket sales. Each deposit slip shall only have the contestant's social security number for confidentiality purposes, and the last four digits of the candidate's social security number must be on each deposit slip submitted to the bank. Any monies checked in after 4:00 p.m. on September 24, 2009 **will not** qualify for the contest. **DO NOT BE LATE!** ALL monies brought to the ticket reconciliation must be in the form of cash or a cashier's check, **NO PERSONAL CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** If tickets are missing, all tickets must be paid for at the ticket reconciliation on Thursday, September 24, 2009. All tickets must be turned in or paid for prior to individual scores being released or any scholarship monies being dispersed.

All tabulations and reconciling among the contestant's supporters are to be done **BEFORE** checking in at 4:00 p.m. on September 24, 2009. Contestants and/or sponsoring organizations will not be provided an area to perform final tabulations and counts among themselves prior to their allotted turn in time with the queen contest committee.

Internet Sales will be closed at 2 p.m. on September 24, 2009. Internet Sale Totals will be added to each contestant's total after tickets/receipts are balanced.

It is the Contestant's responsibility to deposit money regularly during the sale time period. In the event of a Natural Disaster, the money and the tickets are the responsibility of the Contestants and must be deposited by the designated time.

Prohibited Acts

Any individual having been crowned Fort Bend County Fair Queen is not eligible to be a queen candidate again.

No Queen candidate, candidate family member, or any member of the sponsoring organization shall communicate to any person who is not a member of the organization the candidate's TOTAL ticket sales or TOTAL dollar amount of sales from the time of ticket distribution on August 9, 2009, through the end of the queen coronation. Communication of such information shall be grounds for disqualification of the Queen Candidate and/or forfeiture of the commission earned through ticket sales.

No Queen candidate, candidate family member, any member of the sponsoring organization or any person on behalf of Queen Candidate, shall solicit ticket sales at any location; to include storefronts, store parking lots or any other location without the express permission of the owner or manager of that location. Solicitation of any ticket sales by any Queen candidate, candidate family member, any member of the sponsoring organization or any person on behalf of Queen Candidate without the express consent of the owner or manager of the location, shall be grounds for disqualification of the Queen Candidate and/or forfeiture of the commission earned through ticket sales. No Queen candidate, candidate family member, or any member of the sponsoring organization shall threaten any business or person with boycott or other retaliatory acts in connection with the Fort Bend County Fair Queen contest. Any such communication or threat, if verified by the recipient of the threat, shall be grounds for disqualification of the Queen Candidate and/or forfeiture of the commission earned through ticket sales.

If a Queen candidate, candidate family member, or any member of the sponsoring organization is in possession of tickets after the candidate has been reconciled; the sale of these tickets is prohibited after 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 24, 2009. These tickets are discount tickets and are not valid once the Fair opens. Violation of this rule shall constitute grounds for forfeiture of all commissions earned through ticket sales and/or revocation of a scholarship for a contest finalist.

No Queen candidate, candidate family member, or any member of the sponsoring organization shall participate in removing or defacing another Queen candidate's poster or advertisement. Violation of this rule shall constitute grounds for disqualification of the Queen Candidate and/or forfeiture of the commission earned through ticket sales.

No Queen candidate, candidate family member or any member of the sponsoring organization shall sell pre-fair tickets at any location that has not given permission to the candidate or the Queen committee. Violation of this rule shall constitute grounds for disqualification of the Queen Candidate and/or forfeiture of the commission earned through ticket sales.

All Queen Candidates, candidate family members, friends of candidates or any member of the sponsoring organization are to adhere to the selling times issued for the lottery locations. If a candidate is not at her allotted time for her scheduled location, another candidate *is not* to sell tickets at the vacant location. Selling at another candidate's scheduled location is grounds for immediate disqualification and/or forfeiture of the commission earned through ticket sales.

All Queen Candidates, candidate family members, friends of candidates and all members of the sponsoring organization shall sell the pre-fair tickets for the pre-fair ticket price. Violation

of this rule shall constitute grounds for disqualification of the Queen Candidate and/or forfeiture of the commission earned through ticket sales.

Queen Candidates may accept donations to the Fort Bend County Fair which will then be counted toward her total ticket sales. Donations may be accepted by check or cash or via credit card through the candidate's internet sales page. Donations can be designated for donation only or donation of tickets to underprivileged children and families.

No Queen candidate is considered a candidate until the registration is completed. Registration begins April 1, 2009, and ends on August 9, 2009. Any use of the wording, "Fort Bend County Fair Queen Contest/Candidate," prior to the submission of a registration form shall be grounds for disqualification of the candidate.

All Queen Candidates, candidate family members or any member of the sponsoring organization shall represent in a clear manner which candidate they are supporting during all fundraising activities. Violation of this rule shall be grounds for disqualification of the Queen candidate.

Queen candidates may not use the name of any cause other than the Fort Bend County Fair to solicit donations including, but not limited to use of Natural Disaster Relief or National Crisis; the donation requests must state that all funds will go to the Fort Bend County Fair Association.

Dated: _____

AGREED: _____ Ft. Bend County Fair Queen Candidate

AGREED: _____ Candidate Parent/Legal Guardian

AGREED: _____ Candidate Sponsoring Organization
Representative