

2023 BCYF King and Queen Contest Guidelines

What: Berrien County Youth Fair King and Queen Contest

Who: BCYF Exhibitor (must be registered exhibitor for the current year)
Age: 16 - 19 years old (January 1 of current year establishes fair age)

Where/When: Grandstand, 7:00 pm, **FRIDAY**, August 11, 2023

How: Completed applications and release forms must be turned into the fair office by **midnight, Sunday, July 16th.**

All contestants and parent(s) are strongly encouraged to attend the Get Acquainted party on Wednesday, July 26th, 7:00 pm in the Youth Memorial Building. This time will be to meet other contestants, discuss practice schedule, review the contest rules and talk about the upcoming year. If you cannot attend for pertinent reasons you must contact the fair office 269/473-4251 or Susan Roth at 574/340-2616.

Contestants will have their picture taken for the contestant board that will be displayed during fair week in the Historical Building, the program, and newspaper releases. Please dress accordingly!

Rehearsals:

Rehearsals will take place in the evenings during the week of the contest. Contestants will be participating in a group dance that is part of the entertainment of the contest – please note that the group dance is not judged! It is a fun way to get to know one another and showcase all the participants. Contestants and the committee will decide on practice dates at the Meet & Greet on July 26th. We understand everyone is busy and we will make times that are best for everyone. It is a contestant's responsibility to know the dance and information provided. A final dress rehearsal will take place the night before the contest where we will practice running through the contest from start to finish.

Saturday, August 5 th	Possible dance practice	
<i>Would like to do the dance practice after interviews since you already have to be at the fair.</i>		
Sunday, August 6 th	Interview then possible dance practice	
Monday, August 7th	TBD	Grandstand
Tuesday, August 8th	TBD	Grandstand
Wednesday, August 9th	TBD (only if needed)	Grandstand
Thursday, August 9th	Dress Rehearsal, 5:30-9:00pm	Grandstand

Rehearsals are closed to all persons except for committee members and contestants.

Interviews:

Part of the contest includes a sit-down interview with a panel of three judges. The judges are brought into the contest and given the recommendation of looking for individuals who have a passion for the fair, are hard-working, community involved, and appear to be a well-rounded individual. The interviews take place on the **SUNDAY before the contest in the afternoon** and are done with contestants sitting down individually with the judges for approximately 10-12 minutes.

Sunday, August 6th	3:00 pm	Youth Memorial Building
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Interviews Continued

ALL: Bring contest attire to interviews to be approved by the committee

Interview attire should be what is worn to a job interview.

Ladies: Suit or dress, dress slacks, nylons, heels etc. No sequins, sparkles, distracting clothing etc.

Gentlemen: Dress pants, button down shirt, tie (optional), belt, etc.

Creative Contest:

Another part of the contest is the 'creative contest.' The winner of the contest is chosen by the contestants and requires a little creativity. Contestants are asked to decorate something of the committee's choice (typically a t-shirt, hat, memory board etc.) relating to the theme of the fair and their fair memories. The contestants choose the winner/s and the winner/s are announced during the contest. Winners do receive a prize.

FRIDAY Contest:

All contestants will meet at the production trailer (behind the grandstand) on **Friday**, August 11th at 5:30 pm. Please bring with you all the clothing changes needed as well as any additional grooming supplies. The production trailer is air-conditioned and there are two separate changing sides with a lockable door in between.

Prior to and during the contest parents and other persons will not be allowed backstage.

Contest attire is 'Sunday Best.'

Ladies: Dress; no pageant gowns will be allowed. ***Dresses cannot have sequins, beads, glitter, cannot be strapless, halter-top, or with a strap width of less than 1" (you may wear a sweater, shawl or some sort of cover if they are less than 1") Dresses cannot be shorter than 1/2 inch above the knee.***

Gentlemen: Dress pants, button down shirt (short or long sleeve), tie, belt etc. No suit coats or sport jackets.

No cell phones are allowed backstage during the contest. **Leave them in your car or with a family-member!**

Winner's Schedule:

A mandatory meeting for winners and their parents will be held on Sunday, August 13th at 5:30 pm. At this meeting, all weekly appearance requirements will be determined/discussed. You will turn in your showing/conflict schedule. ***Exhibitor responsibilities take preference.*** At no time will duties of royalty conflict with exhibitor and/ or animal commitments. Location to be determined. *(See inside cover of the Exhibitor Handbook for approximate times and locations of award shows etc. as the master schedule for events.)*

All royalty is expected to attend each of the evening grandstand events. They will take place every night of the week at 7:00 pm. Attire for these appearances is that of the contest or what is determined by the Royalty Committee.

Non-Fair Week Activities:

- Volunteer Pancake Breakfast, Saturday, August 26th, 8:00 am, Horticulture Building
- Niles Apple Festival Parade, Saturday, September 30th Time/Location TBD
- BCYF Annual Meeting, Tuesday, October 24th, 7:00 pm YMB Auditorium
- Blossomtime Festival Grand Parade, Saturday, May 11, 2024, 1:00 pm, Berrien County Administration Building Parking Lot (K/Q Only)
- Berrien Springs 4th of July Parade 2024, Time TBD Berrien Springs
- Additional activities can be added based on royalty's availability and willingness to participate

Please note: if there are any scheduling conflicts for non-fair week activities, they must be presented in writing to the chairperson AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Any missed activities or appearances will be brought to the committee's attention and could possibly result in revoked titles. It should be understood that when competing in/winning fair royalty titles, you are in agreement to make as many appearances as possible!

Suggested Fair Week Attire:

Attire will need to be appropriate looking business-casual clothing. No tank tops or t-shirts, gym shorts, cut-offs, holey/faded jeans, or inappropriate attire will be allowed. Clothing is subject to chairperson's opinion.

Girls: skirts, khaki/dress pants, dark jeans, dress tops etc during the day, contest attire in the evening for concert/event appearances.

Boys: khaki pants/shorts, polo/button down shirt, nice (clean!) dark jeans during the day, button down shirt/tie, dress pants etc. in the evening for concert/event appearances.

Expectations:

At all times, royalty must remember that they are representatives of the fair and its volunteers. They will conduct themselves as such at ALL events. In the event that any of the royalty do not conduct themselves properly and/or do not fulfill their obligations, their title will be forfeited as agreed upon in the Release Form.

Please remember that not only are you a representative of the Berrien County Youth Fair during fair week, but also year-round. This includes time at school, at home, at "play," and online! You should continuously conduct yourselves accordingly. Please use good judgment when it comes to your behavior at all times in person and online.

It is the hope of the Royalty Committee that this will be a fun opportunity for the youth of Berrien County. We look forward to working with the contestants and their parents!

Please note, the committee and Board of Directors reserves the right to amend these guidelines if necessary. If you have any questions, please contact the Fair Office Ph: 269/473-4251 email: gail@bcyf.org or Royalty Committee, Susan Roth Ph: 574/340-2616