



## **2026 Ramona Rodeo Queen Pageant: Rules and Regulations**

The Ramona Rodeo Queen Pageant celebrates the heritage and values of rodeo and western culture, proudly rooted in the Ramona community. As a program of the Ramona Rodeo Foundation, the pageant aligns with state and national standards and honors the rich heritage of our rodeo royalty. Supported by our Queen Committee, this event is structured to uphold the highest levels of professionalism, sportsmanship, and community representation. These rules and eligibility requirements are established to maintain those standards while allowing appropriate flexibility to reflect the evolving nature of rodeo culture.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

#### **Essential Qualifications for Contestants**

**1. Age Requirements:**

- a. Applicants must be in the age category for which they are applying within six months of assuming the title.
  - Young Miss: 11-13 years of age by 10/12/2026.
  - Junior Queen: 14 to 17 years of age by 10/12/2026.
  - Queen: 18 to 25 years of age by 10/12/2026.

**2. Residency:** Must reside in California.

**3. Marital and Parental Status:** Must not be or have been married, pregnant, or have children.

**4. Document Submission:** All required documents must be submitted by the deadline.

**5. Compliance with Pageant Rules:** Mandatory adherence to all rules and regulations.

**6. Legal Record:** Clean criminal record required.



7. **Character and Sportsmanship:** High moral standards and sportsmanship are essential.

### **Pageant Conduct and Participation Requirements**

1. **Conduct:** Proper, lady-like behavior, and high moral standards are expected at all times.
2. **Entry Fee:** A \$100 non-refundable entry fee is required with the application. This fee includes 2026 membership in the Ramona Rodeo Foundation.
3. **Horsemanship Requirement:** Contestants must provide their own horse and transportation for the event.
4. **Speech Presentation:** Contestants must deliver a speech on a given topic within a specified time limit.
5. **Transportation:** Contestants are responsible for their own transportation to and from the pageant and all events.
6. **Wardrobe Requirements:** Contestants must provide their own wardrobe, adhering to the event guidelines.
7. **Interaction Restrictions:** Contact with parents and friends is restricted during the pageant.
8. **Sportsmanship Post-Coronation:** Expected to display exemplary sportsmanship following the coronation.
9. **Raffle Ticket Sales & Advertisements:** Participation in raffle ticket sales, Program advertisement, or both, is mandatory. Contestants are required to sell a minimum of 50 raffle tickets @ \$10.00 each, or a minimum of \$500.00 in program advertising.
10. **Raffle Item Donation:** Each contestant must provide an item or basket valued at a minimum of \$50.00 for the raffle. This is separate from the requirements in item 9.
11. **Program Contribution:** A biography for the official pageant program is mandatory. Bio's must be turned into Taylor by the date requested.



**12. Transparency of Scores:** Score sheets and judges' notes will be released two weeks after the coronation.

**Boyfriend Conduct Clause:**

As a contestant and potential titleholder of the Ramona Rodeo Queen Pageant, I acknowledge and agree to the following stipulations regarding the involvement and conduct of a boyfriend during my participation in the pageant and potential reign:

1. **No Chaperone Role:** Boyfriends are not to be considered chaperones at any pageant events, activities, or appearances. The role of a chaperone is reserved strictly for designated individuals appointed by the Queen Committee.
2. **No Public Displays of Affection:** I agree to maintain a professional demeanor at all times during official events and appearances. This includes abstaining from any public displays of affection (PDA) with a boyfriend, as such behavior is not in alignment with the professional standards expected of a contestant or titleholder.
3. **No Special Treatment:** Boyfriends will not receive special treatment, privileges, or access during pageant events or activities. Their involvement and presence will be subject to the same guidelines and restrictions applicable to the general public or other guests.
4. **Not Considered a Plus One:** For events where a "plus one" is applicable, boyfriends are not automatically granted this status. Invitations for additional guests, including boyfriends, will be at the discretion of the Queen Committee and based on the specific event guidelines.
5. **Professional Conduct Expectation:** I understand that my conduct, as well as the conduct of those closely associated with me, reflects on the Ramona Rodeo Foundation, Ramona Rodeo, and Queen Committee. I will ensure that my boyfriend, if present at events, adheres to the standards of behavior and professionalism expected by the Queen Committee.



By agreeing to these terms, I am committing to upholding the integrity and professionalism of the Ramona Rodeo Foundation and Ramona Rodeo Queen Pageant, both in my personal conduct and in the conduct of those associated with me.

### **Event Overview and Logistics**

- **Pageant Dates:**

- April 10<sup>th</sup> : 5pm Horsemanship at Ramona Rodeo Grounds.
- April 11<sup>th</sup> : 9am written test, 12pm interviews (not open to the public); 4pm pageant/speeches/coronation (open the public – all are welcome!)

- **Chaperones and Committee Supervision:** Provided throughout the pageant.

- **Event Tickets:** Available at the door for \$5.00 each. Two tickets will be provided to each contestant for their parents/guardians. All other tickets must be purchased at the door on the day of the pageant.

- **Photography and Videography:** Restricted to designated areas and times.

### **Pageant Activities and Judging**

#### **Competitive Events and Evaluation Criteria**

All judged categories, including interview, horsemanship, appearance, speech, and test, will be scored out of 100 points each. The overall winner will be determined by the total cumulative score across all categories. This scoring system allows contestants the opportunity to compensate in other categories if they do not perform as well in one, providing a balanced evaluation of their abilities.

1. **Horsemanship:** Judged on riding skills, control, and showmanship.
2. **Speeches:** Evaluated for clarity, articulation, content, and audience engagement.
3. **Impromptu Questions:** Assesses quick thinking and conversational abilities.



4. **Interviews:** Focuses on communication skills and rodeo knowledge. This includes the evaluation of your application.

5. **Coronation Ceremony:** Winners announced based on cumulative scores.

- **Judging Criteria and Process:** Includes expert panel evaluation and scoring on horsemanship, public speaking, appearance, and impromptu responses.

- **Categories:** Judging encompasses four main categories: Interview, Appearance, Speech, and Horsemanship.

- **Independent Auditors:** Two independent auditors will tally the judges' scores.

- **Head Judge:** A head judge will be designated prior to the pageant start, and that judge's scores will be used in the event of a tie.

- **Scoring Ties:** Ties in individual categories will be broken by referring to Judge #1's score, followed by Judge #2's score, if needed.

- **Overall Scoring Tie:** Ties for the title or first runner-up will be broken by horsemanship scores.

- **Interview Process:** Contestants will have interviews with the panel of judges, focusing on various topics including skills related to the Rodeo Queen title, knowledge of rodeo, horsemanship, personal goals, and other relevant topics.

- **Miss Congeniality:** This award celebrates the character and personality of contestants highlighting their inner beauty. Selected by contestant vote for the person who consistently demonstrated kindness, a positive spirit, and compassion throughout the competition. This does not count towards overall points.

- **Spirit Award:** This recognition focuses on attitude and energy. The winner is chosen by the Queen Committee and is someone who has shown consistent passion and commitment, can be counted on as a moral booster



for the other contestants, is inclusive of everyone, and makes others feel welcome. This does not count towards overall points.

- **Photogenic Award:** This award recognizes the contestant who demonstrates confidence, professionalism, and strong on-camera presence, as determined by the photographer. It reflects how well contestants carry themselves and engage during the photo session, not physical appearance. This award does not count toward overall points.

- **High Raffle Ticket Sales:** This award honors the contestant who generates the most support through raffle ticket sales and program advertisements. It recognizes dedication to promoting the program and community engagement. This does not count towards overall points.

- **Cowgirl-up Award:** Recognition will be given to the contestant who has shown the most improvement or resilience in overcoming challenges throughout the pageant. This does not count towards overall points.

### **Wardrobe and Appearance Guidelines**

1. **Hats:** Are to be white, brown, black or neutral colors ONLY. Colored hats will be acceptable for interview only.
2. **Interview Outfit:** All contestants will be required to wear slacks, pants or skirts, NO Blue Jeans! All contestants will be required to wear a blazer of their choice with a modest blouse underneath. Vests are acceptable.
3. **Horsemanship Attire:** Functional western riding attire, including monochromatic jeans, shirts, cowboy boots, belt, and hat. NO fringe.
4. **Speech Outfit:** A formal outfit reflecting western fashion, which will also be worn for the coronation ceremony. Dresses must be floor-length with long or  $\frac{3}{4}$  sleeves.
5. **General Appearance:** Emphasis on neatness, cleanliness, and grooming.
6. **Accessory Guidelines:** Must complement the overall western theme.
7. **Committee Approval:** All wardrobe choices subject to pre-pageant approval by the Queen Committee.



### **Acknowledgment and Endorsement by Contestants and Parents/Guardians**

As a participant (or the parent/guardian of a participant) in the Ramona Rodeo Queen Pageant, I hereby acknowledge and agree to the following:

**Compliance with Rules:** I have read, understand, and agree to comply with all the rules, regulations, and guidelines of the Ramona Rodeo Queen Pageant as outlined in the pageant guide.

**Eligibility Criteria:** I certify that all information provided in the application regarding age, residency, marital and parental status, and other eligibility requirements is accurate and truthful.

**Conduct, Behavior and Boyfriend Clause:** I commit to maintaining a high standard of conduct throughout the pageant, understanding that failure to do so may result in disqualification.

**Responsibility for Participation:** I accept full responsibility for my (or my child's) participation in the pageant, including personal health and wellbeing.

**Wardrobe Approval:** I understand that all wardrobe choices are subject to approval by the Rodeo Queen Committee and agree to adhere to the specified guidelines.

**Use of Image:** I consent to the use of photographs and videos taken during the pageant for promotional or other purposes by the Ramona Rodeo Queen Committee.

**Acceptance:** I agree to accept the decisions of the judges and the Queen Committee as final and binding.



Release of Liability: I release and hold harmless the Ramona Rodeo Foundation, its affiliated programs and committees, including but not limited to the Queen Committee, the Ramona Rodeo and the Pageant, and all associated board members, officers, agents, and volunteers, from any liabilities, claims, or expenses that may arise from my (or my child's) participation in the pageant.

By signing this agreement, I acknowledge that I have thoroughly reviewed and consent to abide by the rules and regulations of the Ramona Rodeo Queen Pageant and understand the commitments and responsibilities it entails.

Contestant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature (if contestant is under 18): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_