



Continental Pageantry System

Guidelines, Rules, and Regulations 2026

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By James W. Flint – Owner / Producer
Scott Palmer – Assistant Producer

Continental Pageantry System

For over 45 years the Continental Pageantry System, through the direction, dedication and leadership of founder and owner Jim Flint has set the standards in pageant excellence and professionalism in the art of female impersonation pageantry. And since its inception in 2003 the MR Continental Pageant has become the premiere male entertainment competition in the business. Continental Pageantry is dedicated to presenting pageants of the highest quality exemplifying excellence, honesty, character, and integrity in the entertainment competition industry.

Continental Pageantry has always been based on the quality of the contestants rather than the quantity. Continental Pageantry strives to attract the most professional, talented, and intelligent entertainers from across the continent and the globe with preliminary qualifying pageants held in the Continental United States, Puerto Rico and Hawaii, South Africa, Europe, Canada, and the Southern Caribbean Islands. The Pageant is a high-paced and exciting competition, and its glamour and international prestige have made it the most coveted title in the industry.

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Guidelines, Rules, and Regulations 2026

Pageant Divisions and Eligibility

The Continental Pageantry System is comprised of six divisions, the Miss Continental Pageant, the MR Continental Pageant, the Miss Continental Plus Pageant, the Miss Continental Elite Pageant, and our newest divisions for those new to pageantry competition, the MR Continental Newcomer and the Miss Continental Newcomer Pageants. The national pageants for each division are held annually in Chicago. The MR and Miss Continental Pageants are held over Labor Day Weekend and the Miss Continental Plus and Elite Pageants are held over Easter Weekend along with the new Mr. and Miss Newcomer Pageants.

- ❖ **Miss Continental Pageant:** Contestants must have been born a biological male and have reached the age of 21 by the start date of the National Pageant. Contestants are allowed to have taken hormones and may have body altering surgeries (breast implants, silicone, any cosmetic surgeries, etc. and as of 2019 contestants may compete if they have made the full medical transition to female (sexual reassignment surgery)).
- ❖ **MR Continental Pageant:** Contestants must be male, identify as male, and must have been born a biological male and have reached the age of 21 by the start date of the National Pageant.
- ❖ **Miss Continental Plus Pageant:** Contestants must have been born a biological male and have reached the age of 21 by the start date of the National Pageant. Contestants must weigh a minimum of 225 pounds to be eligible to participate in the Plus Division. Contestants are allowed to have taken hormones and may have body altering surgeries (breast implants, silicone, any cosmetic surgeries, etc. and as of 2019 contestants may compete if they have made the full medical transition to female (sexual reassignment surgery)).
- ❖ **Miss Continental Elite Pageant:** Contestants must have been born a biological male and have reached the age of 45 by the start date of the National Pageant. Contestants are allowed to have taken hormones and may have body altering surgeries (breast implants, silicone, any cosmetic surgeries, etc. and as of 2019 contestants may compete if they have made the full medical transition to female (sexual reassignment surgery)).
- ❖ **Miss Continental Newcomer Pageant:** Contestants must have been born a biological male and have reached the age of 21 by the start date of the National Pageant. Contestants are allowed to have taken hormones and may have body altering surgeries (breast implants, silicone, any cosmetic surgeries, etc. and as of 2019 contestants may compete if they have made the full medical transition to female (sexual reassignment surgery)). All participants must qualify as Newcomers, defined as having three years or less experience in drag performance and/or pageantry competition. Additionally, contestants must not have won any city title, nor any state, national, or international preliminary or qualifying pageant competition and/or final pageant competition. (Bar contests are allowed).
- ❖ **MR Continental Newcomer Pageant:** Contestants must be male, identify as male, and must have been born a biological male and have reached the age of 21 by the start date of the National Pageant. All participants must qualify as Newcomers, defined as having three years or less experience in drag performance and/or pageantry competition. Additionally, contestants must not have won any city title, nor any state, national, or international preliminary or qualifying pageant competition and/or final pageant competition. (Bar contests are allowed)

Contestants participating in the Miss Continental, MR Continental, Miss Continental Plus and Miss Continental Elite Divisions may qualify to compete at the National Pageant by participating in and winning or placing as a top three finalist of their division at any one of our many officially sanctioned preliminary pageants held nationally or internationally within the pageant year the contestant wishes to compete at the National Pageant. All Official Continental Preliminary Pageants are sanctioned by the National Office. Information regarding officially scheduled preliminary pageants for any current pageant year may be found on the official website of Continental Pageantry, social media (Instagram, TikTok or Facebook) or any interested contestants may contact the National office directly either via email or phone for a complete list of the official current scheduled upcoming preliminary contests.

A contestant is allowed to participate in as many qualifying preliminary pageants within a pageant year as they would like until they have qualified for the National Pageant for that year in their division. (Preliminary Pageant Winner's – automatic qualification to the National Pageant, however the first alternate or second alternate does qualify but may only represent a preliminary at the National Pageant at the discretion of the preliminary pageant promoter). Once a contestant has qualified for the National Pageant by winning a preliminary pageant then that contestant must represent that preliminary pageant at the National Pageant and may no longer compete in any other preliminary pageant within the given pageant year, however a contestant who may have qualified as an Alternate Preliminary Pageant representative (preliminary 1st or 2nd Finalist) may choose to enter other preliminary pageants so long as they abide by the rules set forth below – see *Qualifying for the National Pageant*.

Qualifying for the National Pageant

Contestants qualify to compete within their division at the National Pageant by either winning or placing as the first or second finalist in any one of the many officially sanctioned Miss / Plus / Elite / MR Continental Preliminary Pageants held for that pageant year. (** Promoters are only contractually required to sponsor the preliminary pageant winner at the National Pageant and have no obligation to sponsor or send any alternate contestant. Should a promoter choose to allow their preliminary pageant alternate(s) to represent their preliminary pageant and to compete at the National Pageant it will be at their sole discretion, and they may choose the amount of sponsorship (if any) they will provide to the alternate(s)). ***NEWCOMER DIVISION:** Contestants do not have to compete or place in a Preliminary contest to qualify for the National Pageant, rather they must meet the **Experience Requirement** which defines a "Newcomer" as anyone having three years or less experience in drag performance and/or pageantry competition. Additionally, contestants must not have won any city title, nor any state, national, or international preliminary or qualifying pageant competition and/or final pageant competition. (Bar contests are allowed).

- **Preliminary Pageant Winners:** A contestant who has qualified for the National Pageant competition by winning an officially sanctioned Continental Preliminary Pageant must compete at the National Pageant as the Preliminary Title Holder representative of that preliminary pageant and may not compete in another preliminary pageant within the given pageant year in the division in which the contestant has qualified.
 - Failure to compete at the National Pageant after qualifying as a Preliminary Pageant winner may result in disqualification from the Continental Pageantry System.
 - Any preliminary pageant winner who fails to compete at the National Pageant must return all monies and/or prizes including any crown, sash, medal, or any other gift or award received from the preliminary pageant directly to the preliminary pageant promoter(s), as well as any other financial assistance that may have been received from the preliminary pageant promoter(s). (Failure to do so will result in the contestant being disqualified from all future Continental Preliminaries until such time as the contestant has returned all monies and/or prizes).

- **Preliminary Pageant Alternate Representatives:** Any contestant who has qualified to enter the National Pageant as an Alternate representative of a Continental Preliminary Pageant is allowed to enter a second Continental preliminary pageant in the same division in the same pageant year, provided the contestant has first repaid and returned all monies and/or prizes to the promoter(s) of the preliminary in which the contestant had previously qualified (failure to comply may result in the disqualification of the contestant from the national pageant). Should the Alternate choose to compete in another preliminary pageant then the Alternate will forfeit their qualified status to National Pageant and must either win or place in another preliminary pageant in order to requalify to compete at Nationals.

Automatic Qualification, Former Continental National Titleholders and Appointments for the National Competition

Automatic Qualification: Contestants who participate in and finish as a top five finalist at the National Pageant automatically qualifies to return to any future National Pageant (only within the division in which they placed) and may return to the National Pageant representing themselves without participating in a qualifying preliminary pageant. Former finalists may sponsor themselves, may seek outside sponsorship at the National Pageant or may be sponsored by an existing sanctioned preliminary promoter who may be unable to host their preliminary contest during the current pageant season and wishes to sponsor a contestant at the National Pageant.

Former National Continental Titleholders: Any former National Continental title holder may compete in a different division of the Continental Pageantry System at the National Pageant without having to qualify at a preliminary pageant for that division.

Appointments: In any given pageant year, some promoters find themselves unable to host a preliminary pageant for unforeseen reasons, i.e. unable to secure a venue for their preliminary, job responsibilities, family or business obligations, health issues, etc. Usually, these promoters still seek to participate and remain active in the system during that pageant year by sponsoring a contestant at the National Pageant. These promoters must make an official request directly to Jim Flint for approval to sponsor or assist any contestant as their representative in any division at the National Pageant and present a valid reason for being unable to host their qualifying preliminary pageant event.

Any contestant may request a **hardship appointment** to compete at the National pageant by contacting Jim Flint directly at the National office. An example of a hardship appointment to compete in the National Pageant would be the contestant who may live in an area too far from any of our sanctioned preliminary pageants to travel for a qualifying competition.

International Contestants, Language, and Interpreters

International Contestants: Should you win the title of your division at the National pageant and reside outside the Continental United States, you will be required to make yourself available inside the Continental United States for all preliminaries and events throughout the year of your reign including your stepdown. Furthermore, it is the titleholder's responsibility to acquire the proper work visa which will permit you to legally travel and entertain as the titleholder in the United States. Preliminary owners are not required to provide unreasonable or international airfares to and from their host cities but will provide reasonable transportation within the United States. Should the circumstances prevent you from representing the title at any preliminaries and/or other promotional events, then the Continental office will provide an acceptable list of former title holders to the preliminary owners to represent the title at the event.

Language and Interpreters: All contestants must have a working knowledge of the English language and be able to communicate with the other contestants; take direction from pageant directors, choreographers, stage crew, venue security and staff.

- **Interview and Final Questions & Answer:** It is preferred that the contestant speak directly for themselves in both the interview, and the final question and answer categories of the competition, however should a contestant not be able to directly communicate in English, then it is the contestant's responsibility to provide their own interpreter for the interview category during the preliminary competition and for the final question and answer category the final night of competition. The interpreter is required to have a ticket to the competition, and it is the contestant's responsibility to assure the interpreter is on time and prepared to start when needed. The interpreter's name and information should be submitted to the National Office 10 days prior to the scheduled competition and must be approved by the National Office prior to the start of the competition.
- **Titleholders:** Should a non-English speaking contestant win the title it will be their responsibility to provide their own interpreter at their own cost when traveling or appearing at any Continental event or preliminary pageant throughout their reigning year (including but not limited to travel, lodging, meals, etc.). The titleholder's interpreter must be preapproved to accompany the titleholder to Continental Pageantry events and preliminary pageants by the National Office.

The National Pageant

Preliminary and Final Night Competition - All Divisions

At the National Pageant, contestants will first compete in the preliminary categories to qualify for the final night of competition. Contestants should bring a strong complete all-round package prepared for both nights of competition if they wish to compete and finish at the top level at any National Continental Pageant as they will always be competing against the very best in the industry from across the globe. Contestants achieving and maintaining quality scores in every category will reach the top. The contestants are judged by five judges during the preliminary competition and by seven judges during the final night of competition in each category with the high and low scores dropped, scores are then totaled to determine the contestants' total score within the specific category. Finalists and winners are decided by their accumulative total scores. Thus, no one category will decide a contest's outcome but rather the consistency of the contestant's performance throughout the contest will be reflected by their total score.

*** Newcomer Division:** The Mr. and Miss Continental Newcomer National Pageants will consist of only one night of combined competition. Contestants in both divisions will participate and be scored in Interview, Swimwear, Talent, and Evening Gown or Formal Wear categories, with the top five contestants from each division advancing to the Final Question and Answer category. The top five contestants final scores will include all categories plus the score from Final Question and Answer to determine the winner and the placement of the finalists.

Preliminary Night Competition: Contestants are advised to always bring their best to the preliminary night competition, for those who do not may find themselves eliminated from the final night of competition, as has happened in the past to some of the best in the business, a few learned their lesson and returned in later years to win the title by having a strong package prepared for the entire competition.

- Contestants must be prepared to move at an accelerated pace as the categories are staged one after the other with no break or entertainment between them and only one intermission break taken throughout the night. Sometimes, depending on the total number of contestants competing in the pageant, the preliminary night may be divided into two groups: with one group competing in all categories early in the evening followed by the second group competing in all categories shortly thereafter (typically with a 15-minute break between the two groups).

- During the preliminary competition, contestants will compete in the following categories in the following order: Interview (Interview times and locations vary and are announced during the initial registration meeting normally held prior to the preliminary night categories); At the Preliminary Night Pageant: Evening Gown/Formal Wear (Contestants should arrive in full makeup and ready to dress for the first category of the night); Swimwear (A very quick change out of Evening Gown/Formal Wear so your Contestant Assistant should have your attire prepared accordingly) and Talent (regardless of your contestant number be prepared as the category will move faster than you may realize).
- Please remember the preliminary night of competition all the contestants are competing straight through with one short break, or whether it is in two groups, the preliminary night always moves at a very fast pace especially for those who have never competed at a National Continental Pageant. Remember, Contestants must have a strong and consistent preliminary night to qualify with the highest scores to compete on the final night of competition. Also, remember that one category may not win you the title, but one could certainly lose it.

The Final Night Competition: Total scores from the preliminary night will determine the top ten/twelve finalist that will proceed to the final night of competition during which the contestants will compete in the following judged and unjudged categories in the following order: Presentation (not judged), Swimwear, Talent, Evening Gown/Formal Wear with the contestants having the top five total scores from these combined categories moving on to the remaining category of Final Question and Answer. The scores from the Question and Answer are then added to the previous totals to determine the new Title Holder.

All Contestants will participate in the Presentation of Contestants which occurs at the end of the Opening Production on the final night of the contest with each Contestant personally introducing themselves to the audience, giving their name and who they are representing. Upon completion of the presentation of contestants, the Preliminary Competition Category winners will be announced and presented with a plaque in recognition of their achievement. Then the top ten/twelve contestants that will compete for the title will be announced (in no specific order) by Contestant Name and Number. The top contestants competing on the final night will do so in ascending numeric order according to their original contestant number (the contestant's number will remain the same throughout the competition).

The final night competition does not move at the accelerated pace of the preliminary night competition as there is entertainment by two to three formers between each category throughout the night, allowing for the contestant to have more time between each category in which to compose themselves, but the individual categories will move at a very fast pace. There will also be one 15 to 20-minute intermission during the night which is normally held immediately after the Talent competition is completed. Also allowing the Contestants more time to prepare for the evening gown or formal wear competition which will take place when the pageant resumes following the intermission. Once the evening gown or formal wear competition is completed there are normally three entertainers and then the top ten/twelve finalist return to the stage at which time the final five contestants will be named. The top five contestants are removed from the stage and placed in a sound proof area during the final question and answer phase of the competition with one contestant at a time brought back to the stage where the contestants are asked the same question and allowed an opportunity to respond with their own unique individual answer to the question. Scores received from the final question and answer category will be added to their previous overall final night category totals to determine the contest winner.

The National Pageant

Contest Categories and Pageant Scoring - All Divisions

PRESENTATION: (*Final Night Competition Only – Non-Judged Category*) Presentation is a non-judged category which occurs during the opening of the final night of the pageant competition. Although this is not a judged category all contestants should be at their best (hair in place, shoes polished, smile on your face) as this is the first impression you will make on the audience and contest judges.

- **MR:** Black dress pants, black belt and black shoes. A black long-sleeve button-down shirt or a black short-sleeve polo shirt will be chosen for presentation by the reigning MR Continental; all qualified contestants will be notified of the shirt attire 30 days prior to the competition.
- **MISS:** A White full-length dress (plain white fabric with no ornamentation or embellishments). Again, this dress should be white, made of simple fabric and should have no ornamentation, stones, beads or sequins.

INTERVIEW: (*Preliminary Competition Only – Total does not transfer to final night scoring*) (Interview scores will be included in the total scores for the Newcomer division) An informal interview which gives the contestants and judges an opportunity to meet one another in a more relaxed environment in small groups allowing the judges to ask various questions covering a range of topics in order to gain an insight of a contestant's knowledge, values and character. Interview location and times will be announced during the National Pageant registration for each division of competition. Scoring will be done on the contestant's personality and the intelligence of their answers to various questions from a spectrum of topics. Contestants will not be judged on their wardrobe selection; however, all contestants should always appear neat and well-groomed as the judges will view this as a reflection of how you would present yourself if you were representing Continental. It is recommended the contestants should dress in business-casual attire, as noted below.

- **All MR Divisions:** dress slacks with jacket/blazer, casual suit (with or without tie) or dress slacks with appropriate shirt or sweater.
- **All Miss Divisions:** Pant suit or a dress, skirt and blouse or may dress as male in appropriate business-casual attire.

INTERVIEW SCORING

Maximum Total Allowed: 25 Points

Recommended Scoring Range: GOOD: 1-7 | EXCELLENT: 8-18 | SUPERIOR: 19-25

Criteria: 1. INTELLIGENCE | 2. PERSONAL CHARM

SWIMWEAR: (*Preliminary and Final Night Competition*) Judged on stage, contestants may wear the swimwear of their personal choice within the criteria outlined below. Swimwear competition is for the contestant only (if an escort is desired, only one escort will be allowed on stage during the swimwear category competition and that escort may only walk a contestant on and/or off the stage and must exit the stage immediately – escort cannot remain on stage at any time). No fire, water, animals, glitter, or confetti may be used in any category. Swimwear competition does not discriminate on a contestant's body size, rather does the swimsuit appropriately match the contestant's physique.

- **MR:** Judging will be based on swimsuit selection, presentation and on-stage modeling with an emphasis on overall appearance as well as the contestant's sense of confidence, walk, posture, carriage, grace, personality, and stage presence. Contestants may wear any style swimsuit they like from knee length boxers to speedo bikini style; however, it must be a swimsuit and must cover both the crotch and buttocks area completely. *** No G-Strings, Thongs, Jock Straps, Underwear, or Micro Suits will be accepted.

SWIMWEAR SCORING

Maximum Total Allowed: 25 Points

Recommended Scoring Range: POOR: 1 – 7 | GOOD: 8 – 15 | EXCELLENT: 16 – 20 | SUPERIOR: 21 – 25

Criteria: 1. SELECTION OF BATHING SUIT | 2. POISE, PERSONALITY & PRESENTATION | 3. HAIR AND PHYSIQUE

- **MISS:** Judging will be based on swimsuit selection, presentation and on-stage modeling with an emphasis on overall appearance as well as the contestant's sense of confidence, walk, posture, carriage, grace, personality, and stage presence. Contestants may wear any style swimsuit they like; the swimsuit may be either a one-piece or any two-piece suit the contestant may choose. The suit must cover both the contestants' breast, crotch and buttocks area completely.
*** No G-Strings, Underwear, or Micro-suits will be accepted.

SWIMWEAR SCORING

Maximum Total Allowed: 25 Points

Recommended Scoring Range: POOR: 1 – 7 | GOOD: 8 – 15 | EXCELLENT: 16 – 20 | SUPERIOR: 21 – 25

Criteria: 1. SELECTION OF BATHING SUIT | 2. POISE, PERSONALITY & PRESENTATION | 3. HAIR AND MAKEUP

FORMAL WEAR: (*Preliminary and Final Night Competition*) Judged on stage, the contestants should wear either a tuxedo or appropriate suit (with or without a vest or cummerbund). The selected tuxedo or suit should contain no ornamentation, stones, beads or sequins. No fire, water, animals, glitter, or confetti may be used in any category. Judges will consider the contestants formal wear selection, the fit of the selection in respect to the contestant, the contestant's stage presence, shoes, modeling and overall look of the selection based on contestants' poise, appearance and demeanor.

FORMAL WEAR SCORING

Maximum Points Allowed: 40 Points

Recommended Scoring Range: POOR: 1-10 | GOOD: 11-20 | EXCELLENT: 21-30 | SUPERIOR: 31-40

Criteria: 1. ORIGINALITY & ELEGANCE OF THE TUXEDO OR SUIT | 2. POISE & PRESENTATION OF CONTESTANT | 3. PRESENTATION AS FORMAL WEAR, NOT A THEATRICAL COSTUME

EVENING GOWN: (*Preliminary and Final Night Competition*) Judged on stage, the contestants should wear a full-length evening gown of the contestant's choice (gown must be floor length). Evening Gown competition is for the contestant only (if an escort is desired, only one escort will be allowed on stage during the evening gown category competition and that escort may only walk a contestant on and/or off the stage and must exit the stage immediately – escort cannot remain on stage at any time). No fire, water, animals, glitter, or confetti may be used in any category. Judges will consider the contestants evening gown selection, the fit of the gown in respect to the individual contestant, the contestants stage presence, shoes, modeling and overall look of the selection based on contestants' grace, poise, elegance, appearance and demeanor.

EVENING GOWN SCORING

Maximum Points Allowed: 40 Points

Recommended Scoring Range: POOR: 1-10 | GOOD: 11-20 | EXCELLENT: 21-30 | SUPERIOR: 31-40

Criteria: 1. ORIGINALITY & ELEGANCE OF THE EVENING GOWN | 2. POISE & PRESENTATION OF CONTESTANT | 3. PRESENTATION AS EVENING GOWN, NOT A THEATRICAL COSTUME

TALENT: (*Preliminary and Final Night Competition*) Talent will be judged on stage and must be **limited to 6 minutes or less**. (Talent: Time limit for the MR/Miss Newcomer divisions will be 5 minutes or less). The time limit will be strictly enforced, and administrative points will be deducted for those who may exceed the limit. Time will be kept by the head judge or assigned to an official timekeeper during the competition and any overage will be noted with the pageant administrators. Talent performances may not contain full nudity, pasties, G-Strings, Thongs, Jock Straps, Underwear, or Micro Suits (including all dancers & talent extras). **NON-MOBILE PROPS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED AT THE NATIONAL COMPETITION.** No fire, water, animals, glitter, or confetti may be used in any talent presentation or any other category. The judging will be based on the contestant's overall stage presence and originality of the number as well as the presentation of the talent. Talent should showcase the individual's ability to perform on stage and all aspects of the individual contestants' talent will be scored including but not limited to voice, show skill, lip-sync, dance, character and back-up dancers. Also, judges will consider if the contestant is the true performer or is the contestant lost in a mirage of props and/or backup dancers, etc. (does the contestant's performance distinguish individual personality and skill, show the contestant's creative and technical skills, show on-stage personality, charisma, individual expression, will the contestant be able to entertain as a solo performer on the road representing the title and is the contestant having fun).

- **Talent Props:** Only handheld props will be allowed at the National Competition and all qualifying Preliminary Pageants. ALL PROPS FOR THE NATIONAL PAGEANT MUST BE APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL OFFICE (ONLY BY JIM FLINT) 30 DAYS PRIOR OR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE PRIOR TO THE COMPETITION. No fire, water, animals, glitter, or confetti may be used in any talent presentation or any other category. **Non-mobile props will not be allowed at the National Competition (this includes fly-bars, fly-rings, hanging silks etc.)**
- **Talent Music:** All talent music must be preloaded prior to the event to our music/video link which is sent to the current year's contestants for uploading their talent music directly to our site. The music/video link is normally sent directly to the contestants approximately two weeks prior to the scheduled contest date. Secondly, your talent music must also be prepared and preloaded on an individual flash/jump/thumb drive and be ready to be turned in at rehearsal (**remember the talent must be limited to 6 minutes or less for all divisions except Newcomer which will be limited to 5 minutes or less**). The drive should contain only the talent number(s) you will use during the competition.
 You may have more than one talent number per drive so long as the music is clearly marked and is easily recognized but no other music files or any other files should be on the drive. Flash drive defined: Alternatively referred to as a USB flash drive, data stick, pen drive, memory unit, thumb drive and/or a jump drive. This is a portable storage device which is often the size of a human thumb (hence the name) and connects to a computer via a USB port.
- **Talent Dancers and/or Extras:** All Dancers must be 21 years of age prior to the start date of the national pageant and have a ticket for each night that they will be performing. There are no exceptions to this rule. **All dancers will be charged full admission price to all nights of the competition.** Dancer tickets may be purchased when you arrive in Chicago on the designated dates and times of the ticket public sale, or you may purchase your dancer tickets in advance through the Continental Ticket Reservation office once tickets are on sale to the public.
 *** We cannot guarantee ticket availability if you wait until after the top ten/twelve are announced on the final night of the contest.
- **Dancers and/or Extras:** A dancer/extra may perform for only two contestants and participate in only two talent numbers at the National competition. Should you choose to use a dancer/extra who may be performing in another contestant's talent at the National Pageant you do so at your own risk. ***Note: If a dancer/extra is performing for more than one contestant in a talent number and should those contestants' draw numbers in sequential order then it is up to the contestants to determine how their individual performances will be affected as contestant numbers are drawn randomly during the pageant registration to assure fairness of participation order and once the numbers are drawn they will not be changed to accommodate any contestants or their promoter(s).***
- **Talent Video (Video availability will be dependent on the contest venue):** Contestants who choose to use a video in the talent competition must get advanced approval from the National Office at least 30 days in advance of the contest as extra staffing arrangements must be made with the event venue. The venues used for the National contests held in Chicago do charge a standard fee for the video tech and/or any extra staff required on the night(s) of the events. The contestant is responsible for paying the fee prior to the competition (this fee must be paid in advance to the National Office or during the registration for the contest). Should more than one contestant use videos then the fee may be split between them to reduce individual expenses.

TALENT SCORING

Maximum Points Allowed: 60 Points

Recommended Scoring Range: POOR: 1-15 | GOOD: 16-30 | EXCELLENT: 31-45 | SUPERIOR: 46-60

Criteria: 1. SCORING EVERY ASPECT OF TALENT PERFORMANCE, INCLUDING ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENT IN SONG, DANCE, PANTOMIME, COMEDY, ETC. | 2. COSTUME | 3. MAKEUP AND HAIR | 4. SPECIAL EFFECTS

FINAL QUESTION AND ANSWER: (*Final Night Competition Only*) The top five contestants will be asked a final question to determine the winner of the contest. The top five are determined by their total accumulated points from the final night categories of Swim Wear, Talent and Formal Wear. Scores received from the final question/answer will be added to their previous overall final night category total to determine the contest winner. Finalist will be judged based upon their stage presence and composure along with the intelligence, completeness and relevance of their answer to the question.

FINAL QUESTION AND ANSWER SCORING

Maximum Points Allowed: 40 Points

Criteria: 1. INTELLIGENCE & COMPLETENESS OF ANSWER 20 POINTS

Recommended Scoring Range: GOOD: 1-5 | EXCELLENT: 6-10 | SUPERIOR: 11-20

Criteria: 1. POISE AND CHARM WHILE ANSWERING 20 POINTS

Recommended Scoring Range: GOOD: 1-5 | EXCELLENT: 6-10 | SUPERIOR: 11-20

ADMINISTRATIVE POINTS DEDUCTIONS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS: Administrative points deductions may range from 5 to 25 points per infraction with the points deducted from the contestants' combined accumulative total score (the total score from all categories for their preliminary night or final night competition scores) or from the category in which the infraction may have occurred.

Administrative deductions or further administrative measures such as disqualification from the contest and/or expulsion from all future contests depending on the severity of the offense may be taken at any time before, during or after the competition as deemed necessary by Jim Flint (Continental Pageantry founder, owner and producer). Infractions may be referred to Mr. Flint by any person including but not limited to employees, contestants, contest judges, venue staff or pageant staff. Contestants are responsible for their dresser, assistant, dancers, choreographers, and anyone else directly associated with them; a contestant may have points deducted or disciplinary actions taken due to the direct actions of the contestant or as the result of any rule violation by the contestant or anyone directly affiliated with the contestant.

Examples of Administrative Points Deductions and/or grounds for Disqualification may include but are not limited to the following:

- **Tardiness:** Administrative points may be deducted from a contestant's final total score should the contestant fail to arrive on time at any officially scheduled pageant event or not be prepared to compete in their contestant order for any category during the competition (i.e. registration, rehearsal, on stage categories, etc.). Extreme or excessive tardiness (occurring more than once) may result in disqualification from the pageant.
- **Registration & Rehearsals:** Should any contestant arrive late for either the pageant registration or for any scheduled rehearsal during the contest then that contestant will be subject to administrative points being deducted from their total preliminary night qualifying score or total final night score depending upon when the infraction occurred. Should any contestant arrive late for the final night rehearsal then the Administrative Points deduction will be applied to the contestants total Preliminary Night Qualifying Score. Any contestant who arrives more than 30 minutes late for any scheduled pageant event will be subject to immediate disqualification from the pageant.
- **On-Stage Categories:** National Continental Pageants move at a fast pace, and contestants must be prepared to take the stage immediately when their contestant number is announced for each category of the on-stage competition. Should a contestant not be prepared to take the stage when their contestant number is called, then that contestant will be skipped, and the category shall continue with the remaining contestants competing in their assigned order. Once all the remaining contestants have completed the category, then the skipped contestant may still compete in the category for the judges and shall do so at that time (upon the contestants' completion of the category, the skipped contestant must be prepared to take the stage in the next category in their assigned order of contestants, regardless of what order that may be). Failure to take the stage when called may result in Administrative points being deducted from the contestant's total points (either preliminary or final night scores depending upon when the infraction occurred). Failure to take the stage a second time when called will result in immediate disqualification from the pageant.

- **Talent Length:** The talent segment must not exceed six (6) minutes; **for the Newcomer Division, the limit is five (5) minutes.** Failure to adhere to these time limits may result in a deduction of 10 to 25 points from the contestant's total talent pageant score for each infraction, applicable to both preliminary and final night competitions.
- **Theft:** Any contestant, assistant, or dancer found taking anyone else's property at any time prior to, during or after the competition will subject themselves and/or their contestant to disqualification from the pageant and may face prosecution by law enforcement. Should such an event occur during the contest then the subject will be removed from the venue and barred from any future Continental event.
- **Drugs & Alcohol:** During the contest, the use of alcohol or marijuana is not allowed by any contestant or official contestant assistant, nor will the taking of, or participating in the taking of illegal drugs will be allowed. The use of, or the selling of any illegal drugs (including marijuana), during any official Continental event will subject the contestant or affiliated person(s) to immediate disqualification and removal from the event venue as well as possible prosecution under all state and/or federal laws.
- **Assistant and/or Associates:** Each contestant will receive (1) one complimentary pass for an assistant. Assistants must be 21 years of age as of the date of the contest. A contestant may have Administrative Points deducted for having more than one assistant or any unauthorized person in the dressing room, the dressing area (including hallways) or any backstage area without prior approval at any time during the contest.
- **Badges and/or Passes:** Contestants are allowed only one assistant for the event and cannot have multiple people using the assistant badge for entry to the dressing area. Contestant Badges and Assistant Badges are assigned to the Contestant during the pageant registration, and it is the Contestant's responsibility to assure the proper use of the badges. Loss of any badge assigned to a Contestant should be reported to the pageant staff and/or venue security immediately. Duplication of, or the use of any non-valid contestant or assistant badge used for entry into the competition is a violation of the rules of Continental Pageantry System. Anyone caught allowing unauthorized use of a contestant and/or assistant badge will be subject to disqualification and removal from the pageant.
- **Mischievous Acts:** Any mischievous action taken by the contestant or the contestant's associates (tampering with another contestant's clothing, personal items, props, etc.) will be subject to disqualification and removal from the pageant.
- **Talent (*Rehearsing during competition events*):** Any contestant and/or their participating dancers caught rehearsing during the contest either inside the venue, or outside the venue in any other public common area of the contest event venue (alleys, venue property, etc.) may have *Administrative* points deducted. Abuse of this rule will result in disqualification from the competition. All rehearsals should be completed prior to the start of the competition.
- **Contestant Entrance:** Contestants and their assistants must enter the contest venue through a designated entrance which will be announced during the preliminary night rehearsal, as well as the final night rehearsal. Should any contestant or assistant not enter through this area it may result in possible administrative points deduction.
- **Non-Participation Disqualification:** A contestant who qualifies to compete at the National Pageant in any division and then does not participate in the National Pageant will be disqualified from competing in any future Continental Preliminary Pageant or at the National Pageant. Any contestant who is disqualified from one division is automatically disqualified from any of the other divisions of the Continental Pageantry System. ** A contestant may receive a waiver of this rule if the contestant has a valid reason for non-participation and presents the reason in writing 30 days prior to the National Pageant and has returned all monies and/or prizes awarded them by their pageant promoter(s) as well as any other financial assistance the contestant may have received from the promoter, including but not limited to airfares, hotel deposits or cost, etc. The request for future pageant participation will be reviewed by Jim Flint (owner and CEO) and staff who will determine if the contestant will be allowed any future participation in the system.

- **No Smoking or Vaping:** No smoking or vaping is allowed at any Continental event or venue in the city of Chicago including dressing areas, common use areas or access areas in or around the venue. The current version of the Chicago Clean Indoor Air Act prohibits tobacco/ marijuana smoking as well as "vaping" or the use of an e-cigarette, vape pen, or e-hookah in virtually all enclosed public places and enclosed places of employment. The places where smoking and the use of e-cigarettes is prohibited includes: bars and restaurants; shopping malls; recreational facilities including enclosed sports arenas, stadiums, swimming pools, ice and roller rinks, arcades and bowling alleys; concert halls; auditoriums; convention facilities; government buildings and vehicles; public transportation facilities; coin laundries; meeting rooms; private clubs; public restrooms; lobbies; reception areas, hallways and other common-use areas in public buildings, apartment buildings and condominium buildings.

James Flint, Continental Pageantry LLC and/or Continental Pageantry System has the right to disqualify any contestant for any reason they may consider embarrassing or harmful to the Pageant or the Continental Pageantry System including but not limited to late arrival, stealing, drug use, alcohol abuse, and/or any criminal act. Furthermore, any previous embarrassing act to any other national pageant may result in disqualification from participating in any Continental Pageantry System competition.



The National Competition: Contestant Scoring Breakdown

At the National Pageant contestants will compete in the preliminary categories which will determine which contestants will compete in the final night of competition to win the title in their respective division.

Preliminary Night Categories and Scoring Breakdown per Judge and Overall Totals

Maximum Points per Judge per Category

- Interview – 25 Total Points Allowed (16.7% of total qualifying score)
- Evening Gown / Formal Wear – 40 Total Points Allowed (26.6% of total qualifying score)
- Swimwear – 25 Total Points Allowed (16.7% of total qualifying score)
- Talent – 60 Total Points Allowed (40% of total qualifying score)

TOTAL POINTS: 150 points per judge

- Preliminary Night contestants will be evaluated by a total of five judges and scored accordingly by such with the contestant's total score from all judges comprised after the high and low scores are dropped. Thus, the maximum score per contestant per category is achieved by calculating the remaining scores.

Based on five judges, below is maximum points each contestant may achieve per category after the high and low scores have been eliminated:

- Interview: 75 points
- Evening Gown / Formal Wear – 120 points
- Swimwear – 75 points
- Talent – 180 points

TOTAL POINTS: 450 points maximum

- Preliminary Night Scores - Do not carry over to final night but are used primarily for qualifying a contestant to compete in the final night of competition. However, in case of a tie on the final night, the Interview scores from the preliminary night competition may be used to break any scoring tie that may occur after all other tiebreakers are completed.

* See Final Tiebreakers Information

Final Night Categories and Scoring Breakdown per Judge and Overall Totals

All contestants will take part in the Presentation category of the Final Night of competition, however only the top ten/twelve contestants from the preliminary night of competition will compete for the title. At the end of the presentation of the contestants during the final night competition the *top ten/twelve finalists will be announced and only those competitors will proceed to compete for the title. The total number of final night competitors is normally limited to the top twelve contestants but the number of contestants for the night of competition may vary depending upon the total number of contestants. This number is determined by Jim Flint.

Maximum Points per Judge per Category

- Presentation – Not Scored
- Swimwear – 25 Total Points Allowed (15.2% of total final score)
- Talent – 60 Total Points Allowed (36.4% of total final score)
- Evening Gown / Formal Wear – 40 Total Points Allowed (24.2% of total final score)
- Final Question and Answer – 40 Total Points Allowed (24.2% of total final score)

TOTAL POINTS: 165 points

- Final Night contestants will be evaluated by a total of seven judges and scored accordingly by such with the contestant's total score from all judges comprised after the high and low scores are dropped. Thus, the maximum score per contestant per category is achieved by calculating the remaining scores.

Based on seven judges below is the maximum points each contestant may achieve per category after the high and low scores have been eliminated:

- Swimwear – 125 points
- Talent – 300 points
- Evening Gown / Formal Wear – 200 points
- Final Question and Answer – 200 points

TOTAL POINTS: 825 points maximum

Final Night Tiebreaker Information: In the event of a tie for the title at the National Pageant, the final night Talent score will be used to determine the winner, in the event the contestants remain tied then the contestants' Question and Answer score will be used to break the tie. Should the contestants remain tied then the Interview scores from the Preliminary competition will be used to break the tie (then final night evening gown, then final night swim wear).

Miscellaneous Issues: Any matter or question that may arise regarding Continental Pageantry at any time prior to, during or after any Preliminary Qualifying Pageant or at the National Competition that is not covered in the official rules and regulations set forth by the National Office will be decided by Jim Flint; he and ONLY he alone has sole discretion to modify or allow any changes as officially set forth. As the Producer of Continental Pageantry, and Continental Pageantry LLC, any decision reached by Jim Flint will be final and binding.