

## MassQHA Royal Court

### Queen, Junior Queen, Princess & Junior Princess Competition

**MassQHA welcomes all participants to the Queen's contest.**

**All competitors must be a MassQHA or MassQHYA member in good standing, and must have been a member for a minimum of one year prior to applying,**

#### Requirements:

- a. Queen -19-25 years of age as of January 1st of the current year.
- b. Jr Queen -16-18 years of age as of January 1st of the current year.
- c. Princess – 13-15 years of age as of January 1st of the current year.
- d. Jr. Princess - 9 - 12 years of age as of January 1st of the current year.
- e. Completed and signed application and consent form submitted by November 15, 2015 (Jr Queen, Princess and Jr. Princess must also have a parent signature.)
- f. 200 word typed essay on why you would like to be part of the MassQHA Royal Court and why you would make a good candidate, submitted with your application.

**Contestants will be able to hold the title in each age division for a maximum of two years.**

#### Royal Court contestants must also meet the following requirements:

1. Never been married or divorced.
2. Never have had children.
3. The MassQHA Queen must adhere to all rules set forth by the All American Quarter Horse Congress (see Congress website for complete list of rules). It is the Queen's choice whether or not to attend the All American Quarter Horse Congress; however she is responsible for all financial obligations related to attending. The MassQHA Queen must notify the MassQHA Royal Court Coordinator of her intent to participate by July 1st. MassQHA may contribute funding at their discretion.

**All contestants should plan on attending all meetings and competitions as scheduled. All deadlines for contestants will be strictly enforced.**

The Jr. Princess will be under the guidance of the MassQHYA Youth Association and will represent the Youth Association at events as directed. Crowns and sashes for all Royal Court members will remain the property of MassQHA upon the completion of the 1st term of reign. If selected for a second year, the crown and sash will be awarded to that Royalty. If Royalty declines to participate for another term, or ages out of that division, they have the option to purchase their crown and sash from MassQHA. In the instance a Contestant wishes to withdraw from the Royal Court contest, they must submit their resignation to the Royal Court Coordinator, in writing, at the earliest possible moment. Resignations will be reviewed on an individual basis and will be kept confidential. If a selected Royal does not participate in an event or competition that they agreed to participate in, they shall submit a written explanation of their absence to the Royal Court Coordinator within two weeks after the final date of the event. A death in the member's family, or serious illness or injury to the member, is examples of acceptable excuses.

Proof of illness or injury shall require a doctor's statement. The excuse will be reviewed by the Royal Court Committee within 30 days. If the Committee determines it necessary and proper to suspend this person from Royal Court participation for a period of one year, or other such action as deemed

appropriate, they shall do so and notify the Contestant in writing of this decision. All contestants must abide by the rules set forth by MassQHA. No exceptions will be made.

**Please read over the expectations and requirements before making your decision to apply. Tentative Schedule for Royal Court contest and other requirements: (Please read carefully)**

1. MassQHA General Membership Meeting (November) –Informational meeting with the Royal Court Coordinator.
2. All contestants will have a written test on the current year AQHA rule book and MassQHA Association handbook and interview with a panel of judges. This may be held at the December meeting, at the Royal Court Coordinator’s discretion. Jr Princess Applicants will receive an open book quiz.
3. MassQHA Meeting (December) -All contestants will have an oral competition in front of an audience. This will be an impromptu speech with topics handed out at the meeting.
4. MassQHA Awards Banquet (January) -Royal Court will be crowned and be presented to the club. All contestants are required to attend.
5. MassQHA Annual Show (May) -Awards will be presented to the Royal Court on Saturday. The Royal Court is expected to help at the show on Saturday and Sunday. All Royal Court members are required to attend.
6. 10 Hours of documented equine related community service - (must be pre-approved by Royal Court Coordinator). **Documentation of community service will be provided to the MassQYA Youth Adviser by December 31st of the current year. Failure to submit will result in the contestant being ineligible to hold any Royal Court title in the future.**
7. In addition to the requirements above, to fulfill your duties of Queen, Jr Queen, Princess or Jr. Princess, you must also attend and represent MassQHA in at least three out of five of the annual events listed below:

All events must be pre-approved by Royal Court Coordinator prior to participating.

- MassQHA Promotional Event, Clinic, Trail Ride or other Activity.
- The MassQHA Novice Show.
- The Region 6 Show or other Region 6 Events.
- The Amanda Putney Memorial Horse Show.
- An AQHA Promotional Event or Activity.

If it is determined you have not fulfilled your duties, the crown will pass to the 1st runner up, and you will reimburse the club its expenses for any awards and gifts received and any entry fees paid on your behalf. **Fundraisers by the Royal Court will only be permitted if they are to benefit a charitable cause or the queen’s trip to represent MassQHA at the Congress Queen contest and must be conducted through the youth or adult club.**

All contestants and crowned Royalty will dress and conduct themselves in a proper manner. Smoking, drinking, drug use, or profanity will not be permitted at any MassQHA sanctioned event. All aspects will be taken into consideration (poise, knowledge, appearance, personality, conduct and cooperation) for this contest.

## APPLICATION AND CONSENT FORM

All contestants must read and sign this form and submit a 200 word typed essay on why you would like to be part of the MassQHA Royal Court and why you would make a good candidate in order to be considered as a contestant for the MassQHA Royal Court Contest.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Royal Court Coordinator:

Lydia Lajoie

298 Cold Spring Rd Belchertown MA 01007

Ldowney15@gmail.com 413-537-1132

Signed form and essay must be received by November 15<sup>th</sup> to the above address or email.

I, [Contestant and Parent] hereby agree to all above mentioned terms.

Name:

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Address:

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Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Queen Jr Queen Princess Jr Princess (Circle one)

Contestant's Signature:

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Parent's Signature: (Required for Jr Queen, Princess and Jr. Princess)

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Please keep a copy for yourself for future reference.