

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 1st, and a resident of Pennsylvania.
- Must have graduated or will be graduating High School.
- Must have a valid driver's license and extremely reliable transportation.
- Candidates may never have been married and have no children.
- Candidates **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 candidate has a current title and is awarded a title, she will have to choose in which position she wishes to serve.
- Qualified candidates may compete for Pennsylvania Honey Queen more than once if they continue to meet the guidelines.
- A Pennsylvania Honey Princess title may be awarded when there are two (2) or more candidates
- The Pennsylvania Honey Queen Program Committee reserves the right to accept any candidate.

Candidate's Responsibilities:

1. Candidates must prepare and submit the following materials by **September 15th**:

- An **essay on honey**, 300 words or less, typed and double-spaced. 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**
- A digital **photo** to be given to the judges and media
- A completed **application form** (included in this packet)
- Six (6) of your favorite **recipes** using honey from www.honey.com or other source

2. Candidates must prepare and present the following during the **PSBA conference**:

- One, **three (3) to five (5) minute speech** on any aspect related to beekeeping and/or honey.
 - This speech can be a traditional lecture format or interactive, at the discretion of each candidate.
 - 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.
 - Please contact Chair to confirm computer or projector availability, if needed.

3. Candidates will participate in a **private interview** Saturday at the PSBA Fall Conference with three (3) judges.

4. Candidates are required to attend the **Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association conference**, where the speech, interview and coronation will take place. Details on the dates and location will be provided.

5. Candidates must make their own hotel reservation at the conference center, or other close hotel. The Chair will need confirmation that the reservation or other lodging arrangement has been made.

Sponsors:

Any Pennsylvania Beekeeper Association, beekeeper, honey producer, honey packer, or any other interested organization or individual may sponsor a candidate.

Sponsor's Duties:

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

Queen and Princess Selection Criteria:

Candidates 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 candidates are expected to adhere to the following guidelines while at the conference:

- A detailed schedule will be emailed to all candidates approximately one week before the interview.
- The judging process will take place on Saturday afternoon; every effort will be made to accommodate school schedules, but candidates 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. Please refer to the dress code for more details.
- Parents/Guardians/Friends of the candidates are encouraged to attend the conference and the banquet crowning ceremony, but **they will need to purchase banquet tickets** if planning to attend. Details on how to purchase tickets will be emailed to candidates.
- Candidates and the newly crowned Pennsylvania Honey Queen/Princess should plan to stay for the Sunday conference events (concluding around 5 pm).
- A mandatory training weekend will be scheduled in December for the new Queen/Princess.
- **Candidates are highly encouraged to bring a calendar with them, including all dates they are not available for promotional events.**

The New Queen and Princess

- The Pennsylvania Honey Queen Princess reigns for one year – from the date she is crowned through the following PSBA conference.
- The Queen and Princess will make themselves available throughout the year of their reign to travel across Pennsylvania, attending school events, fairs, farmers markets, beekeeping meetings and any other promotional events scheduled for them. **Please note that this is a yearlong 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, and scrapbook).
- In addition to the promotions scheduled throughout the year, it is mandatory that the Queen and Princess are required to attend the following events:
 - The Pennsylvania Farm Show
 - The PSBA Summer Picnic
 - PSBA Conference
 - National Honey Bee Day events
 - Ag Progress Days
- The Honey Queen and Princess shall write an article for the Pennsylvania Beekeeper newsletter due the 25th of each month describing their activities. The article shall be approximately 1 page with photographs (digital).
- The Queen, pending she has accomplished all the requirements for her position, will represent the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association during the American Honey Queen contest in the January following her reign. Details of this event will be made available during training.
- In addition to mandatory events, the Queen must attend **a minimum of 20 promotional** events in order to receive her scholarship.
- If all requirements are met, the Queen will receive a scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.
- In addition to mandatory events, the Princess must attend **a minimum of 15 promotional** events in order to receive her scholarship.
- If all requirements are met, the Princess will receive a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.
- More detailed rules and expectations will be covered during Training.

Hints for Candidates:

Serving as the Pennsylvania Honey Queen or Princess is an incredible experience. The outgoing Pennsylvania Honey Queen/Princess will be attending the conference. 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, or if you would like a digital copy of the application, please contact the Honey Queen Program Chairperson at honeyqueen@pastatebeekeepers.org or (814) 350-9291 or (814) 683-5888.

PENNSYLVANIA HONEY QUEEN APPLICATION FORM

NAME: _____

SPONSOR: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ BIRTH DATE: _____ AGE: _____

EMAIL: _____

PARENTS'/GUARDIAN
NAMES _____

PARENTS'/GUARDIAN ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PARENTS'/GUARDIAN 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):

MAIL OR EMAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKAGE TO:

PA Honey Queen Program Chair
Cathy Vorisek
15834 Linesville Rd
Linesville PA 16424

Application packages may also be submitted via email to honeyqueen@pastatebeekeepers.org

DEADLINE FOR COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKET IS SEPTEMBER 15TH.

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 candidate while at the conference:

- 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 candidate while at the conference (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.

Pennsylvania Honey Queen Program Candidate Checklist

To ease your preparation for the Pennsylvania Honey Queen/Princess Contest, use this checklist to ensure all your materials are submitted on time.

Materials due to Honey Queen Program Chair by September 15th:

- Completed Application Form
- Digital Photo
- Autobiography
- Recipes

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

- Hotel Reservations or other lodging accommodations
- 3 – 5 minute speech
- Additional banquet tickets (as needed)

Suggested Packing List:

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