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Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Pageant

And Queen Scholarship Contest Application

Dear Contestant and Parents/Guardians:

Thank you very much for your interest in the 2025 Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Pageant. Our Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Committee has been working all year to make this year the best Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Pageant yet!

In this packet, you will find the requirements of becoming part of the next Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Court, including pageant rules and requirements, Queen scholarship requirements and other information. Please read and review the entire packet, including all of the rules, to be sure you understand the expectations of being a part of the Lost Dutchman Days Royalty.

Contact Heidi Erickson, the Lost Dutchman Days Royalty Director at 480-603-6819 or Ashley Anderson, the Lost Dutchman Days Royalty Coordinator at 480-238-6856 or email us at misslostduchmandays@yahoo.com with any questions.

**January 6th, 2025 will be the last day applications will be accepted**. Applications may be

e-mailed at the above email address. Along with your application please email a bio of yourself along with a photo of yourself (hair curled, western hat, and shirt) to be displayed at the pageant.

**The pageant will be held January 11th, 2025.**

*Please bring one item for our pageants silent auction.*

We look forward to meeting you all!

***Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty***

The Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Pageant is held annually to select 5 young ladies (fulfilling the titles of Queen, Sr. Teen Queen, Jr. Teen Queen, 2 Little Miss LDD) who has the desire and enthusiasm to serve as a representative for Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Committee and the city of Apache Junction for one year. Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Queens promote Lost Dutchman Days (referred to as LDD) throughout Arizona by attending SMPC (Superstition Mountain Promotional Corporation) sanctioned events as well as visiting rodeos & pageants across the state. They are responsible for carrying the title proudly and fulfilling duties assigned by the Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Committee to the best of their ability.

Breaking any eligibility requirements, rules, agreements, and/or contracts will disqualify a contestant from the competition and cause her to forfeit any title as well as all awards at any time.

***Categories:***

Queen Contestants must not be less than 18 years of age or more than 26 years of age as of the first day of the competition (January 14, 2025).

Senior Teen Queen Contestants must not be less than 14 years of age or more than 17 years of age as of the first day of the competition (January 14, 2025).

Junior Teen Queen Contestants must not be less than 10 years of age or more than 13 years of age as of the first day of the competition (January 14, 2025).

Little Miss LDD must not be less than 5 years of age as of the first day of the competition or more than 9 years of age as of the first day of the competition (January 14, 2025).

\***Little Miss LDD is a non-riding title and will not be participating on horseback for any events while representing Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo**\*

***Competing for LDD Rodeo Queen Titles:***

Contestants must be a resident of Arizona as of January 1, of the year of competition. The Lost Dutchman Days title holders must remain living within Arizona during their reign. If you are studying at an institution outside of Arizona as of January 1, of the competition year you are not eligible to compete for a Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty title.

Each Queen, Sr. Teen Queen, & Jr. Teen contestant is required to submit a NON-REFUNDABLE $30 entry fee with the application. Little Miss LDD is required to submit a NON-REFUNDABLE $15 entry fee with the application.

All applicants must complete the application process.

The LDD Chairperson & Royalty Director will make the final decision as to a contestant’s eligibility to compete in the LDD pageant by contacting both the Royalty Director and the Rodeo Chairperson of the contestant’s previous rodeo. Eligibility status will be decided once a candidate’s intentions to compete are made known and with the blessing of the other rodeo’s representatives whose reign she would be vacating to accept the LDD title. No duplicity will be granted.

In the event a contestant is a current titleholder of another rodeo; the current reign must be completed within 2 months\* of the Lost Dutchman Days pageant or be given early release from duties by the previous title’s rodeo representative. The Lost Dutchman Days title must be the only title represented at the 2023 & 2024 performances of the LDD Rodeo. If the previous title is not completed within 2 months of the pageant and the LDD Rodeo Committee isn’t notified of this fact, the Lost Dutchman Days title holder forfeits her new LDD title as well as all awards.

Each Queen, Sr. Teen Queen, and Jr. Teen Queen contestant will compete on her own horse and will sign an affidavit as to the personal or family ownership of the horse and agreeing is the horse that will be used exclusively during their reign. The Royalty Director & Coordinator, LDD Committee Chairman and LDD Rodeo committee are responsible for your safety and the safety of others. If at any time your horse is deemed a hazard, you will not be allowed to participate in any event on that horse. If the contestant needs to borrow a horse because of ill nature, or injury, this horse must first be approved by the Royalty Director or Coordinator before doing so.

After the pageant, the 2025 Queen, Sr. Teen Queen, & Jr Teen Queen court will remain “in waiting” until the 2024 LDD Royalty steps down at the crowning ceremony before Sunday's LDD Rodeo performance. At that time, the 2025 Queens will be presented and they will do the presentation runs at the Sunday rodeo performance as well as push cattle and run sponsor flags.

Little Miss LDD will be judged on modeling(dress), and personality, she will have 3 impromptu questions to answer. At the end of the competition the Little Miss LDD’s will take their title immediately and will remain Little Miss LDD until the 2026 pageant. Little Miss LDD’s will be announced at the LDD Rodeo.

As long as it is approved by the Royalty Director, members of the 2025 court may enter any parade event prior to “official” crowning.

***Expectations:***

Title holders/contestants are not permitted to drink alcoholic beverages, smoke or use foul language at any time. LDD Rodeo Royalty / Contestants must not / cannot have been married during their reign or application process. They may not have been pregnant, be pregnant or become pregnant while representing the organization. Rodeo Royalty are to appear approachable; ladies may be in a relationship however should never be seen with their partner at the rodeo. Parents are encouraged to travel with royalty, however when the rodeos start interaction will be limited and parents will be allowed to hang out behind the gate.

Due to the rodeo environment these ladies will be taking part in, Contestants (except Little Miss LDD) are expected to demonstrate a high level of horsemanship skill in order to represent at other rodeos throughout their year of rein. We will require a minimum score for horsemanship to allow a contestant to be selected as a queen.

Title Holders are expected to dress the part of a rodeo queen. Any function they are representing as a rodeo queen they are expected to wear the LDD crown provided and sash. Rodeos should be a long sleeve western shirt that’s pressed with jeans. Cowboy boots are required to be cleaned of mud/debris and in good shape (no visible holes). Hair is expected to be curled for every occasion and age-appropriate make-up applied (eye shadow and a nice shade of lipstick are best for the younger age groups). White & black cowboy hats are required and expected to be clean, shaped, and in good condition for every event (cowboy hat Helmets\* are allowed). We allow 1 piercing per ear and rodeo queens may not have any other type of visible piercings. If a queen already has additional piercings, they must be removed for the entire length of the time you are in crown and sash. Contestants that have tattoos must have them covered at all times.

\*Hat Helmets will be allowed for 12 and under. You must have a black and white hat helmet; a crown will be given to glue onto the helmet but must be used for both helmets. Or you may choose not to use the glue on crown with the helmets. As soon as you dismount you must switch to your regular hat with your title crown.

LDD Rodeo Royalty / contestants are expected to conduct themselves with high moral standards with a kind, courteous and ladylike manner towards all whether in crown and sash or not. Title holders and contestants are also expected to communicate in a friendly manner with the Royalty Director and Coordinator, rodeo committee members, all rodeo & arena personnel, fans, rodeo spectators & their own parents both in person and in correspondence.

As a titleholder of LDD you will be representing the city of Apache Junction and will be required to attend meetings, fundraisers, and other rodeo events that are mandatory during your reign. (see 2025 tentative schedule) You may also attend other non-mandatory rodeos or events of your choice throughout the year once approved by the Royalty Director. As circumstances sometimes change, the LDD Royalty Director has the authority to make any event (new or established) mandatory; this will only be done when necessary and as much advance notice as possible will be given. While the pageant is open to contestants across Arizona, living a distance from Apache Junction is not an excuse to miss events.

***The Role / Responsibility of the Queens:***

The roles of our Rodeo Royalty are to be goodwill ambassadors. This means they are to encourage investment in the LDD Rodeo. They need to be comfortable talking to rodeo sponsors, committee members, stock contractors, and most importantly rodeo fans. They will also be required to assist in raffle ticket sales to spectators.

The Queen is expected to be a leader and mentor for the younger titled queens. Therefore, she should be in contact with them both before each event to ensure everyone has the proper information and can coordinate wardrobe for the event. All royalty must be a role model for all young women. The Royalty Director is responsible for passing on most of the information beforehand. The Queen’s contact is to double check and make sure everyone knows their part.

Little Miss LDD will be non-horseback when representing the organization in crown and sash throughout her year of rein. She will however be able to attend events on foot with the other 3 queens (example being LDD golf tournament, LDD kick off and wrap up dinner). She will also be invited to our rodeo to mingle with the crowd on foot, and participate in the “Tip of the Hat” (crowd interaction) with the other 3 queens at the conclusion of the rodeo. Little Miss LDD can also walk with the director or coordinator during the parades if her parents so chooses to wave and interact with the crowds. A parent must be present at any event Little Miss LDD attends as the Little Miss LDD will be required to sell 50/50 tickets, a parent must be willing to help the Little Miss LDD.

***The Role / Responsibility of the Director and Coordinator:***

The goal of the LDD Royalty Director and Coordinator is to make sure the LDD Rodeo Royalty has a fun and rewarding experience while they are title holders. They will offer suggestions and tips to help and encourage you throughout your journey. This is a volunteer position and they may not be available 24/7. If you have an emergency situation, please notify the Royalty Director or Coordinator as soon as possible.

In regards to rodeos and parades outside of LDD, the Royalty Director or Coordinator will schedule events that are upcoming. It is up to the royalty to notify the Director or Coordinator which additional non-mandatory events they would like to attend. The Director or Coordinator will then take proper steps to make sure those wishing to attend are entered in those events. It is up to the discretion of the Royalty Director or Coordinator to dictate what events a rodeo queen may or may not attend, and they should communicate their intentions prior to representing the organization for any event.

***The Role / Responsibility of the Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s):***

Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of title holders are expected to respect the rules set forth by LDD Royalty and conduct themselves in a professional and respectful manor at all events and on social media. If a parent cannot refrain from offensive behavior, or inability to follow rules they may be asked not to attend events and/or it may result in suspension or removal of title holder.

***Requirements:***

LDD Rodeo Royalty / Contestants must own and be prepared to provide horse(s), tack, truck, trailer and any other transportation necessary to attend all events and activities throughout their year promoting Lost Dutchman Days.

LDD Rodeo Royalty / Contestants must provide their own wardrobe necessary for the Lost Dutchman Days events and any activities throughout the year promoting Lost Dutchman Days. Before each Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo event & many other events, the LDD Royalty Director will give guidelines as to how our Royalty is expected to be attired for that day.

***Provided to LDD Royalty:***

LDD Royalty will be provided with parade drapes, crowns, chaps, and 3 shirts (pink, purple, and patriotic). All sets of parade gear must be cleaned and handed off to the new royalty at the conclusion of the Saturday LDD Rodeo Parade. The crowns and chaps must be cleaned prior to the crowning ceremony to be turned over at the 2023 Sunday performance to the next LDD Rodeo Queens. The lady in waiting crowns for all titles must be returned to the Royalty Director immediately following the Sunday LDD Rodeo Queen crowning ceremony. The crown, chaps, and shirts will be provided at the discretion of the Royalty Director.

***Social Media Guidelines:***

LDD Queens are encouraged to take group photographs at each venue to catalog their activities for the year and the Queen will be responsible to post them on the LDD Royalty Facebook & Instagram pages.

LDD Royalty/ Contestants must keep all social media pages associated with LDD and their personal pages up to LDD’s high moral standards at all times. Title holders, contestants & past LDD Royalty Pageant contestants must not “air dirty laundry” anywhere in public whether at an event or online. Parents will be held to the same code of conduct.

***Fundraisers / Sponsorships:***

Royalty Queen, Sr. Teen, & Jr. Teen will be required to get 2 – 3 sponsors for the Lost Dutchman Days Royalty prior to the rodeo. A sponsorship packet will be given to the winners at the pageant. The monies raised will go towards expenses of events, including travel reimbursement for required events.

All Royalty will help & participate in the Breast Cancer Fundraiser in October (usually the 3rd weekend). The monies for this will go to support Breast Cancer programs.

The Queen must hold a fundraiser for a local family, local person or local organization in need in Apache Junction prior to the end of her year as Queen in order to be eligible for the Queen scholarship.

***Rules***:

Cellular phones must be kept on vibrate or silent while in crown and sash and must be out of sight. No holsters or in the back pocket. During any event, they are to only be used to contact a parent / guardian, fellow queens, LDD Rodeo Committee, or in case of an emergency. Please try to do so in a private area. The Queen is the only one allowed to have use of her cell phone, only to communicate to the Director or Coordinator during the LDD Rodeo.

No double riding at any time at any LDD function or outside event while in crown and sash.

***Disciplinary Measures:***

If a contestant does not follow these guidelines they may be disqualified to compete or hold a title for the Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty. The LDD Royalty Director has the authority to relieve a queen of her title or waive a contestant’s ability to compete or give a demerit for any behavior throughout the pageant process and / or year if LDD expectations are not met. A queen / contestant will be given 1 verbal warning, 1 written demerit and upon the 3rd infraction she will be relieved of her duties. However, based on the severity of the offense a queen can be relieved of her title without warnings. Other reasons for disciplinary action include but are not limited to: missing mandatory events, last minute cancellations, poor appearance, inappropriate attire and inappropriate behavior. A queen/contestant’s parent’s behavior can also result in a written warning for the queen/contestant and can result in a loss of her title.

***Cancellation Policy:***

In the event that a title holder must cancel out of an event that they have already agreed to appear at, the title holder must cancel more than two weeks before the event. There are extenuating circumstances that can explain a “day of” cancellation, such as a vehicle breaking down on the way to an event, or a recent death in the family. It is a title holder’s responsibility to notify the Royalty Director and Coordinator as soon as she knows she will not be attending an event she agreed to attend and then notify all the other members in her court.

You can email your application and photo to: misslostdutchmandays@yahoo.com

The entry fee can be paid the day of the pageant.

Good Luck!!

***Application for Little Miss LDD:***

(Please Print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to be a Little Miss LDD?

What are your hobbies / interests:

**Agreement:**

The purpose of the Little Miss LDD title is to encourage and educate young rodeo enthusiast to participate in Rodeo Queen events. Contestants will be judged on their personality and ability to interact with others. They will be asked very basic horse and rodeo questions. They must be able to sell 50/50 raffles at events and rodeos. A parent or guardian must accompany & help Little Miss LDD at all events. Winners will be provided a sash, buckle and a rodeo shirt. Little Miss LDD will start her title immediately and will pass her crown at the next pageant.

I promise to comply with all rules and regulations pertaining to Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty. I will hold harmless The Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Committee, Lost Dutchman Days, and Pageant Officials in the event of any injury occurring during my participation in any and all events pertaining to

Lost Dutchman Days. I will conduct myself in a manner befitting a contestant and Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Title holder and hereby agree to adhere to pageant official’s directions and requirements. I also agree to fulfill the mandatory appearances and obligations of the title as determined by pageant officials.

Parent / Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Photos:** Please attach a jpeg photograph with this application. The photo will be required for publicity purposes.

***Application for Queen, Sr. Teen Queen & Jr. Teen Queen:***

(Please Print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Applying for: Queen (18-26) \_\_\_\_\_\_ Senior Teen Queen (14-17) \_\_\_\_\_\_ Junior Teen Queen (10-13) \_\_\_\_\_

Background Information: Please list your interests, accomplishments, schools you are attending, community service, clubs, work, honors you have received, hobbies, sports, previous royalty titles, and anything else about yourself. This information may be utilized in Pageant publicity and program materials. Please attach a separate sheet if additional space is needed.

Please write a short paragraph expressing why you desire the title for which you are applying:

**Photos:** Please attach a jpeg photograph with this application. The photo will be required for publicity purposes.

**Speech:** During the pageant competition, you will be required to deliver a 2 ½ to 3-minute speech. The speech topic is open to anything EXCEPT RODEO.

**Model:** You will be judged on personal grooming, posture, poise, personality and western attire.

**Horsemanship**: You will be judged according to AQHA rules on the set pattern given in this application.

(You must meet a certain score to qualify for a title)

***Agreement:***

By my signature on this application, I hereby certify that I have read the accompanying Official Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty / Pageant Rules and Regulations. I acknowledge that these rules and regulations will prevail throughout all Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Pageant and programs, activities and functions, and that said rules and regulations pertain to all persons related to my appearance in the pageant and throughout the year. I hereby grant permission to the Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Committee to verify all information contained on my application.

I hereby release to the Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Committee from responsibility of injury or loss to persons or property involving me or persons related to my appearance in the Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Pageant, and which applies also to heirs, assigns, executors, or administrators for me or persons relative to my Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Pageant appearance and, that such release shall include all accredited sponsors, commercial and private, or the Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Pageant and all officers and directors and groups of the Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Committee and Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Committee. I hereby release title, claim and rights to photographs and or public relations materials involving me to the Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Committee for use in Pageant / program promotion.

I hereby certify that I have never been married, given birth to a child, am not currently pregnant or have ever been pregnant. Failure on my part to disclose this information to the Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Committee will automatically disqualify me from participation in the Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Pageant. Title, scholarships or prizes of any kind, which I may receive, will be returned to the Royalty Director. The Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty Pageant will be released from any and all liability resulting from my actions.

In the event I receive the Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty title, I will complete the tenure of my title in accordance with the Lost Dutchman Days Rode Royalty agreement, rules and regulations in the best interest of the Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo Royalty program.

I will return or pass on all perpetual awards, including but not limited to crown, lady in waiting crown, chaps and parade drapes at the end of my reign.

I hereby affix my signature attesting to my agreement to the above without reserve.

Contestant’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents Signature (This is required if contestant is presently under the Age of 18):

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# ***Horse Use Agreement:***

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With my signature on this application, I agree that the horse I will use during the pageant is the one I will use exclusively at Lost Dutchman Days and all mounted equestrian events throughout the year. I also understand that if I fail to honor this agreement, disciplinary actions will ensue. Contestants are required to own the horse provided. If said horse becomes lame or ill and unable to be used it is the Queens responsibility to find a suitable mount and have the Royalty Director approve it prior to the event. I certify that I / my family own this horse outright.

If another horse needs to be used for parades, please explain why:

If contestants/contestant’s family does not own the horse used for the pageant and subsequent appearances, please explain:

Owner of horse: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature horse owner: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_