

Dear Contestants,

It's rodeo time once again and I am pleased to welcome you to the 2010 Miss Days of '56 PRCA Rodeo Queen competition! This year's contest will be held on Saturday, June 12th, 2:00pm at the Ponca Rodeo Arena in Ponca, Nebraska rain or shine!

The contest has a theme this year, "Pageant For Pink" Contestants are encouraged to wear pink to show their support for breast cancer awareness. We also are asking the contestants to find a sponsor for any amount to sponsor them in the pageant. It would be nice to get donations for at least \$20 or more. These proceeds will go to the June E Nylen Cancer Center in Sioux City, IA. I thought this would be a nice gesture since we do not charge an entry fee for this PRCA pageant. Please have your sponsor make their check or money order out to the Ponca Rodeo Association.

Enclosed is the study guide, rules, regulations, and the entry form. Please return only the entry form, personal questions, sponsor fee, and also an original headshot photograph of yourself (in western attire) to me no later than June 1st. The photograph will be used for local news articles, so if it is a professional photo, please include a photo release from the photographer. The photos will be returned the day of the contest.

PLEASE READ ENTIRE PACKET CAREFULLY! CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE!

The contest includes 5 categories that you will be judged in: Speech, Appearance/Modeling, Personality, Horsemanship and Cattle Sorting. Each category is worth 100 points. There is a summary of how each event is judged within the packet. When you arrive at the arena for the competition, please come to the entry office to check in & sign a release form, if you are under 18, please bring a parent with you! The 2010 Miss Days of '56 will be crowned following the competition and tabulation of scores. There will be awards for all contestants & placings for Miss Days of '56 PRCA Rodeo Queen, 1st runner up, 2nd runner up, Horsemanship & Speech awards. If there are any questions please feel free to contact me as soon as possible. Good Luck!

Miss Days of '56
PRCA Rodeo Queen Director
Liz Heimes
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**MISS DAYS OF '56
PRCA RODEO QUEEN CONTEST
OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME:

PARENTS:

AGE/BIRTHDAY:

SCHOOL:

ADDRESS:

HOME PHONE:

CELL PHONE:

EMAIL:

HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

CURRENT OR PREVIOUS TITLES:

HORSE INFORMATION:

NAME:

GENDER:

AGE:

BREED:

COLOR:

PERSONAL QUESTIONS:

Why do you want to become the next Miss Days of '56?

What is your definition of the "ideal" rodeo queen?

If chosen as the next Miss Days of '56, how are you willing to promote & support the Days of '56 PRCA Rodeo?

MISS DAYS OF '56 **OFFICIAL RULES & REGULATIONS**

THE PURPOSE:

The reason for the Miss Days of '56 PRCA Rodeo Queen Contest is to select the best candidate to represent, and promote the Days of '56 PRCA Rodeo in Ponca, Nebraska. The goal of the Ponca Rodeo Association is to have a Rodeo Queen that will graciously represent our event by attending more events throughout the area, and speaking to the public about all of our activities that take place throughout the year. We would also like to see our Rodeo Queen compete for a State Title in the future since we are one of 6 PRCA Rodeos that are in the entire state of Nebraska.

RULES:

Contestants must be female between the ages of 16-25

Have never been married, nor pregnant

No use of alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, offensive language & inappropriate behavior while representing the Days of '56 PRCA Rodeo - remember, Rodeo Queens are ladies!

May not hold any other title while reigning as the Miss Days of '56

Must attend 4 mandatory events chosen by the Ponca Rodeo Association, along with events of your choice.

Must live within 65 miles of Ponca, Nebraska.

REGULATIONS:

HORSES: Any breed, color, gender, or age of horse may be used in competition. Each contestant must use the same horse in competition that they will ride throughout the

entire weekend, unless the original horse gets injured, sick, etc. Each contestant must use a different horse - no 2 contestants can use the same horse in competition!

* If studs are used they must be well behaved and under control at all times!

TACK: Contestants may use any type of bit, saddle, or any other tack as long as it is of western style - no English tack please! Tie-downs are allowed, as well as protective boots, and either roping or split reins. CHAPS ARE NOT ALLOWED! If you have any questions about your tack please see the director before competition!

JUDGED CATEGORIES:

APPEARANCE / MODELING:

This category is not judged on beauty, or expensive clothing, but on how you present yourself to the public. (There is a possible 100 points for appearance/modeling). Here are the areas that will be taken into consideration when being judged:

- Hats should be of current western style, nicely shaped, clean & fit well!
- Hair should be clean, styled, and well groomed!
- Makeup should be kept natural looking, and used to accent features!
- Clothes should be of current western style, fit well (size & length), and be clean, pressed & starched if needed!
- Boots are to be clean, and polished!
- Have nice posture & poise! Smile, Smile, Smile! Have fun!

Attire: This is a new category for this pageant so we will be keeping it simple by having you model your favorite arena outfit. This outfit must be complete with hat, belt, long sleeves, boots, and jeans.

SPEECH:

Speech will consist of a self-written essay on the topic "My Favorite Rodeo Memory". We would like your speech to be about a memory you have of the Ponca Rodeo if applicable, but any great rodeo memory will do. For example, my favorite memory of the Ponca Rodeos that I have taken part in are the Grand Entries. They are thrilling, exciting, and most of all fun! The speech must be at least 3 minutes long, but not to exceed 4 minutes in time length. Speech will be scored on the following criteria:

- Use of Grammar and Language
- Content
- Enunciation
- Delivery

- Personal Character
- Time use

PERSONALITY:

Judges are looking at your intelligence, and your ability to have a conversation about a variety of topics. Watch your use of grammar and enunciation of speech. Judges will be looking at your sense of humor, personal character, and your interest and consideration of others, along with your outlook on life. They will also be watching to see how you project this from a variety of areas, and looking at how you handle yourself in different situations. Personality interviews will be given after your horsemanship pattern. Judges will also be asking questions about our rodeo!

HORSEMANSHIP:

This category is judged upon how well you handle your horse throughout the pattern, queen's run, carrying flags, and sorting cattle. Judges will look at your ability to sit the horse, hand & body position, delivery of cues, and mount & dismount. They will also evaluate how you handle yourself and your horse should an unexpected situation arise. Faults in this category include losing or touching your hat, losing stirrups or reins, dropping flag, bucking, touching the saddle with hands, using both hands on reins, or switching hands. You will be asked a series of horsemanship questions before you complete your pattern. You will be asked to ride a simple reining pattern on your horse, and then again on another contestants horse that you will draw for.

CATTLE SORTING:

You will be asked to sort off a steer from a small herd, chase it down the arena, and place it into a pen. Your run will be timed. The judges will be looking for how well your horse works cattle, your control of your horse, and if the steer is reacting to your efforts. This category is very important since if you are chosen as Queen, you will be moving cattle during both rodeo performances.

EXPECTATIONS:

All contestants are asked to follow these simple rules of conduct. If these rules are broken - the contestant will be disqualified from the competition by the Queen Director and Ponca Rodeo Association. And no matter what - if your hat comes off in the arena, your head had better be in it. Do whatever it takes to secure your hat to your head for any arena appearance you make! Conduct is as follows:

* Please be respectful to everyone - Negative attitudes, comments, gestures, or behavior will NOT be tolerated!

* Please be on time! Tardiness is very irresponsible. Please be ready to compete before the Queen Director starts orientation!

* Have Fun & Smile! Please enjoy this event & learn from the experience! We want this to be an exciting time for everyone involved!

If there are any questions please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your time & consideration. I truly appreciate everyone's cooperation. I also want to say to the contestants, that if at first you don't succeed... try, try again! Holding the title of Miss Days of '56 is an entire year commitment, and a great young lady has to hold this title every year, so if you don't get crowned, come back more experienced & more prepared for the next year! Determination is an excellent quality to possess! Good Luck!

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call me!

Miss Days of '56 PRCA Rodeo Queen Director ~ Liz Heimes

Home: (402)254-3363 Cell: (402)841-0886

Study Guide

Rodeo Knowledge Information

Remember this is just a guide, not all the questions the judges ask you will be on this form. Answering impromptu questions is a part of knowing how to think on your feet!
Please explain the term "mark-out" :

The term "mark-out" refers to the saddle bronc & bareback events. It means that the cowboy has to have the heels of his boots above the points of the horses shoulders to give the livestock a fair advantage. If the cowboy fails to "mark-out" his horse, he will receive a no score.

*Interesting fact - Bob Barnes is one of two stock contractors to of had stock at every NFR in history. He has also been inducted into the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame.

Interesting fact on livestock

Ponca Crossin - MJM 301 (named after the Ponca Rodeo) Ponca Crossin was twice chosen the best saddle bronc horse at the Texas Stampede in Dallas, Texas where she brought home to the Barnes Ranch \$20,000 in stock awards.

In the PRCA, the United States is divided into circuits - how many are there? 12

Which circuits sanction the Days of '56? Prairie, Great Lakes & the Badlands circuits

What is the Days of '56 Rodeo named after? The year that Ponca was founded as a town in 1856.

Who is the president of the Ponca Rodeo Association? Jerry Stewart

Who is the 2010 Miss Rodeo Nebraska? Michelle Boeshart

Who is the 2010 Miss Rodeo America? Kelli Jackson

Know your history about the Ponca Rodeo - read the website & talk to Rodeo Association Members for more information.

Know the schedule of events for this year's rodeo activities! Information is on the website!

How old is the Ponca Rodeo? 42 years old

Know who the announcer, specialty act & stock contractor is for this year's rodeo! Check the website www.daysof56.com

Study Guide

Equine Knowledge

*Know your horse anatomy!

Where are the bars of a horse located? (2 Locations) On the hoof & in the mouth

How many chestnuts does a horse have & give the location? 4 - around the knee on inside of each leg

What is the definition of 'bone spavin'? A bony growth usually found on the inside lower point of hock.

What is a bowed tendon? Enlarged, stretched flexor tendons behind the cannon bones. Please point to location.

Horses need 10 to 12 gallons of water per day - depending on their physical activity and in hot weather they may need 15 to 20 gallons per day.

Pulse

A horse's normal pulse rate averages 35 beats per minute. Lower rates are normal for

larger, older horses at rest. Younger, smaller horses have a higher pulse rate. A yearling has a normal rate of 40 to 58 beats per minute.

A horse's pulse can be felt in several places: the inner surface of the lower jaw, the back edge of the jaw or cheek, under the tail, or inside the left elbow. Usually the pulse is taken from the artery on the inside lower jaw. It is in front of the large, round jaw muscles and found by moving your fingers up and down on the inside and underside of the jaw bone. The artery feels like a flat, soft cord. By pressing the artery against the jaw bone, you can feel the pulse. As blood flows through the artery, it pulses against your finger. If you have trouble finding the artery, ask your veterinarian to help.

The average volume of blood in a 1,000-pound horse is 36 liters or 8 gallons, about 6 to 10 percent of its body weight.

Over-reaching - is when the toe of the hind leg "*grabs*" the heels of the forelegs. This can cause serious injury, usually to the heels or the tendons. This can happen in high energy sports when the hind leg extends too much or the front leg doesn't extend enough.

For further references, please read a 4-H Horse manual.

Study Guide

Personality Questions

Are you willing to run for a State Rodeo Queen title? Why or why not?

What is your favorite rodeo event & why?

Who is your favorite rodeo competitor?

Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

Tell us what sets you apart from the other contestants?

Who is your hero/role model & why?

Be ready for any question that the judges may ask!