**2023 Monona County Fair Queen Contest**

**General Information**

This information will provide a general understanding of the qualifications and expectations of the contestants, as well as details about the event. The dates for the Queen Contest and Opening Ceremonies are Monday, July 10 & Tuesday July 11.

Monona County Fair Queen Contest rules:

1. Each contestant must be at least 16 years of age and not more than 21 years of age on August 10, 2023, the first day of the Iowa State Fair.
2. The contestant must never have been married nor have children.
3. Entrants must be residents of Monona County or an adjoining county **AND** attend a school having all or part of its district in Monona County **AND** the majority of her activities are in Monona County. *Please do not hesitate to call the chairperson for clarification.*
4. Each contestant must be a member of at least one worthwhile youth organization in her community.
5. No professional model is eligible for the Monona County Fair Queen Contest.
6. Any contestant who has competed in the state fair finals or in a county fair queen contest other than Monona County may not compete again.
7. **Each contestant is to submit a completed entry form, including a wallet size head and shoulders photograph of herself, postmarked no later than Friday, June 23, 2023 to the Queen Contest Chair, along with $40.00 entry or sponsor fee payable to the ‘Monona County Fair Association’. (Photo may be emailed) NO exceptions!** If you send a professional photo, please include the photographer’s release as this is required by the newspapers.
8. **The date of the queen contestant preliminary interviews and competition will be Monday, July 10th (**morning**) at the Beef ‘n Brew Restaurant, Mapleton at 9:00 am (time tentative).**
9. Queen will be selected by a competent committee on:

 A. Personality, attitude, appearance, awareness, and communication skills.

 B. Leadership qualities, citizenship, community activities, and extracurricular activities.

1. Each contestant is to appear in the following dress:

 A. Evening gown. B. A casual outfit of her choice

1. The queen will appear for the Monona County Fair Board in official capacities as requested until her successor is crowned. If the queen fails to effectively represent the Monona County Fair Board, she will be asked to return all prizes won and relinquish her title.
2. The Monona County Fair Queen Committee and Monona County Fairboard reserve the right to change the foregoing rules and regulations at any time as may be deemed expedient.
3. The winner of the Monona County Fair Queen Contest will compete in the 2023 Iowa State Fair Queen Competition on August 8-12, 2023. Room accommodations and meals will be provided during her stay in Des Moines. Transportation to and from Des Moines is not provided.
4. Fair queen contestants can be sponsored by individual persons, businesses, or area organizations. Contestants may have one or two sponsors.
5. The 2023 Royalty will be asked to assist with various functions at the 2023 Monona County Fair beginning Wednesday, July 12, 2023
6. The 2023 Royalty will be asked to assist with the 2024 preliminary judging and be present at the 2024 Monona County Fair Queen Contest.
7. Entry forms are available online at [www.mononacountyfair.com](http://www.mononacountyfair.com) *Photos will not be returned.*

The preliminary judging (**July 10**) will consist of an individual interview with each of the judges in your formalwear, and a second short answer session in a casual outfit of your choice. This casual outfit should express your personality (no swimsuits). There will be a place for you to change outfits. A meal will be served. Please advise the chair of any food allergies. We should conclude around 12-12:30 p.m.

The coronation of the 2023 Fair Queen and Little Princess will take place during the Monona County Fair Opening Ceremonies which begin at 7:00 p.m., on **Tuesday, July 11th.**  The contest will be held in the grandstand, weather permitting. The alternative location is the livestock building. You will meet in the red, Farm Bureau Building by 6:40 in your formalwear. We will give you further details at the preliminary judging. Please be sure to invite your friends and family to join us for the crowning.

Contestants will be judged on the following:
Application: Completeness, neat, free of grammatical errors, and a short essay

Appearance

Appropriateness of clothing selected

Overall grooming

Personality and poise

Interview

Group discussion

Leadership, citizenship, and community activities

Final night of judging at the Monona County Fair

A panel of judges will be selecting the Queen and First Runner-up. Contestants will vote for Miss Congeniality. If you are selected as one of these three, you will be expected to be on the fairgrounds as much as possible, presenting ribbons and trophies. Each of finalists will be presented a sash worn at the fair. This will entitle you to free admission to the Grandstand events. If you feel you cannot meet these requirements, you are required to relinquish your title and return all prizes. We will go into more details of your duties when places are awarded. The judges will ask you questions about various subjects. They will have read your application, so they may ask questions pertaining to your activities, etc.

**All** Queen Contestants are to ride in the Fair Parade on Sunday, July 16th at 1:00 p.m..

We look forward to meeting you, and hope you have a fun time at the competition. We want all of you to enjoy this time, and if you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact any of us at any time!!

Monona County Fair Queen Chair:

Sharyl Bruning

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Mapleton, IA 51034

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