

2026 VALLEY CENTER STAMPEDE RODEO QUEEN PAGEANT

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CONTRACT

This agreement is entered into by the undersigned contestant (and parent/guardian if applicable) and the Valley Center Stampede Rodeo Committee regarding participation in the 2026 Valley Center Stampede Rodeo Queen Pageant.

1. Contestant Divisions and Age Requirements

All contestants must meet the following age requirements as of January 1, 2026:

- Queen Division: Ages 17 to 25
- Junior Queen Division: Ages 13 to 16
- Young Miss Division: Ages 9 to 12
- Little Miss Division: Ages 6 to 8

2. General Eligibility

1. Be female and unmarried, with no children.
2. Reside in San Diego, Imperial County, or Riverside Counties. If a contestant lives outside of this area approval of the Valley Center Stampede Rodeo Queen Committee is needed.
3. If a Contestant currently holds another title, they are not eligible to compete. Exceptions will be considered for contestants that are handing down a title (this would need to be approved by the Committee).
4. Possess horsemanship skills appropriate for her age division and have regular access to a horse for competition and public appearances.
5. Have access to a safe suitable horse to compete on and use throughout their reign if crowned.
6. Horses need to be serviceably sound, of good weight and be well presented.
7. Stallions are not to be used.
8. Contestants must demonstrate good moral character, sportsmanship, and conduct, always representing the Valley Center Stampede Rodeo in a positive manner.
9. Be in good academic standing (for school-aged contestants).

10. Contestants applying to Colleges, Schools, or Vocational Schools outside of San Diego County, Riverside, or Imperial County must let the Pageant Committee know prior to competing.
11. Be able to attend all scheduled practices, appearances, parades, and rodeo events required by the Committee.
12. **Contestants must attend all Practices.** Exceptions may be allowed in extreme circumstances (i.e. death in the family)

3. Contestant Expectations

13. Contestants must comply with all rules and instructions of the Valley Center Stampede Rodeo Queen Pageant Committee.
14. When attending practices Contestants need to dress in Western Attire. Long sleeve button shirt, jeans, boots, and Cowboy Hat.
15. Contestants must provide a head shot by January 24th. Head shot photos can be emailed to jewels92082@yahoo.com
16. Contestants will turn in a completed bio by January 24th.
17. Contestants will provide a \$150 entry fee with a completed application by January 3rd. Checks can be made out to Valley Center Stampede Rodeo or paid via PayPal vcstampederodeo@gmail.com. **Venmo will not be accepted**
18. Contestants will provide a raffle item that is valued at a minimum of \$25.
19. Contestants will sell \$750 in either Pageant Tickets, Sponsorships, or Raffle Tickets. All money is due February 28th Contestants will receive awards for Highest Pageant Ticket Sales, Highest Sponsorship Sales and Highest Raffle Ticket Sales. Sponsorship adds are due February 21st.
20. Contestants must be members of the Valley Center Vaqueros. Memberships can be completed at www.ValleyCenterVaqueros.com
21. Contestants must dress in western attire at all official events, as defined by the Committee.
22. All clothing while competing for the 2026 Valley Center Stampede Rodeo Queen Pageant must be approved by the Pageant Committee. Pictures of the Contestant in the clothing must be emailed to Julie Picot jewels92082@yahoo.com and Lisa Burkhard lisajburkhard@gmail.com by February 21st.
23. Winners must serve their full reign and represent the Valley Center Stampede Rodeo at appearances, parades, and community functions as directed.
24. Contestants must maintain respectful and positive behavior, in person and on social media.
25. All contestants are required to draft a speech that is 2 to 4 minutes in length. The use of note cards and props is not permitted. The topic of the speech will be picked by the committee and will be shared with all contestants.

26. Contestants will take a written test and a study guide for the test is provided.
During the test there will be no talking, or use of any other written material, once the test has started contestants ARE NOT allowed to leave for any reason. They may only leave once the test has been completed.
27. Contestants must provide a horse to be ridden during the horsemanship portion of the competition. All horses must be under control by the contestant. Trainers will be allowed to attend the horsemanship rehearsals. Trainers are not allowed to discuss a contestant's ride at the rehearsal. They must use their own time to critique the ride.
28. Contestants may not share horses. An exception may be made if siblings are competing in separate categories or if a horse is being leased by two different riders and they are in separate categories.
29. If there is a tie in scoring in any age category, the tie will be broken by the horsemanship scores. The contestant with the higher score in horsemanship will receive the higher ranking.
30. Contestants that have colored hair need to have a 'natural' color with no extreme highlights.

4. Disqualifications

- Marriage, pregnancy, or becoming a parent during the competition or reign.
- Contestants will not be permitted to drink alcoholic beverages, smoke, vape, use drugs or use foul language.
- Contestants and legal guardians cannot have been involved in an arrest or engagement in illegal or unlawful activity.
- Misconduct on social media, including but not limited to bullying, obscene language, or inappropriate photos.
- Any tattoos and facial piercings need to be removed or hidden while at practices or any event representing the Valley Center Stampede Rodeo. Only 2 ear piercings are acceptable.
- Failure to fulfill queen-related duties, including appearances, parades, and rodeo events as required by the Committee.
- Any contestant that doesn't meet the clothing guidelines set forth by the Valley Center Stampede Rodeo Queen Committee will receive a 0 score in Appearance for that category that the offense was made.
- Any form of cheating during the pageant will result in the contestant no longer being eligible to win a title or any prizes during the pageant.
- Conduct by the contestant or her parent/guardian that brings discredit to the Valley Center Stampede Rodeo, its sponsors, or the community.

- Contestants, Parents, Guardians or Assistants are not allowed to approach Judges with the intent to influence or harass. Action of this type will be reported to the Valley Center Pageant Committee and disqualification could result.
- Any conduct deemed inappropriate, unsafe, or damaging to the reputation of the Rodeo or Committee may result in disqualification or forfeiture of the title.
- Parents and guardians are expected to always conduct themselves respectfully and supportively. Any inappropriate behavior by a parent/guardian, including unsportsmanlike conduct or disrespect toward judges, contestants, committee members, or sponsors, may result in the disqualification of their contestant.

5. Agreement

By signing below, the contestant (and parent/guardian if applicable) acknowledges that she:

- Meets the eligibility requirements listed above.
- Agrees to abide by the rules and decisions of the Valley Center Stampede Rodeo Committee.
- Understands that failure to comply may result in removal from the competition or forfeiture of title.

Release of Liability

In consideration of the acceptance of the foregoing entry, it is understood and agreed that I/we are aware of the risk and exposure to personal injury involved through horsemanship activities, and I hereby release the VALLEY CENTER STAMPEDE RODEO and the officers and members thereof, and each of them from all and every claim for damages which may be suffered by me or them or any of them because of any matter, thing or condition, negligence or default whatsoever, and I hereby assume and accept the full risk and danger of any hurt, injury or damage which may occur through or by reason of any matter, thing, condition, negligence or default, and/or any person or persons whatsoever, in the exhibitions, sports, contests and parades, or any of them held or given by or under direction of said association.

The undersigned does hereby agree to these conditions.

Contestant Name (Printed): _____

Contestant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian Name (if under 18): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Valley Center Stampede Rodeo Queens

www.VCStampedeRodeoQueen.com

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