

Detailed information regarding Personal Interview, Speech & Communication Skills, Beauty & Physique/Poise & Posture, Crown Bowl Questions and Stage Presence:

PERSONAL INTERVIEWS (30%) are timed events – four (4) minutes for each contestant to present yourself and your personality. There are no wrong answers. The judges will be especially interested in your mental alertness, sincerity and general knowledge. They may ask personal opinion questions, but there will be no current event questions that you need to “study” for unless you “open the door” by inclusion on your application or in your response to a question. You will be seated across from the panel. Sit up and do not cross your feet. Dresses with jackets are OK for the county level but not recommended. See Pageant Director for details. Check to be certain your clothing fits correctly when seated and your skirt is not too tight or short. Be aware of your appearance, vocabulary and manners. Those who are confident and appear relaxed have always done well.

SPEECH & COMMUNICATION SKILLS (20%): As queen you may be called upon to speak to groups or individuals throughout your reign. You must be comfortable speaking and be able to express yourself naturally. You will give a speech that takes one minute or less – we do not time but they will at the State Competition and will deduct points. You will be using a hand-held microphone, no podium. We will practice during a specified rehearsal to become comfortable on stage.

Your subject may be any event, any person, or anything that is important to you, as long as it is not immoral, political or controversial. This is your brief opportunity to tell the judges about something that may not be covered in the regular interview process. Your topic should be one you know well and that you are comfortable speaking on, but a little research is a good way to gather material. Make your speech stand out by using specific facts that create pictures in the listener’s mind. When preparing for this part of the competition, remember that;

- *Singing part of your presentation is not allowed, and poems should be avoided.
- *Props of any kind are not allowed. Remember, this is an opportunity for the judges to see how you will speak before and respond to a crowd. It is not to be a memorized one women show.

BEAUTY & PHYSIQUE/POISE & POSTURE (20%): Judges are not looking for the elusive “perfect ten”, but they are watching for toning, posture, carriage, energy and overall appearance. To compliment this and make you feel comfortable on stage, we require one-piece solid color swimsuits. All swimsuits will be approved and should follow these guidelines:

- *Solid colored suits are a must. No metallic materials, minimal enhancements such as complimentary colored piping are acceptable.
- *Metallic or other accents are OK. Example: metal ring at the waist that material wraps to and from the other side.
- *Make certain your suit is the right size and long enough for your body. All areas should be covered comfortably. Purchase a long torso suit if you need more room.
- *Suits should have built in support (cups can be added) but pads to increase bust size are not permitted. (This includes pads attached to the body.)
- *Suits with plunging necklines are not allowed but minimal cleavage is allowed. In general, the neckline must end at least 1” above the bottom of the bust line. Bust should be completely covered on the outside; no “handing out”.
- *The lower portion of the swimsuit must cover the hipbones in front (at a minimum) and completely cover the buttocks. The suit should not pull to the center.

*There will be “butt” glue available and will be applied to everyone before leaving the dressing room.

*If your suit needs to be altered, be sure to try it on after alterations. An adjustment in one area often changes things in another area.

*Taupe colored heels (at least 2”) are required to be worn with your swimsuit and should be broken in. Must have an enclosed heel and toe and not ivory or bronze. Let the Pageant Director know if you are having problems finding them. Baby powder sprinkled inside your shoes will help make them more comfortable.

*No undergarments or hose may be worn with the swimsuit. Rubbing oil on your legs makes them look greasy under the stage lights so use lotion (NO GLITTER LOTION) instead.

*All jewelry should be removed and any tattoos must be covered up.

CROWN BOWL QUESTIONS (15%): These questions are usually more difficult than general interview questions and may refer to current events or issues.

STAGE PRESENCE/EVENING GOWN (15%): This competition is designed for the contestant to make an on-stage statement of her personality, gracefully moving with poise and confidence. Choose an Evening Gown that reflects your own individual style. You will see a wide variety – partially beaded, chiffon with fuller skirts, halter style with straight skirt, fully sequined and beaded, with trains and without. Choose one in your best color that compliments you and makes you feel like a queen; but follow these guidelines:

- It must be floor length.
- Splits in skirts must be no further than 4 inches above the middle of the knee and will be checked by pageant director.
- No hoop skirts (the stage is crowded).
- If you choose a dress with a train it must be bustled for group entrances & exits (like a wedding dress). You do not want to have your gown ruined due to an accidental misstep by the contestant next to you. Make sure to practice in your gown, including short flights of steps and simple pivots.
- Pads to increase bust size are not permitted.
- “Cut outs” in the front or sides must be filled in with a sheer fabric that matches the color of the dress.
- Open backed dresses must stop at your natural waistline. Anything open or with nude sheer fabric below the natural waistline must be filled in with solid color fabric to match the color of the dress.
- Choose accessories to enhance your look, not overwhelm you. Larger earrings draw attention to your face. Unless they definitely make the dress, we suggest that you do not wear gloves.
- DO NOT wear powder or lotion that has glitter in it. The intense lighting will make you look like a Christmas tree on stage.
- There are many pretty evening gown shoes available; however, you do not want to draw attention to your feet rather than your face. The best bet are shoes the same color as your hemline or taupe. Remember if you choose “clear plastic shoes” they have a tendency to either stretch or force your foot forward making it difficult to either keep the shoe on or walk on stage. If clear shoes absolutely make your outfit, make sure they fit properly.

To avoid surprises, it is wise to try your interview suit, swimsuit and evening gown on the week before the Pageant for a final fitting and to get the total look.

****Approval** of Interview Suit, Speech, Swimsuit and Evening Gown is required and photo taken by the Pageant Director no later than July 17, 2018 unless authorized by the Pageant Director. If anyone is having problems finding the appropriate attire, please notify the Pageant Director for assistance. If purchasing clothing for this pageant, please keep all tags on for return until approved.**

****Attendance and responsibility** will be looked at by the Judges. Please see the rehearsal schedule for the attendance policy. Along with attendance, the judges will also see if contestants were responsible in getting their attire and speech approved on time or other arrangements were made.**

****A \$100 sponsorship fee** is required from each contestant and due on the registration deadline (or at the latest the first rehearsal on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 unless authorized by the Pageant Director). Contestants may have up to 4 sponsors; each sponsor will receive a business card size ad in the pageant program and receipts are available to give your sponsors for tax deductions. If a business card is not provided there will not be an ad placed in the pageant program for them but their name will still be read.**

****A typed application** is due by the second rehearsal on Tuesday, June 26, 2018 unless authorized by the Pageant Director.**

****There is also a VIP Dinner** on Monday, 8/13/18 in which up to 2 of your sponsors plus one guest each are invited to attend, in gratitude for their support. Invitations will be provided to you to give to the 2 sponsors of your choice during one of the rehearsals. Contestants will get up on stage (with their Jr. Miss of the same #) and introduce themselves with Contestant # and Name and then will thank all of their sponsors. This is a **REQUIRED** event unless authorized by the Pageant Director.**

Thank you for your interest and I hope to see you at the Information Meeting on Tuesday, June 5, 2018 in Moss Hall at the Winnebago County Fairgrounds at 7:00pm. If you cannot attend this meeting, please contact me to get a rehearsal schedule and be sure to make the first rehearsal on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 also in Moss Hall at 6:00pm. Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding the pageant or rehearsals. I can be flexible but need to be fair to all and commitment from all of our contestants. Our most important goal is to have fun, so come join us!

I, _____ (Printed Contestant Name), have read all of the above and agree to abide as a contestant of the WCFQ Pageant.

I, _____ (Printed Parent/Legal Guardian Name) have read all of the above and agree that _____ (Printed Contestant Name) will abide as a contestant of the WCFQ Pageant. (If contestant is under the age of 18 years old)

_____, Contestant Signature _____ Date

_____, Parent/Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date
(If under 18 years old)

Kim Mathieu, Pageant Director
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