

# Minnesota Half Arabian Horse Association

## Royalty Contestant Rules

Approved 06/16/2010

The purpose of the Royalty program is to provide a fun opportunity to promote the club (MHAHA) and the Arabian /Half Arabian breed. The Queen and her court are considered ambassadors for the club and breed both within the club and in other horse related activities.

1. The following positions will be elected. Contestant's age is defined by their age on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year of their reign.
  - a. Queen – woman age 18 years or older
  - b. Princess – girl age 14-17
  - c. Little Miss or Junior Princess – girl age 13 and under
  - d. Buckaroos – boys
2. All Queen Contestants must be paid full or associate members in good standing of MHAHA for at least the previous 12 months before the date of the election. All youth contestants must be paid members in good standing of MHAHA for at least the previous 6 months before the date of election. All elected Royalty must keep their membership current during their reign.
3. All contestants must have access to exhibit an Arabian or Half/Anglo Arabian either through ownership, lease, family ownership, loan or other means. All contestants must be able to ride their horse unattended. The exception would be contestants under the age of 10 and may ride lead lined .
4. Any member of the Royal Family may serve 2 consecutive terms. After one year sitting out, the contestant is eligible to run again. In the event that there are no contestants for a position in the Royal Family, that position will be offered to the previous member providing that she/he fulfilled minimum requirements during their previous reign. That previous member will still be required to go through the election process. In the event that there are no contestants for a position and the age of the previous member of the younger age group now qualifies for that position, that position will be offered to that member. (Example, there are no contestants for Princess, but the previous year's Little Miss is now old enough for Princess, she shall be offered the Princess position.)
5. MHAHA will provide each female member of the Royalty family a sash and costume quality crown. The sash and crown are theirs to keep, but will be required to use that same sash and crown for future reigns of the same position. In the event that MHAHA should provide professional quality crowns, then each member will have the USE of the crown during her reign, to be returned at the end of that reign, cleaned and in proper repair. MHAHA will provide each male member of the Royalty family a vest or neck tie. The vest or neck tie will be theirs to keep, but will be required to use that same vest or neck tie for future reigns of the same position.
6. The Royalty Family reign will run from MHAHA's High Point Banquet to the following year's High Point Banquet. In the event that there would be no banquet, the election will occur at the first general meeting of the year. The winners will be crowned by the end of the banquet/meeting.
7. MHAHA will appoint a Royalty committee consisting of one or more people to oversee Royalty activities. This committee can be formed by consensus at a general meeting.

8. Time spent fulfilling the Royalty duties may count as volunteer hours toward MHAHA's High Point Program provided that time is recorded and signed off by a Royalty committee member.

## **Election Process**

If there are 5 or less total contestants then the election process will consist of :

- Each contestant will submit the Royalty application by the January 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline.
- Each contestant will be asked to answer some age appropriate questions in front of those attending the banquet.
- Elections will take place at MHAHA's High Point banquet and will be elected by popular vote by paper ballot of paid members in good standing attending the banquet. In the event of a tie, board members attending the banquet will determine the winner.

If there are 6 or more total contestants then the election process will consist of:

- Each contestant will submit the Royalty application by the January 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline. All contestants will be notified within one week following the January 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline that this election process is being used.
- Each contestant will be required to take a written test consisting of 10 questions and will be given 1 point for each correct answer. Test difficulty will be adjusted for age of contestant. (The contestants should have a basic knowledge of: parts of a horse, safety, parts of a saddle, health, horsemanship WSCA rules, etc.) The test will be given before the start of the High Point Banquet.
- Each contestant will be interviewed by the Royalty committee or a judge appointed by the Royalty committee before the banquet and will be awarded up to 10 points as follows:
  - ability to express themselves and enthusiasm – 4 points
  - grooming - 3 points
  - poise – 3 points
- Each contestant will be asked a few short questions in front of those attending the banquet and will be judged by popular vote of the paid membership present at the banquet. Placing to be given points as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place = 10 points
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place = 5 points
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place = 3 points
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Place = 2 points
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Place = 1 point
- In event of a tie for points, a vote by the Board members attending the banquet will determine the winner.

## **Duties of the Royalty Family**

1. Minimum requirements include:
  - At least one Royalty write-up submitted to WSCA's Spotlight and MHAHA's website/newsletter.
  - Represent MHAHA with at least two Royalty rides with their horse, with at least one of those rides at a MHAHA sponsored show.
  - Submit a year-end report by Dec 31<sup>st</sup> highlighting their Royalty duties and activities completed.
  - Attend at least one MHAHA general meeting.

2. Since the Contestants will be the “Goodwill Ambassadors” for MHAHA, they will be expected to conduct themselves accordingly. They will encourage new membership and promote the breed in a positive manner. They will exhibit superb sportsmanship at all times.
3. Contestants should consider themselves candidates actively seeking an office and should participate in club functions and meetings.
4. The Royal Family will be available to host, represent and promote MHAHA at club functions and also at as many activities offered by other saddle clubs as possible. Activities can include, but are not limited to:
  - Royalty Rides at WSCA and Open Shows
  - Royalty Rides and/or carrying the flag at MHAHA sponsored shows
    - Spring and Fall WSCA/Schooling Shows
    - Get-Together in July
    - Dog Days in August
  - Volunteer at MHAHA shows
    - Hand out ribbons
    - Present awards and photo opportunities
  - Submit updates regarding Royalty to the MHAHA website and newsletter.
    - Submit a year-end report summarizing activities done during their reign.
  - Submit a monthly write-up to WSCA Spotlight and MHAHA website/newsletter.
    - May alternative between Royalty members
  - Work the MHAHA booth and have a presence at the Minnesota Horse Expo
    - Wear the Royalty sash and crown when walking around the Expo
    - Ride during MHAHA’s time slot for the parade of breeds or breed demos.
  - Participate in local parades – possibly with horse
  - Participate during Renaissance Festival
  - Attend WSCA Royalty clinics
  - Represent MHAHA at WSCA champ show
  - Represent MHAHA when receiving awards or honors awarded to MHAHA.