



## Ohio Queen Contest Rules

1. Contestant must be a current member in good standing of the Ohio Quarter Horse Association (OQHA).
2. The candidate must be 19 to 26 years of age (as of January 1) and not married, divorced or given birth.
3. Contestant must agree not to enter any other association contests after being crowned (EXCEPT the All American Quarter Horse Congress Queen Contest).
4. Contestant agrees to drop out of any contest that she is entered in upon being crowned. All contests approved by the OQHA are excluded.
5. A candidate cannot run for more than three cumulative years.
6. All candidates must uphold their title with respect, honor, grace, integrity and dignity. Candidates will not involve themselves in any activities that bring dishonor to the title, contest, queen committee or fellow candidates. If asked to remove or edit media included on one's social media presence in conflict with the standards set forth by the Ohio Queen Committee, candidates will comply and do so.
7. Candidates must agree that they have never posed or participated in any form of pornography or used their body to advertise in any negative or immoral way. If this is found to be true, candidates will be forced to relinquish their title.
8. All candidates are subject to a criminal background and reference check.
9. Candidates are not to consume alcoholic beverages, smoke, and/or use any form of tobacco while on official business associated with the Ohio Queen Contest. Additionally, profanity or illegal drug usage will not be tolerated.
10. The candidate will be entered only upon the OQHA Staff receiving a fully completed entry. A completed entry will include the following items and must be emailed by September 1st to Autumn Bowlby, OQHA Queen Program Staff Liaison, at [abowlby@oqha.com](mailto:abowlby@oqha.com)
  - a. Completed and signed Release and Acknowledgement Form
  - b. Current Resume
11. The OQHA Queen contest consists of three things: a horsemanship ride, a written exam and a personal interview.

### **Horsemanship**

The horsemanship ride accounts for 20% of the total score. The horsemanship ride will be held, in conjunction with, the last scheduled quarter horse show sponsored by an OQHA affiliate. The pattern will be released at least 24 hours prior to the day of the class. The candidate is not required to own the horse exhibited in the horsemanship ride. Each candidate will receive a score based on the AQHA scoring. If multiple judges are used their scores will be averaged.

Show Date – Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at the Eastern Ohio Quarter Horse Show held in Columbus.

## Ohio Queen Contest Rules, continued

### Written Exam

The written exam accounts for 40% of the total score. The written exam consists of 50 questions on general horse knowledge, along with many questions from the AQHA Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations and OQHA Handbook. The written exam may contain true and false, multiple choice and fill in the blank questions. Each question will be worth 2 points. The written exam will be given on the morning of the OQHA Banquet held February 7, 2026.

### Personal Interview

The personal interview accounts for 40% of the total score. There will be two or three interviewers judging you on your appearance, delivery, content, organization, and overall ability to represent OQHA. Each candidate will spend approximately 30 minutes in front of the judges panel. Each candidate will receive a score based on five criteria above (20 points for each criteria) for a total possible score of 100. The judges scores will be averaged. The personal interview will take place on the morning of the OQHA Banquet held February 7, 2026.

\*In the event of a tie, the personal interview score will be used to determine the winner. The interview has been chosen as the tie-breaker since we feel it is very important for our Ohio Queen to be well spoken in order to best represent the Ohio Quarter Horse Association. One interview judge will be a tiebreaker judge.

12. The Ohio Queen will maintain a professional appearance; wardrobe, hair and makeup. Being proper and planned for each event and in keeping up to date with current trends.
13. The Ohio Queen will be crowned at the annual OQHA banquet held in February. A formal gown is suggested to be worn for the crowning ceremony. The queen's duties will begin immediately after the crowning and she will be required to continue her duties for one full year.
14. As the Ohio Queen you agree to represent AQHA/OQHA at several major horse shows and events throughout the year. These details and events will be worked out with the queen's committee.
15. As the Ohio Queen you will represent OQHA in the All American Quarter Horse Congress Queens Competition.
16. As the Ohio Queen, you promote the Ohio Quarter Horse Association amongst other breed and non-breed organizations
17. As the Ohio Queen, you will encourage participation, sportsmanship and growth at all levels within the organization
18. Upon marriage, becoming pregnant or violating the rules outlined above, the Congress Queen must relinquish her crown and all prizes connected with the crown to the first runner up in the contest.

## **Ohio Queen Contest Rules, continued**

19. Photo Release; All photos taken through-out the competition and year of reign are property of OQHA and may be used to sponsorship/promotional materials.

## **2026 Ohio Queen Contest Release and Acknowledgement Form**

By my signature on this form, I hereby certify that I release the Ohio Quarter Horse Association Queen Contest Committee and the Ohio Quarter Horse Association from responsibility of injury or loss to persons or property, involving me or persons related to my appearance in the Ohio Queen Contest. Additionally, I agree to comply with all terms and conditions set forth outlined above and that set by the Ohio Queen Chair.

Contestant Printed Name

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Contestant Signature

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Address

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Date

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If Contestant is under 21 years of age, approved and attested by:

Parent or Guardian Printed Name

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Parent or Guardian Signature

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