

## Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association Pennsylvania Honey Queen Program

### Purpose of the Pennsylvania Honey Queen program

The Pennsylvania Honey Queen/Princess is a year-round educator, ambassador and promoter of the state's honey and beekeeping industry. She educates the public on the importance of honey bees, the uses of honey and honey products, and the beekeeping business through presentations at schools, fairs, festivals, conventions and media interviews.

### Qualifications

- Must be female, between **18 and 24 years old** as of November 1, and a resident of Pennsylvania.
- Must have graduated or will be graduating High School.
- Must have a valid driver license and/or extremely reliable transportation.
- Contestants may never have been married and have no children.
- Contestants **do not need to come from a beekeeping background**, but must be willing to dedicate the time needed to gain beekeeping knowledge.
- The Pennsylvania Honey Queen may not hold any other title (i.e. Dairy Princess, Apple Queen, Fair Queen, etc.). If a contestant has a current title, she will have to choose which position she wishes to serve in.
- Contestants may compete for Pennsylvania Honey Queen more than once if they continue to meet the guidelines.
- A Pennsylvania Honey Queen and Princess title may be awarded when there are two (2) or more contestants

### Contestant's Responsibilities

1. Contestants must prepare and submit the following materials by **October 10**:
  - A **300 word or less essay**, typed and on one side of one sheet of paper, on **Honey**. This essay can be on any topic related to honey (i.e. honey and health, honey throughout history, honey in general).
  - A short (no more than one page, double spaced) **autobiography**
  - Four, 4x6 **photos** to be given to the judges and media
  - A completed **application form** (included in this packet)
  - A **sponsor check for \$20**, made out to the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association
  - Six (6) of your favorite **recipes** using honey from [www.honey.com](http://www.honey.com)
2. Contestants must prepare and present the following during the PSBA **convention**:
  - One, **three (3) to five (5) minute speech** on any aspect related to beekeeping and/or honey.
    - This speech can be in a traditional lecture format, or interactive, at the discretion of each contestant
    - The speech will be presented to the judges and any audience during the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers convention.
    - This presentation should be geared for an adult audience.
3. Contestants will participate in a **private interview** the Friday of the convention with three (3) judges.
4. Contestants are required to attend the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association convention, where the

speech, interview and coronation will take place, in Lewisburg in November.

5. Contestants **must make their own hotel reservation** at the Best Western County Cupboard, or other close hotel, in Lewisburg. The chair will need confirmation that the reservation or other lodging arrangement has been made.

### **Sponsors**

Any Pennsylvania honey producer, beekeeper, honey packer, or any other interested organization may sponsor a contestant.

### **Sponsor's Duties**

1. Pay for membership in state association (the \$20 covers this).
2. Provide a Chaperone (not boyfriend) for the contestant during the state convention.
3. The contestant will need to work with her sponsor to determine who will pay for her hotel room while at the convention.

### **Queen and Princess Selection Criteria**

Contestants will be evaluated on the following:

- General communication skills
- Public speaking ability
- Knowledge of subject
- Essay – topic and quality of writing
- Speech – topic, delivery and length
- Interview
- Poise and confidence when interacting with people
- Personal appearance
- Any other criteria as outlined by the Queen Committee.

### **Preparing for the Contest:**

Honey Queen contestants are expected to adhere to the following guidelines while at the convention:

- A detailed schedule will be emailed to all contestants approximately one week before the PSBA convention.
  - The judging process will take place on a Friday afternoon; every effort will be made to accommodate school schedules, but contestants should be prepared to request an absence from classes.
- **Business attire** is expected for all events at the convention except for the banquet, when **formal wear** (i.e. prom) is requested. See the included dress code for more details.
- Parents/Guardians/Friends of the contestants are encouraged to attend the convention, but **they will need to purchase banquet tickets** if planning to eat. Details on how to purchase tickets will be emailed to contestants.
- The newly crowned Pennsylvania Honey Queen/Princess must plan to stay for the Saturday convention events (concluding around 5 p.m.). Depending on the schedule, you may be able to leave early.
- A mandatory training weekend will be scheduled in December for the new Queen/Princess.
- **Contestants are highly encouraged to bring a calendar with them, including all dates they are not available for promotions.**

### The new Queen and Princess

- The Pennsylvania Honey Queen/Princess reigns for one year, from the date she is crowned (mid November) through the following PSBA convention.
- The Queen and Princess will make themselves available through the year of their reign to travel across Pennsylvania, attending schools, fairs, farmers markets, beekeeping meetings and any other promotional events scheduled for them. **This is a full year commitment with a tremendous amount of travel.**
- The Pennsylvania Honey Queen program will cover the expenses for the Queen and Princess for the work they do for the PSBA. These expenses include mileage, lodging, food, materials (crafts, demonstrations, scrapbook).
- In addition to the promotions scheduled throughout the year, the Queen and Princess are required to attend:
  - The Pennsylvania Farm Show
  - The PSBA Summer Picnic
  - PSBA Convention
  - National Honey Bee Day events
  - Ag Progress Days.
- The Queen must attend *a minimum of 20 promotional* events in order to receive her scholarship
- The Princess must attend a *minimum of 15 promotional* events in order to receive her scholarship
- More detailed rules and expectations will be covered during Training.

### Hints for Contestants:

Serving as the Pennsylvania Honey Queen or Princess is an incredible experience. The outgoing Pennsylvania Honey Queen/Princess will be attending the convention. They will be able to answer any of your questions and speak to you about their roles as ambassadors.

If you have any questions during your preparation for the competition, please contact Rachel Bryson, Pennsylvania Honey Queen Program Chair, at [rachelbryson12@gmail.com](mailto:rachelbryson12@gmail.com) or 717-300-0146.

## PENNSYLVANIA HONEY QUEEN APPLICATION FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS'/GAURDIAN NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS'/GAURDIAN ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS'/GAURDIAN PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL CURRENTLY ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_

HIGH SCHOOL FROM WHICH YOU GRADUATED (or will graduate) AND YEAR:

\_\_\_\_\_

IF POST-HIGH SCHOOL, LIST SCHOOL, AREA OF STUDY, AND YEAR IN SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

LIST ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOL, CHURCH, YOUR COMMUNITY AND HOBBIES (use separate sheets of paper as needed):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SEND COMPLETED FORM TO:

Pennsylvania Honey Queen Program

C/O Rachel Bryson

610 Strite Rd.

Chambersburg, PA 17202

\*\*\* Please note – applications may be emailed to Rachel at [rachelbryson12@gmail.com](mailto:rachelbryson12@gmail.com) \*\*\*

**DEADLINE FOR COMPLETED APPLICATION IS **OCTOBER 10th**.**

**Note: Failure to submit a completed application on time may result in the disqualification of a candidate. If you have any questions regarding this form, contact the Pennsylvania Honey Queen Program Chair.**

## Dress Code for Pennsylvania Honey Queen Candidates

The Pennsylvania Honey Queen/Princess serves in a professional role as the spokesperson, marketing representative and educator of the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association. Her main goal is to promote the honey and beekeeping industries. The Pennsylvania Honey Queen/Princess is the single most visible person of the PSBA throughout the year; therefore, appropriate clothing is required to promote in a professional manner.

Appropriate dress for a Honey Queen contestant while at the convention:

- business suits (approximately knee-length **skirts preferred**)
- simple high heeled/professional shoes with **closed toes if available**
- evening gown for banquet
- simple professional dresses
- dress coat
- skirts (at least knee length) with professional blouses and/or jackets
- small earrings and other simple, non-distracting jewelry

Inappropriate dress for a Honey Queen contestant while at the convention (unless in the privacy of your hotel room):

- shorts
- t-shirts, polo shirts
- jeans, khaki pants, or casual pants
- provocative, overly revealing tops (e.g. no bare midriffs, backless tops, etc.)
- chunky sandals or clogged heels
- tennis shoes
- clothing that is too tight
- mini skirts or very short skirts
- tank tops (unless **always** accompanied by a blazer)
- sweatshirts
- casual street wear
- large jewelry that is distracting

The most appropriate, common attire for a honey queen should be business suits, nice dresses, or what one may wear in a formal business environment. Shoes should be functional and comfortable, yet professional for the queen, as she attends a variety of events throughout the year. Honey queens should also consider that large jewelry or excessive amounts of jewelry (e.g. multiple bracelets, multiple necklaces, etc.) is distracting. Body piercings, other than earrings, should be hidden. In addition, tattoos or other body art must be concealed at all times.

If you have any questions regarding this list, please contact the Pennsylvania Honey Queen Program Chair, Rachel Bryson at [rachelbryson12@gmail.com](mailto:rachelbryson12@gmail.com) or 717-300-0146.

## Pennsylvania Honey Queen Program Contestant Checklist

To ease your preparation for the Pennsylvania Honey Queen/Princess Contest, use this checklist to ensure all your materials are submitted on time. Please contact Rachel Bryson, Queen Program Chair, at [rachelbryson12@gmail.com](mailto:rachelbryson12@gmail.com) or 717-300-0146 with any questions.

Materials due to Honey Queen Program Chair by **October 10<sup>th</sup>**:

- € Essay
- € Autobiography
- € Photos
- € Application Form
- € Sponsor Check
- € Recipes

To help your preparation, make sure to **complete the following before arriving at the PSBA Convention**:

- € 3 min. Speech
- € Hotel Reservations or other lodging
- € Purchase additional banquet tickets – contact Yvonne Crimbring at (570) 673-8201

Suggested Packing list:

- € 2 complete business suits (refer to the dress code)
- € 1 evening/prom gown
- € Business and casual shoes
- € Casual clothing for down time (i.e. when you are in your hotel room & traveling)
- € Make up, hair supplies, toiletries
- € Cash (for any personal purchases)
- € Calendar book
- € Camera