

National Little Britches Rodeo Association  
2024-2025 Royalty Pageant Rules, Guidelines, and Regulations

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### **National Little Britches Rodeo Royalty**

The NLBRA Royalty pageant is held annually to select three young ladies (one in each age group Senior, Junior and Little Wrangler) who will represent the National Little Britches Rodeo Association throughout the year.

The NLBRA Royalty Pageant Committee is responsible for the ceremonies and activities necessary to select the titleholders. The committee offers direction, support and assistance to selected royalty during their reign.

Contestants shall agree to abide by all the rules and regulations set forth by the NLBRA and the NLBRA Royalty Committee. Breaking any eligibility rules and or regulations will disqualify a contestant from the competition and cause forfeit of any prizes and or titles. Selected NLBRA Royalty are responsible to carry the title proudly; fulfilling duties assigned by the NLBRA and the NLBRA Royalty Committee to the best of her ability. The NLBRA and NLBRA Royalty Committee reserves the right to exercise its governing power where questions may arise throughout the year.

### **Eligibility**

1. Contestants in the NLBRA Royalty Pageant must qualify for the NLBRA National Finals and Compete in at least one rodeo event.
2. Contestants must compete in the age category they will be competing in the following years and must have at least one year of eligibility remaining in the NLBRA.
3. A NLBRA titleholder who violates any of these rules during her reign will relinquish all rights and privileges of her title at the request of the Committee.
4. During their reign, the NLBRA Royalty title is the only royalty position that the contestant is allowed to hold. Any other title must be relinquished by August 31. Any other titles won during the year of the NLBRA reign must not start until August 1 of the following year.

## **Rules and Regulations**

1. Contestants must conduct themselves in a proper, ladylike manner and portray high moral standards.
2. Each contestant must supply the NLBRA Royalty Committee with an electronic photo saved as a JPG. Photos must be head and shoulder pose (no action) in western attire. Western attire will include western blouse, suit or dress, hat and accessories. Photos must not contain crowns or banners from previous contests. It is the responsibility of the contestant to arrange their photo session and to submit photos on time with their application. The photos will be used for publicity purposes and the Pageant Committee cannot guarantee their return and will not be responsible for the expense to replace them.
3. Each contestant is required to submit a \$60 entry fee with her application. Payment should be may payable to the National Little Britches Rodeo Association.
4. Contestants must be available from June 28, 2024 at 3:00 pm through the completion of the pageant.
5. Each contestant must FULLY complete and return the NLBRA Royalty Application along with any other requested documents, noted on each contestants application. These documents must be submitted with each contestant's application in order to consider the application complete. Incomplete applications will not be considered a valid entry.
6. Pageant judges may not be approached by a contestant or related individual with the intent to influence or harass. Action of this type can result in disqualification of the contestant at the discretion of the Committee.
7. Junior and Little Wrangler contestants must provide their own horses, tack and handlers during the horsemanship portion of the pageant. Senior contestants will be provided horses but must provide their own saddle; bridle, blanket and leg gear will be provided by the owner of the horse. Horses will be drawn for contestants.
8. Contestants should be at all scheduled events at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. Failure to do so may result in a deduction in the contestant score.
9. Contestants must provide their own transportation to and from each scheduled event.
10. Contestants must provide their own wardrobe and agree to follow the wardrobe guidelines and dress code. Each contestant should have at least one complete western dress outfit, one complete horsemanship outfit (as outlined under horsemanship). Additional information is available in the wardrobe guidelines and it is up to the contestant as to how many outfits she brings.
11. Contestants will draw for positions after everyone has checked in at orientation.
12. Contestants are required to bring a silent auction item valued at \$25, as well as a small gift also valued at \$25 for another contestant in their division for the gift exchange, which will occur at orientation.

## **Pageant Categories**

The categories for judging: Horsemanship, Appearance, Personality, Speech, Interview, Modeling, Impromptu, Silent Judge, and Test. The overall winner will be crowned NLBRA Royalty in her age division with the next highest scoring individual receiving First Runner-up. Other awards may also be given, including but not limited to Congeniality or Horsemanship.

### **Horsemanship**

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

1. Horsemanship: including control of mount, proper arena etiquette, and the way each situation that may occur is handled.
2. Balance, ability and position of hands, feet, and seat when riding at a reasonable rate of speed for the activity.
3. Understanding of leads and proper execution of specific patterns.
4. Presentation ride (Queens Run/Wave and carrying of flag, please note LW division will not carry a flag).
5. Showmanship: How the contestant projects her personality to the audience from horseback.
6. Required attire for horsemanship is in the wardrobe guideline.

Other considerations in Horsemanship include, but are not limited to the following:

- \* The understanding and skill of the contestant will be judged, NOT the horse.
- \* Contestants should ride with one hand on the reins. An exception to this will be senior girls who can use 2 hand is necessary for safety purposes.
- \* There will be two go-rounds of competition, one will include the pattern and the other will be the cattle work. Contestants can use different horses for each round, but must have them both ready and have a handler waiting. The order will be drawn and announced at orientation.
- \* Judges may talk to contestants, or ask Horsemanship questions in the arena, on stage during public appearances and/or during interviews.
- \* Contestants may be judged on any of their presentation runs at the rodeo performances and will be judged on their presentation run during the Horsemanship competition.
- \* Contestants will be asked to carry a flag. Flag boots should be used but will NOT be provided.

### **Appearance**

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

1. Attractiveness
2. Grooming: This should include meticulous care in neatness and cleanliness in every detail such as complexion, hands, fingernails, hair, hat, boots, and other wearing apparel. Remember to wear age appropriate make-up.
3. Posture: This should include carrying oneself straight and tall with confidence and poise.
4. Poise and ladylike behavior in every situation: This should include handling every type of situation with grace, style, and proper etiquette. Good sportsmanship both in and outside of the arena at all times.
5. Western Fashion Sense: This includes western outfits, which are fashionable, tasteful and properly fit for the contestant. Attention will be paid to the use of color and texture to

enhance the contestant's personal features. Attention will be paid to suitability of the outfit to the occasion. Additional information is available in the wardrobe guideline. (Clothes need not be eccentric or expensive, but should be neat, clean and appropriate).

6. Proper fit of clothing: This includes figure flattering styles altered for a personal fit, if necessary. Properly cleaned, fitted and shaped hats which flatter the contestant's face, will be considered. Judges will look for versatility and imagination in the contestants ability to carry out a "total look", rather than an excessive amount of clothing.
7. Knowledge of western clothing: This includes the major western wear manufacturers (such as our sponsors), trends in western wear industry and western wear sponsors of the NLBRA.

### **Personality**

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

1. Intelligence and good common sense.
2. Conversational ability in varied situations with an emphasis on correct grammar and enunciation.
3. A good sense of humor.
4. Self-confidence, high-moral standards, sincerity, and integrity.
5. Genuine interest in people and consideration of others.
6. Self-projection (the ability to project one's personality in any situation), whether from horseback or on stage.
7. Positive outlook on life.
8. Promptness and cooperation. Please note that if a contestant fails to arrive on time for any pageant event she may be penalized and or disqualified at the Committee's discretion. (It is a good idea to arrive at least 15 minutes early for each event.)
9. Maturity.
10. Educational background and goals as well as career goals.

### **Speech**

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

1. Ability to communicate with an audience using appropriate and correct language as well as good grammar.
2. Ability to be prepared and deliver speech without the use of props.
3. Self-projection on stage, including delivery, voice, manner and use of microphone.
4. Ability to present age appropriate speech from memory.
5. **Speech Topic - Anything about the NLBRA.**

Other considerations in Speech include:

\*Speeches should be NO MORE than 2 1/2 minutes in length. 5 points from each judge will be deducted for speeches longer than three minutes. Deductions will also be given for speeches less than 2 minutes.

\* Speeches should be memorized. No props or visual aids will be allowed.

## **Modeling**

The purpose of this category is to judge appearance, coordination and ability to present one's self on stage. Routines will be limited to 2 minutes.

## **Written Test**

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

1. Written test worth 100 points of the total score. The questions on the test will be taken from the NLBRA Rule Book, the NLBRA Web Site, and current events in the Rodeo industry.
2. The topics can include but are not limited to: Current Board Members, NLBRA Rules, Current Royalty, Finals Personnel, Basic Equine knowledge, General Equine Science, NLBRA Rookies of the year, Hope Counts mission statement, NLBRA history, NLBRA Sponsors and NLBRA social media accounts or any information found in the places listed above.
3. Questions may include: True/False, Multiple Choice, Short Answer, or Fill in the Blank
4. Arrangements can be made at the discretion of the Royalty Pageant Committee to have an independent 3rd party read the questions to a contestant if they are not able to do so themselves because of the contestants age/or reading ability. Notification must be made in advance of the contest.

## **Silent Judge**

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

1. Overall ability to conduct oneself like a lady throughout the pageant.
2. Areas of judging will include, but are not limited to: Behavior in and out of direct competition, interaction with others, completion of requirements of the pageant including a silent auction item, gift for their contestant, treatment and care of your horse and other livestock, participation in activities, punctuality, other areas the silent judge(s) observe the contestants.

## **Judging**

The NLBRA Royalty Committee will use the following procedures for selecting judges and for overall judging:

1. Judges are selected for their experience and qualifications. All judges will be used to judge all categories (except for the silent judge category), including Appearance, Personality, Impromptu, Speech, Interview and Horsemanship.
2. Silent Judge may judge the Rodeo Flyby rides if the contest judges are not available.
3. All decisions of the judges are final.
4. Silent Judge will be selected by the NLBRA Royalty Committee. The identity of the silent judge will not be revealed at any time before or during, but may be revealed after the contest. The silent judge's score will be included in the overall score.

## **Breaking of ties**

A tie for any of the NLBRA Royalty Categories will be broken by the horsemanship scores, i.e., the contestant with the highest score in horsemanship will receive the higher ranking. A tie in

horsemanship will be broken by the test score. A tie in both test and horsemanship will be broken by the silent judge score. A tie in Congeniality will also be broken by the silent judge.

Contestants may vote on the selection of Miss Congeniality. This award will not affect points earned in the NLBRA Royalty Contest.

### **Wardrobe Guidelines**

**Speech and Modeling: Formal Outfit** is required. This is any western style dress or skirt combination, that does not have to be “high school legal”. This dress does not have to be leather. No pants will be allowed in this category.

**Interview:** Interview attire will be fashion forward.

**Horsemanship:** Any color of jeans and any long sleeved horsemanship shirt of your choosing.

**Grand Entries:** Contestants are encouraged to observe the themes in the Grand Entries. You must rodeo in NLBRA approved attire.

**Coronation:** Formal Outfit is required. This is any western style dress or skirt combination. No pants will be allowed for this function.

Casual Appearances, such as the Saturday evening orientation meet and greet will be off the rack attire.

### **Royalty Scoring**

There will be three judges chosen and approved by the NLBRA Executive Board. The contest winners will be determined by the total of the judge’s scores, the silent judge score, and the test score. The contestant with the highest score in each age division will be crowned the winner. Please note: there will be a judge chaperone to keep the time, secure score sheets into sealed envelopes, and the score sheets will be tallied by a CPA.

The categories for judging are as follows:

**Formal Wear On Stage:**

Modeling - 25 points per judge for a total of 75 points.

Speech - 50 points per judge for a total of 150 points.

Impromptu Question - 30 points per judge for a total of 90 points.

**Test / Interview:**

Written Test – 100 Points

Interview - 100 points per judge for a total of 300 points.

**Personality and Appearance:** (throughout total competition: your personality throughout the contest as well as the appearance of all your outfits and attitudes)

Personality - 25 points per judge for a total of 75 points.

Appearance - 50 points per judge for a total of 150 points.

Horsemanship:

Pattern - 50 per judge 150 total

Cow Work - 40 per judge 120 total

Presentation ride/ Grand Entry - 15 per judge 45 total

Flag Presentation Ride 15 per judge 45 total ( Jr/ Sr only)

Silent Judge - 50 points total

This allows for a total 1350 possible points for Queen and Princess and 1305 possible points for Little Wrangler Princess.

### **2024-2025 NLBRA Royalty Pageant Contract**

By signing this contract, I certify that I meet all of the eligibility requirements, mentioned under the “Eligibility” section of the National Little Britches Rodeo Association 2024-2025 Royalty Pageant Rules, Guidelines and Regulations.

- Contestants must read all rules and regulations. If there are questions, please do not hesitate to ask for clarification.
- Contestants will sign as a testament to understanding the rules and expectations.
- Contestants must conduct themselves in a proper lady-like manner and portray high moral standards at all times to include social media posts.
- Contestants understand that there is a zero tolerance for any type of bullying.
- Contestants will draw for positions after everyone has checked in at orientation.

All fees, paperwork, photos, biographies, or other information required for entering this contest MUST be sent with the original royalty contestant entry packet. I understand that if any information is missing from my packet my entry can be thrown and out and I may not be eligible for competition (if any changes need to be made after the entry deadline contact the coordinator for arrangements).

I understand that upon winning the title of NLBRA Royalty, I will be expected to perform duties on behalf of the NLBRA which include attending any functions, rodeos, or other activities scheduled by the NLBRA National Office.

Mandatory events for Royalty will include:

- \* Wrangler National Finals Rodeo and Miss Rodeo America Pageant December 2024.
- \* Western English Sales Association Market.
- \* Timed Event Championship March 2025.

- \* 2025 National Little Britches Finals Rodeo. I understand that I must compete as a contestant in the 2025 National Finals in a minimum of one rodeo event to receive my royalty scholarship.
- \* As many other rodeos and function as possible to represent the NLBRA.
- \* In addition to the above function's contestants may be asked to attend: Miss Rodeo USA Pageant, Black hills Stock Show and Rodeo in South Dakota, Cowgirl Gathering in Fort Worth, Sun Belt Expo in GA. (These options will be discussed with committee and Contestants once contestants are crowned).

In addition to attending these mandatory functions, I also agree:

- \* I will wear my crown, sash and buckle at all functions, I understand no straw hats will be allowed while in title attire and my hair will be fixed and not in braids.
- \* I understand that I may not have any visible tattoos or facial piercings at any time during reign.
- \* I will be responsible for all my own expenses while serving in this position.
- \* I will have a pre-arranged chaperone at events, which is usually a parent or guardian.
- \* I will maintain close contact with the NLBRA Royalty committee chair and office staff, providing a monthly itinerary plus one article for the NLBRA newspaper or website by the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) day of the month.
- \* I will send Thank You cards to Sponsors no later than Aug 10, 2024. (this will include sponsors, rodeo committees, stock contractors, host families, and other like persons / businesses.) It is expected that Titleholder shall make at least four written communications with such sponsors during her reign. It is recommended that such communications shall occur once during each quarter of her reign. Contact with each sponsor **MUST BE DOCUMENTED** in the format shared by the Executive Director / Chairman or Marketing Director, failure to do so will result in disciplinary action. Titleholder shall communicate with Executive Director/Chairman or Marketing Director to create a schedule to make appreciation posts about NLBRA sponsors. Titleholder is expected to maintain this weekly pattern at the **MINIMUM**.
- \* I will dress in western attire (if in pants, Wrangler preferred) and represent the rodeo industry in a professional, courteous manner - always maintaining high moral character.
- \* I will be open and friendly to the general public and I am willing to help promote the NLBRA and the entire sport of rodeo.
- \* I will arrive at least one hour before the performance starts unless instructed otherwise to all events and functions.
- \* I will strive to improve my skills in the rodeo events that I participate in, plus work on my horsemanship, riding ability, appearance and personality.
- \* I will not drink alcoholic beverages or take illegal drugs (including tobacco products) at any time during my term as NLBRA royalty.
- \* I will have proper phone etiquette at all times. If this is unclear, please contact the Executive Director/Chairman or the appointed committee member. I agree to keep my cell phone on silent during all appearances and will not make calls or texts during an appearance unless it is an emergency.
- \* I will keep all Social Media that I am involved with appropriate and positive (even if it is not rodeo related). I will assist with providing information for the NLBRA Royalty social media accounts.
- \* I will not allow myself to be photographed in any manner during the year that would imply that Titleholder is in a dating relationship. I understand that if I have a sponsored vehicle, or if the name "NLBRA " or titleholder's name appears on her personal vehicle, titleholder's boyfriend shall not ride in the vehicle with her at any time. Titleholder may have a boyfriend during her year. However,



Titleholder will not enter into a public dating relationship during her reign. There will be no public announcements of engagement, no taking or posting of photographs with the Titleholder's significant other, and no public display of affection with the Titleholder's significant other. NLBRA hires a young lady who is single and wholesome. Consequently, any behavior that portrays the NLBRA in a manner inconsistent with the spirit of this rule, will subject the Titleholder to disciplinary action, up to and including the termination of Titleholder's reign as Miss NLBRA Royalty.

- \* Titleholder agrees to make her family and significant other aware of the requirements of NLBRA Royalty. To the extent that the family members or boyfriend of Titleholder engage in continued actions that violate the requirement of Miss NLBRA or the spirit of those requirements, the
- \* I will assist in whatever the NLBRA board needs help with during the week of the NLBFR.
- \* I will return to the 2025 NLBRA Finals to complete my reign and act as hostess to visitors and next year's royalty contestants. I understand that I must compete as a contestant in the 2025 National Finals in a minimum of one rodeo event in order to receive my royalty scholarship.
- \* I will not make any appearance as NLBRA Royalty outside of a rodeo without prior approval by the Executive Director/Chairman or the designated board member.
- \* When making appearances as Miss NLBRA, Jr NLBRA, LW or while performing any activity designed to promote the NLBRA Association, titleholder will not promote any personal business, personal interest, personal hobby, or other such entities.
- \* While serving as NLBRA Royalty, Titleholder shall not attempt to solicit sponsors for herself or any other entity other than the NLBRA Association; violation of this rule shall result in an immediate written disciplinary action.
- \* Titleholder shall not give any sponsored item to anyone including a family member during her reign.
- \* Titleholder must seek permission and approval from NLBRA Chairman to wear any items that are considered not to be a brand of an exclusive sponsor.
- \* Title holder understands that she may not be featured in any other non-association clinic or event where she is viewed as a speaker, clinician, special guest, etc - unless it is to the benefit of the NLBRA Association and prior approval is given by Executive Director / Chairman.
- \* Titleholder shall solicit contestants for the National Pageant during her year and shall maintain contact with potential contestants during her year.
- \* Titleholder is expected to conduct herself as a professional at all times during her reign, and is expected to comply with the Eligibility Requirements, the NLBRA Handbook, and the Rules and Regulations. This includes all behavior and activities from the time she enters the NLBRA National Pageant until she relinquishes her reign. During the term of this agreement the said Titleholder will have the opportunity to earn incentives and will receive disciplinary action for warnings or misconduct.
- \* First Warning: Will be in verbal form (including but not limited to text or email) and documented to the Chairman of the Board for the NLBR Association.
- \* Second Warning: Will be in written form and signed by Titleholder (regardless of acceptance of said warning) and the Chairman of the Board or Appointed Board Member of the NLBR Association to signify receipt of the warning.
- \* Third Warning: Will be in written form, voted on by the NLBRA Royalty Committee and will result in a Full Executive Board revue which may include holding all career advancements / scholarship awards and travel funds. Titleholder may also be asked to relinquish the Miss NLBRA Title, Crown, and all awards received.



