

**Hesperia Wranglers, Inc.**  
**Tim Mustaikis- President (760) 220-4960**  
**Tonii Ventimiglia-Mustaikis- Queen Coordinator (760) 954-6841**  
**Hesperia Wranglers**  
**2024 Rodeo Queen Contest**

**Contestant Application Packet**

**BEING A QUEEN IS A PRIVILEGE AS WELL AS A RESPONSIBILITY TO THE HESPERIA WRANGLERS, INC., AND THE HIGH DESERT COMMUNITY. PLEASE REMEMBER TO ACT RESPONSIBLY.**

The Hesperia Wranglers Rodeo Queens Contest is held annually to select five young ladies who have the desire and enthusiasm to serve as Goodwill Ambassadors for the sport of Rodeo, the Western lifestyle and The Hesperia Wranglers.

The Hesperia Wranglers have pledged to make the program memorable for each contestant. The committee is confident the Hesperia Wranglers 2024 Rodeo Queens will represent this community in a grand manner.

**WHO ARE THE HESPERIA WRANGLERS 2024 RODEO QUEENS?**

The Hesperia Wranglers 2024 Rodeo Queens exemplifies the youth of our community and those who wish to promote the great western way of life. They are an ideal western type, All-American girl, who have horsemanship skills and knowledge, an appealing appearance, a congenial personality, knowledge of the equine industry, the High Desert, and the history of the Hesperia Wranglers. They are young ladies who enjoy travel and have a sincere interest in garnering educational experiences that will assist in laying a solid foundation for their future.

**WHAT TYPE OF YOUNG LADY DOES THE CONTEST ATTRACT?**

- ❖ A young lady who wishes to be a representative of her community, the western way of life and the Hesperia Wranglers. **The image of Miss Hesperia Wranglers is one who has exemplary moral and ethical values, an All-American, single cowgirl.**
- ❖ A young lady who loves horses and everything they represent. A young lady who portrays unmatched horsemanship, sportsmanship, high morals, and ethical character.
- ❖ An ambitious young lady who is interested in furthering her chosen career through higher education and special training.
- ❖ A young lady who can speak intelligently and display dignity in all situations.

**ELIGIBILITY**

**1. There are five age divisions:**

- A.) Sweetheart – 3 thru 5 (lead line)
- B.) Petite Miss –6 thru 9 years of age
- C.) Young Miss-10 thru 13 years of age
- D.) Junior Miss -14 thru 16 years of age
- E.) Miss - 16 thru 25 years of age

**Other Requirements:**

- ❖ **Each contestant must be a member of the Hesperia Wranglers prior to the pageant commencing, and must continue to maintain membership in good standing throughout her reign should she become a titleholder. If a titleholder does not renew her membership, it is grounds for immediate dismissal.**
- ❖ **Each contestant must also reside within a 100-mile radius of Hesperia.**
- ❖ **Birth certificate must be provided upon request**

**2. Each contestant shall pay a non-refundable entry fee.** Applications and entry fee monies are due no later than April 24, 2024. Checks can be mailed to **Hesperia Wranglers, Inc. P.O. Box 400222, Hesperia, CA 92340.** All checks must be made payable to **Hesperia Wranglers Queens.**

**3. Fee Schedule:**

- A) Sweetheart \$75.00
- B) Petite Miss \$75.00
- C) Young Miss \$100.00
- D) Junior Miss \$100.00
- E) Miss \$100.00

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3. Each Miss, Jr. Miss and Young Miss contestant will be required to raise **\$500.00 worth of sponsorship money** and each Petite Miss and Sweetheart contestants will be required to raise **\$300.00 worth of sponsorship money** through any of the following: program advertisements, sponsorships of buckles or crowns, sponsor arena banners or raffle tickets. Money is due by **June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, no later than 7:30 p.m.** Fundraising monies must be submitted in order to be eligible to compete. Money and/or raffle tickets will be accepted by the Coordinator, Queen Committee or any member of the Hesperia Wranglers Board of Directors.

4. Hesperia Wranglers expressly reserves the sole right to accept or reject any application, as it may in its sole discretion deems appropriate.

5. If there are fewer than three contestants in any given age group, the committee has the right to cancel or omit that category for that year. If any age group proceeds with only one contestant, that contestant will have to earn a score of 75% or better in order to win the title. If the 75% or better score is not achieved, then the title will not be awarded. The contestant will also have to score a 75% or better in each individual category in order to receive each category award. If a score of 75% or better is not achieved in the category, the award will not be given.

**SELECTION OF HESPERIA WRANGLERS 2024 RODEO QUEENS**

**The selection shall be by majority vote of a panel of not less than three judges appointed by the Queen Coordinator and Hesperia Wranglers Board of Directors. Judges may award a total of 1000 points as follows:**

1. Horsemanship – 300 points
2. Public Speaking– 200 points
3. Knowledge of the Hesperia Wranglers, current events, etc. (written test) - 50 points
4. Appearance– 200 points
5. Personal/Media interview – 250 points

**DIVISIONS of COMPETITION**

**HORSEMANSHIP**

There is the possibility of two rounds of horsemanship competition for the Miss & Junior Miss divisions. The first round will consist of riding a designated pattern, the committee may also include a switch horse ride to be judged as well, if so a second pattern will be delivered no later than the morning of the competition, or small group rail work on draw horses provided by the queen committee and a brief in-arena interview with the judges.

1. Horsemanship: control of mount and how each situation that may occur is handled.
2. Balance: ability to sit in the saddle.
3. Position of hands, feet, and seat.
4. Mounting and dismounting.
5. Presentation wave and flag presentation (Miss, Junior and Young).
6. Showmanship - This is how well the contestant projects her personality to the audience from horseback.
7. Contestants must arrive at the entry gate promptly when their names are called. The horse and rider must enter the arena within 30 seconds of being called or they will be disqualified.
8. Contestants may be questioned on each of the following categories: knowledge of tack, horse science, and the history of the Hesperia Wranglers.
9. **There is no coaching from the crowd.**

**Val Shearer Equestrian Center is closed to any equine other than those of contestants during the competition.  
On the day of competition please do not bring any other horse other than the one you  
will be competing on.**

Handlers of unruly horses will be asked to place the horse in a horse trailer or to remove the horse from the arena grounds. Stallions are not to be ridden by anyone under the age of 18 and therefore, due to the possibility of switching of horses, they will not be allowed for competition by anyone. No anabolic steroid is to be administered to a horse or pony in the time before the competition such that it, or any metabolite of it, might be present in the animal at the time of competition. This means that no anabolic steroids should be administered in advance or at the time of the competition.

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**PERSONALITY, SPEECH AND MODELING**

1. Personality: friendly, outgoing, interacts well with and respectful of others.
2. Grooming: this should include neatness, cleanliness, fingernails, hair, hat, boots, and western apparel.
3. Poise: How the contestant carries herself is very important; the judges will be looking for contestants to hold themselves straight and tall and exude self-confidence and poise.
4. Judges will be looking for contestants to handle each situation that they are involved in with grace and style.
5. Proper fit of clothing: above all, contestants should pay attention to the fit of their outfit.
6. Conversational ability in varied areas with an emphasis on grammar and enunciation.
7. Demonstrates a good sense of humor.
8. Self-confidence, high moral standards, sincerity, and integrity.

**WARDROBE GUIDELINES**

1. Each Contestant should have one complete horsemanship outfit with accessories. This should consist of monochromatic jeans, blouse (long sleeves and shirt tails tucked in), cowboy boots, white or black felt hat, and belt with buckle. Spurs are allowed. No straw hats. Each contestant understands that the Pageant Director **is not** responsible at any time to wardrobe the contestants and/or titleholders. Each contestant will maintain clothing that is acceptable for a variety of appearances, at my own expense.
2. Each contestant will have one complete interview, speech and coronation outfit with accessories. Contestants may have the option of wearing jeans, slacks, or a dress/skirt during the interview. Speech outfit must consist of a dress or a skirt and top combination. Excessive fashion jewelry is discouraged. Tattoos and body piercing must be concealed at all times. No straw hats. Each contestant understands that the Pageant Director **is not** responsible at any time to wardrobe the contestants and/or titleholders. Each contestant will maintain clothing that is acceptable for a variety of appearances, at my own expense.
3. No chaps are to be worn for the horsemanship competition.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

1. Each Contestant must supply the Hesperia Wranglers with an 8" x 10" photo. Photo must be a headshot photo in western attire. Western attire will include western blouse, suit or dress, hat, and accessories. Hesperia Wranglers shall have final approval of photos. Print the contestant's full name, age, year, and title which she is competing for on the back of each photo for identification. Outside headshots can work- they just aren't always the best option. Getting lighting right outside can be a challenge and the background may distract from YOU. Your headshots must also be in an electronic file and must be in a jpeg (jpg) format. Please keep in mind that they need to be in high resolution so that they can be reproduced well in print for the program book. We want you to look your best.
2. Each contestant will provide their own horse and tack necessary for the horsemanship competition. Draw horses for the Junior and Miss category will be provided.
3. Contestants will be expected to present a biography, which will be at **least** 10-12 sentences in length. The Hesperia Wranglers Queen Coordinator and committee will provide a speech topic for the speech portion of the competition. It is recommended that speeches are memorized, and no props will be allowed. A personal interview will also take place during the competition.
4. Contestants must provide their own transportation to and from all functions.
5. Contestants and/or Royalty must sign the Hesperia Wranglers waiver and release form, the expectations form, complete the application and the Code of Conduct. If under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must also sign the required forms.
- 6. Contestants must provide their own wardrobe.**
7. Contestants must provide access prior to application acceptance to Facebook (META)/Instagram (META)/Twitter/Snapchat and TikTok or any other social media account that they participate in whether it be public or private. Acceptance of the application will be contingent upon review of said social media by the Queen Coordinator and the committee. Any deemed inappropriate behavior in or on any public forum **can** be cause for immediate dismissal. **If a contestant is asked to remove postings, comments and/or pictures this should be done IMMEDIATELY. Keep in mind that these can be seen by the judges or any other member of the organization and should always represent a young lady that is wholesome and with good moral values. If postings and/or pictures are not removed this may result in immediate dismissal from facilities and/or the contest.**

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Application deadline:** Entry deadline is **April 24, 2024**. Orientation will be contingent upon application acceptance and will be on **Saturday, April 27, 2024** at a destination to be determined.

**PHOTOGRAPHS** - Photographs taken of contestants during the contest and program, by program personnel will become the property of the Hesperia Wranglers and may be used for publicity.

**HORSEMANSHIP** - Hesperia Wranglers Miss and Junior contestants may ride a draw horse, Young, Junior and Miss Contestants are required to carry a flag as part of horsemanship; Sweetheart and Petite Contestants will **not** carry flags in the competition.

**SPORTSMANSHIP** - The Hesperia Wranglers expects each contestant, parents, friends, and relatives to display the highest degree of sportsmanship during the program, contest and following the coronation. Each contestant should be mindful that they are representing the Hesperia Wranglers and its family values. **Unsportsmanlike conduct or attitude will not be tolerated from contestants and/or parent(s)/guardian(s).** **Unsportsmanlike conduct or attitude will result in disqualification and affect further eligibility to compete in the Hesperia Wranglers Queens Contest.**

**PROBLEMS AND COMPLAINTS** - All problems and complaints should be immediately referred to the Queen Coordinator, a member of the queen committee or Hesperia Wranglers Board of Directors prior to the week of the pageant. Anyone can report a problem or complaint to the Hesperia Wranglers Queen Coordinator, queen committee, or Hesperia Wranglers Board of Directors, and they will address the problem. **Unless timely reported, each and every alleged violation of, and/or perceived violation of, contest rules and/or regulations shall be deemed waived, and the complaining party shall be stopped from presenting allegations regarding the same.**

**STUDY INFORMATION** –Your local newspaper, television news, horse science books, Hesperia Wrangler history. Checking all Hesperia Wranglers Queens social media and the Hesperia Wranglers website (HesperiaWranglers.org) regarding the queens is also highly recommended. These resources provide excellent information for study material.

**Mandatory Events:**

- ❖ Hesperia Wranglers Rodeo Queens Contest & Coronation (TBD in 2025)
- ❖ Minimum of six (6) Hesperia Wranglers monthly shows for Opening Ceremonies.
- ❖ Minimum attendance of four (4) General Membership meetings (dressed in appropriate queen attire at any & all meetings attended whether in-person or ZOOM). Additional meeting attendance may be required as special events or presentations occur.
- ❖ Hesperia Days Rodeo Kick-Off event (September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024)
- ❖ Hesperia Days Parade (September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024)
- ❖ Hesperia Days Rodeo (September 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024)
- ❖ Queens Fundraisers
- ❖ Hesperia Wranglers Annual Awards Banquet (January 2025)
- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> Gymkhana of the Year (March 8, 2025)
- ❖ William Kinnard Scholarship presentations

**Additional Events:**

Keep in mind that there are several other events that the queen and her court will be asked to attend during their reign and it is in their best interest to attend as many non-mandatory events as possible.

**For example:**

- ❖ Tehachapi Mountain Rodeo (Date TBD)
- ❖ San Bernardino Sheriff's Rodeo (September 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2024)
- ❖ Norco Mounted Posse Rodeo (August 23<sup>rd</sup> -August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024)
- ❖ Needles Colorado Roundup Rodeo (Date TBD 2025)
- ❖ Norco Horseweek Rodeo (Date TBD 2025)
- ❖ Additional Rodeos as they arise (Date TBD 2025)

**Also remember that some events will only be for the "Queen".**

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**Contestant Application (please ensure it is typed)**

Contestant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Division Entering: \_\_\_\_\_ Division Fee Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES/ACTIVITIES/SPECIAL INTERESTS: INCLUDE AWARDS RECEIVED  
(NOT EQUESTRIAN)?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
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WHAT ARE YOUR CAREER GOALS?

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RODEO, HORSE SHOW, GYMKHANA OR OTHER HORSE ACTIVITIES WHICH YOU ENJOY OR HAVE PARTICIPATED IN:

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RODEO, HORSE SHOW OR RELATED AWARDS/TITLES YOU HAVE HELD/EARNED AND THE DATES OF EACH:

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WHAT CONTRIBUTIONS DO YOU BELIEVE A QUEEN CAN MAKE TO BENEFIT THE HESPERIA WRANGLERS AND THEIR SPONSORS?

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WHY WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A HESPERIA WRANGLERS TITLE HOLDER: (Please **ATTACH** a typed essay of two hundred words or less)

Can be mailed to Hesperia Wranglers, PO BOX 400222, Hesperia, CA 92340

**Orientation (contingent upon application acceptance): Saturday April 27, 2024, at a location to be determined.**

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**Queen Committee:**

**President: Tim Mustaikis (760) 220-4960**

**Coordinator: Tonii Ventimiglia-Mustaikis (760) 954-6841**

**Committee Members:**

**Charlie Cardoza (760) 810-1906 (Current Miss Hesperia Wranglers)**

**Kristi Cardoza (760)987-3021 (Charlie's mom)**

**Sydney Webb (760) 464-1528**

**Coby Webb (760) 464-4210**

**Diane Schooff (760) 963-1558**

**Quannah Schuller (760) 906-3005**

**Virginia Wilson (760) 912-1321**

**Kerri Latham (760) 275-3441**

**Harmony Latham (760)**

I hereby understand and agree to the rules and procedures of the Hesperia Wranglers Pageant. I understand and agree that the Hesperia Wranglers Queen Committee reserves the right to rule on any matter not covered by the rules and procedures, and that their decision will be final.

I hereby waive any liability against the Hesperia Wranglers, Inc. and/or Hesperia Wranglers Queen Committee for any injury, loss, or damage to any person or property arising out of the Hesperia Wranglers Pageant whether such injury, loss, or damage occurs as a result of theft, accident, negligence, or otherwise.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Contestant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/ Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

