

2026 Lost Dutchman Days Royalty Pageant

Thank you for submitting your application to compete for the 2026 Lost Dutchman Days Royalty! Below you will find a tentative schedule of events for the day along with other pertinent information. Times on the schedule may need to be adjusted based on the number of contestants.

All contestants will be required to compete in horsemanship* including a set pattern, pushing cattle, flag run and presentation run (hot lap). There will be one pattern for Junior Teen competitors and a separate pattern for Senior Teen and Queen competitors. The patterns are below. Horsemanship attire will be rodeo Queen attire.

*There will be a minimum horsemanship score to qualify to hold an LDD Queen title. Little Miss LDD contestants do not have to be at the horsemanship portion of the competition.

You will also be required to complete a private interview with the judges. The private interviews will be held at the Multi – Generational Center, which is 2 miles from the rodeo grounds, parking is limited but you can keep your horse at the rodeo grounds. Interviews will be held immediately following horsemanship and just prior to lunch. Interview attire can be jeans and a jacket (professional).

After lunch we will have a short welcome, introduction of contestants and move right into speeches. The Lost Dutchman Days Royalty Pageant does not require leather dresses for speeches, but contestants should be dressed in long, formal queen type attire. Speech topic is anything EXCEPT rodeo.

When speeches are complete each contestant will be asked to model as they come up on stage for impromptu questions. Contestants may remain in their speech attire.

This will complete the competition. Winners will be announced as soon as the current royalty's outgoing speeches have concluded, and the judge's scores have been tallied.

Please don't forget each contestant is responsible for bringing 1 silent auction item.

Addresses:

Apache Junction Rodeo Grounds: Apache Junction Multi – Generational Center:

1590 E Lost Dutchman Blvd, Apache Junction, AZ 85119 1035 N Idaho Rd. Apache Junction AZ 85119

2026 Pageant Schedule

8:00 Arrive at Apache Junction Rodeo Grounds and check in

8:15 all contestants will prepare themselves and horses for warm up

8:50 Opening Ceremonies by current LDD Royalty

9:00-11:00 Horsemanship competition (Cattle work, Pattern, Flags, Hotlaps, and Horsemanship Interview)

11:00 Personal Interview with Judges at the Multi – Generational Center

12:00 Lunch at the Multi - Generational Center

1:00 pm Welcome and Contestant introduction (this will include the Little Miss Contestants)

1:15 pm Introduction of Visiting Royalty

Modeling

Impromptu Questions

2025 Queens End of Year Speeches

Silent Auction winners announced

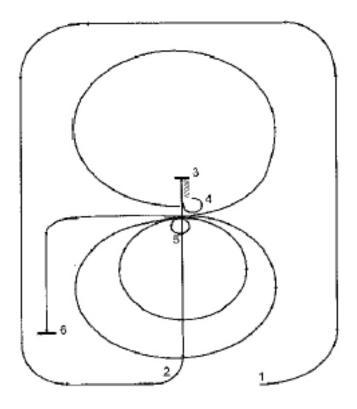
Crowning of 2026 Queens in Waiting and Coronation for Little Miss LDD titles

Photos

Note: The 2026 Queen, Sr. & Jr. Teen Queens will remain "In Waiting" until the 2025 LDD Royalty steps down at the coronation ceremony at the 2026 LDD Sunday performance prior to the Rodeo. At that time, the queens will be presented as the 2026 Royalty Court, and they will be introduced and do the National flag presentation.

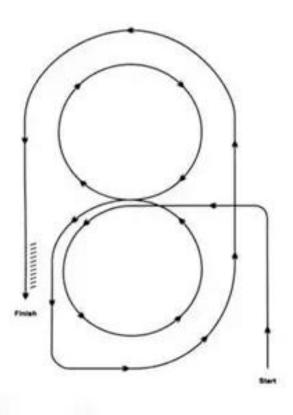
The Little Miss LDD Queens will immediately (pageant day) take on their title for 2026.

Senior Teen and Queen Pattern



- Circle the arena, on the left lead, at an extended lope.
- Guide left and lope down the center of the arena with moderate speed.
- Pass the center of the arena, stop and back to the center.
- Execute a 3/4 turn to the right and lope a circle, to the right, with moderate speed.
- 5. Stop in the center, execute a 360 degree turn, to the left. Lope a small slow circle, to the left, followed by a larger, faster circle to the left. At the center of the arena, rate back to the slower speed and continue loping on the left lead toward the end of the arena.
- Stop and pause to show completion of pattern.

Junior Teen Queen Pattern



- 1. Extended jog along side of arena, then to center
- 2. Begin lope at center of arena and lope left circle on left lead
- 3. Change leads at center of arena and lope right circle on right lead
- 4. Change leads and continue loping around end of arena
- 5. Once on the straight, increase speed and continue around end of arena
- 6. Stop and back