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*2018 Sonoita Labor Day and Memorial  
Day Rodeo Queen, Princess and Little  
Miss Rules*

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Competition: Saturday, March 24, 2018

8 a.m. Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds, Sonoita, AZ

Eligibility: Must receive application no later than February 28, 2018.

Mandatory orientation: Saturday, March 3, 2018

Rules for 2017 Sonoita Labor Day Rodeo Royalty:

1. A rodeo queen, princess and Little Miss will be selected every year at a contest held at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds.
2. The Rodeo Queen (18-23), Princess (12-17) and Little Miss (7-11) must meet the age requirements as of March 24, 2018.
3. Queen, Princess and Little Miss must be capable of fulfilling the roles and responsibilities of the Rodeo Royalty including: attendance at the Pima County Fair Rodeo (March), Sonoita Annual Horse Races (May), Memorial Day Rodeo (Late May), Elgin School Ranch & Rodeo Day, Labor Day Rodeo (August/September), SCC County Fair (September) and GCPRA Finals (Queen only November). If disciplinary action is taken by the royalty committee for any rules infraction, title holder may be asked to sit out of a required event. Fulfilling roles includes remaining at each event for the amount of time determined by the royalty committee. This time commitment will be determined in advance of the event and delivered via email and text.
4. The rodeo royalty will participate in all scheduled days of the Memorial Day Rodeo (May 27 & 28, 2018) and Labor Day Rodeo (Sept. 1, 2 & 3, 2018) including assistance with the junior rodeo, grand entry and presentation of sponsor flags. This includes presentation of all sponsor flags at the conclusion of each rodeo. Failure to appear at mandatory events will warrant disciplinary action and/or removal from her reign and for the queen only, possible forfeiture of scholarship. Failure to appear includes being tardy for any event after a check in time is scheduled by coordinator. It is the responsibility of royalty members to properly manage time. A no call, no show at a

required event results in immediate suspension and/or removal from royalty position. Being late or tardy to a scheduled event may result in dismissal from that event for the day.

5. The Queen, Princess and Little Miss shall make special appearances at approved association and other rodeos including, but not limited to: Cave Creek Rodeo, Lost Dutchman Days, Copper Dust Stampede, Rex Allen Days Rodeo, Benson Butterfield Days and Florence Junior Parada. Rodeo participation is at the discretion of the coordinator and must be approved through coordinator prior. Parade participation is acceptable horseback for queens and at the discretion of parents for princess and little miss. For most parades, a helmet must be worn for all participants under the age of 12.
6. The Royalty title holder must be single, not have any children and not an expectant mother during her reign.
7. The SCCFRA will provide an honorary membership to the Queen, Princess and Little Miss for 2018.
8. The rodeo royalty will act as role models for the youth and conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. This includes personal appearances and posts on all social media. This includes but is not limited to Facebook, Instagram and Snap Chat. Royalty will refrain from posting offensive language, as well as, inappropriate physical conduct or partying. Inappropriate comments include; public airing of grievances and negative comments about other rodeo royalty or rodeo organizations. This will be monitored by the committee upon receipt of application. "Blocking" coordinator or committee members from social media posts will result in suspension and/or removal from title. We take the reputation of the Sonoita Rodeo Royalty Organization very seriously and expect title holders to do so as well. It is imperative that we are able to monitor how title holders are presenting themselves and this organization to the public.
9. For a Queen who meets legal drinking age, no alcohol will be consumed at mandatory events or while representing Sonoita at outside events (rodeo and other) while in queen attire. There will be no alcohol consumption at any time at the Sonoita Memorial Day or Labor Day Rodeos. Use of illegal drugs is strictly prohibited. Any violation of this policy is grounds for dismissal. Underage drinking, smoking, vaping or use of illegal drugs by any royalty member is grounds for immediate removal.
10. If a contest winner cannot complete her required duties, she will forfeit her crown, buckle, saddle, sashes and scholarship (queen only) and the first runner up will replace the outgoing member of the Sonoita Rodeo Royalty. This will be decided by the Royalty Committee on a case-by-case basis.

11. Sonoita Rodeo Royalty may not hold any other crown or title from March 24, 2018 until the next royalty contest in March 2019. However, an exception will be made if the Queen wishes to run for either Miss Rodeo Arizona (August) or Miss Turquoise Circuit (November). If one of the two titles is won, Sonoita Queen must fulfill her obligations of Sonoita Royalty as well. Failure to fulfill duties will result in a forfeiture of scholarship and title.
12. Boyfriends or significant others are not allowed in the warm up or staging areas while title holders are performing at required events. If a title holder requires assistance, rodeo personnel are on site to assist. Parents of title holders may assist at required events.
13. Parent Code of Conduct: Parents of title holders are expected to respect the rules set forth by the Sonoita Rodeo Royalty Committee and conduct themselves in a professional and respectful manor at all events. If a parent cannot refrain from such behavior, they may be asked not to attend events and/or it may result in suspension of title holder.

Contest Day:

The contest consists of the following events

Arena: Begins at 8 a.m. (This may be adjusted depending on number of contestants)

Flag Lap (No flag lap for Little Miss)

Reining pattern

Barrel Pattern

Royalty Hot Lap

Written Test:

May be taken any time between noon and 3 p.m. in Pioneer Hall

Interview: Begins at 1 p.m.

Contestant Dinner and Royalty Selection: Begins promptly at 5 p.m.

## Contestant Introduction/speech, Best Dress Presentation, Impromptu Questions and Crowning

The contest will begin promptly at 8 a.m. and will begin with flag laps. Little Miss contestants are excluded from flag laps, first up will be Princess contestants and ending with Queen. Contestant order will be pre-selected at random by the royalty committee. Once all competitors are finished with their flag laps, we will continue with the reining pattern, barrel run and hot laps. When contestants have completed their flag lap, reining pattern, barrel and hot lap they are dismissed, allowed unsaddling and putting their horses up. Contestants will be given the opportunity to prepare for the interview beginning at 1 p.m. The interview order will follow the same order as arena events. After contestants complete their interview they are free to change and prepare for the "Personal Style" and impromptu questions to take place at the dinner starting promptly at 5 p.m. Crowning will take place after the judges have the opportunity to tally the scores. Scores will be available and mailed to the contestants one week after the competition.

### Arena Events: 60 percent of total score

- Contestant will perform the course provided in front of the judges on the day of the event.
- More than one horse may be used.
- Multiple outfits or wardrobe changes are allowed during arena events; however, this will not be taken into consideration for horsemanship score.
- Presentation of horse including tack will be part of the horsemanship score.

### Interview: 10 percent of total score

- Contestants will wear any attire that is clean and represents the contestant's professional style. This may be western or other.

### Personal Style Presentation at Dinner: 10 percent of total score

- This does not need to consist of Western Attire or Cowgirl apparel. This category is a chance for the contestant to show off their best personal style and how they would like to be recognized. This attire is considered evening or special event.

Impromptu questions/Speech: 10 percent of total score

- Little Miss contestants will have one minute to introduce themselves to the audience and judges. Princess and Queen contestants will make a speech on a topic provided by the royalty committee. Time allowed will be discussed at orientation. A penalty will be assessed for exceeding time limit set by the royalty committee.
- Contestants will be asked at least two questions on horsemanship and current events. Questions will be randomly selected for each contestant.

Written Test: 10 percent of total score

- To be taken by each contestant on March 24, 2018. Several times will be available throughout the competition day.

Prizes Include:

- Queen: \$1000 scholarship, saddle, buckle, sashes and \$150 gift certificate courtesy of Spur Western Wear.
- Princess: Buckle, sashes and \$150 gift certificate courtesy of Spur Western Wear.
- Little Miss: Buckle, sashes and \$150 gift certificate courtesy of Spur Western Wear.

\*\*Chaps and crowns are perpetual awards and will be returned at the end of each title holder's reign. A trophy bracelet will be given to each title holder upon completion of their title year.

Special Note Regarding Little Miss: It is at the discretion of the Royalty Committee if the Little Miss will ride in the Sonoita Rodeo. Safety is our first concern and horsemanship must be at a high level in order to participate in arena events involving horses.

Please call or email Kristin Tomlinson with any questions at 520-909-8307 or  
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