

Closet Ball

Pageant Application and Rules

Revised as of 6/15/2016

CLOSET BALL RULES

Contestant Criteria

1. Contestants are not to have done drag in the opposite gender of which they self identify for at least 1 year prior to the date of the pageant with the exception of Halloween.
2. Each contestant will enter with a sponsor (the person who will help transform them to the opposite gender in which they self identify)
3. After presentation of self-identified gender, the contestants and sponsor will have 1 hour to transform to opposite gender.
4. Male to Female gender transformation contestants may not have any makeup on their face. None of the contestant are allowed to wear any transformation aides (which include but are not limited to breast binding wraps, spanx type apparel, tuckers.etc.) prior to or while being presented in their self-identified gender. This ensures all contestants start on an even footing.
5. Only the contestants, their sponsors, and members of the pageant committee are allowed backstage.
6. Sponsors are the only ones allowed to perform the transformation on the contestants. No other help/helpers will be allowed.
7. A member of the pageant committee will be stationed backstage to ensure these rules are followed.

Judging Criteria

1. Closet Ball contestants will be judged using the following criteria and points scale
 - a. Presentation of true gender **(20 Points Possible)**
 - b. Transformation to opposite gender **(80 Points Possible)**
 - c. **Total Overall Possible Score of 100 Points**
2. The highest and lowest scores for each category will be eliminated and the remaining scores totaled.
3. The pageant committee will select five (5) to seven (7) Judges for Closet Ball.
 - a. All decisions of the judges are final.
4. Closet Ball will be judged, on a standard ranking judgment system to ensure the highest quality and fairness.
 - a. In the event of a tie the weighted category for **ALL** pageants will be Onstage Q&A
 - b. During Closet Ball, Onstage Q&A is not an actual category, however, if there is a tie Onstage Q&A will be conducted.
 - c. Each judge will be asked to submit one question each
 - i. All questions will be reviewed for appropriateness and relevance by the pageant chair, and no fewer than two other (2) present board members
 - d. Each contestant will draw a question and read it quietly to themselves before handing the question to the emcee to read aloud for the audience.
 - e. Once the emcee has read the question aloud to the audience the microphone will be handed over to the contestant to allow them to answer said question.

GENERAL PAGEANT RULES

Performers at Pageants

1. At each pageant the reigning respective pageant title holders may be allowed an opening number as well as a final number. Each stepping down title holder will be allowed one (1) command performer each. To better manage the time of the pageants, it will be suggested to the title holders that the opening numbers be a duet, trio, or production. Unless a titleholder steps down alone. The remainder of the performers and order of the evening will be coordinated by the pageant committee. The pageant

committee will do their best to include the stepping down title holders the best they can seeking their suggestions as well, though final approval and decisions are at the discretion of the pageant committee. .

2. The top 6 of the current reign and the stepping down title holders will perform at the end of the show prior to the winners being announced in the following order.
 - a. Crown Prince (if they choose to perform)
 - b. Crown Princess (if they choose to perform)
 - c. Prince Royale (if they choose to perform)
 - d. Princess Royale (if they choose to perform)
 - e. Emperor (if they choose to perform)
 - f. Empress (if they choose to perform)
 - g. Stepping down title holders in the traditional order (Mr., Ms., and then Miss)

Realm Pageant Titles

1. The following Pageant Titles names shall be known as REALM TITLES and will be exclusive to the RCGSE as registered with the state:
 - a. Closet Ball King & Queen
 - b. Mr. & Miss Golden Spike Universe
 - c. King & Queen of Hearts
 - d. Mr., Miss & Ms. Gay Utah
 - e. Mr. , Miss., & Ms. Gay Utah Youth
 - f. Mr., Miss & Ms. Gay Pride of Utah
 - g. Mr. , Miss.,& Ms. Gay Youth Pride of Utah
2. The following is a schedule showing the month each RCGSE pageant will be held:
 - a. Closet Ball King & Queen - SEPTEMBER
 - b. Mr. Miss & Ms. Golden Spike Universe - NOVEMBER
 - c. Mr. Miss & Ms. Gay Utah* and Mr. & Miss. Gay Youth Utah* – JANUARY
 - d. King and Queen of Hearts – FEBRUARY
 - e. Mr. Miss & Ms. Gay Pride of Utah and Mr., Miss,& Ms. Gay Youth Pride Utah - JUNE

General Pageant Rules

The following regulations will apply to ALL pageants:

1. Contestants must be members of the RCGSE. If they are not members of the RCGSE, membership application as well as membership fee of \$10 will be in addition to the contestant fee of \$10.00 for a Total of \$20 for non-members and \$10 for Members. Contestant fees as well as RCGSE membership applications and fees may be paid in Cash, Money order or the Square if applicable and will be collected by the Pageant Chair. In the absence of the pageant chair a committee member sitting on the board of directors may collect the fees if not a designated Board Member will need to collect the fees. All pageant fees are non-refundable and will go to the RCGSE General Fund. A receipt for fees paid may be requested from the RCGSE treasurer
2. Contestant fees will be accepted up to and including 1 hour prior to the start of the pageant.
3. Contestants must arrive not later than one (1) hour prior to the start time of the pageant to start the registration process.
4. Pageant advertising:
 - a. Pageant and court membership applications along with rules and regulations must be available at least thirty (30) days prior to the pageant on the RCGSE website, Facebook, and hard copy.
 - b. Flyers or posters advertising the pageant must be up 4 weeks prior to the pageant date in various local bars and businesses (with management approval). Coordinating with the newsletter editor for the reign to ensure advertisement and applications are ready to be published in the newsletter is highly recommended.
 - c. Contact information for the pageant chair will be listed on all advertisement for any questions and possible contestants may have.

5. Contestant fees collected will be given to the Treasurer or the Board President following the pageant. Only in the event that neither of the two are present will the Pageant Chair maintain possession of any fees/proceeds collected from the pageant, in which case arrangements must be made to deposit the money within 72 hours.
6. Crowning Paraphernalia:
 - a. The RCGSE Pageant paraphernalia shall be: crowns for Miss/Ms. titleholders and medallions for Mr. titleholders. The Pageant Chair is responsible for holding these items for the upcoming pageants and working with the Treasurer to acquire the funds for these items.
 - b. Approved standard crown and medallion design must be used for each pageant. Crowns may be available on www.acrowns.com and medallions may be found at Joes Trophies www.joestrophies.com:
 - i. Miss. Gay Pride - #AHAC145
 - ii. Ms. Gay Pride - #XAC145
 - iii. Miss & Ms. Gay Pride Youth - #P145
 - iv. Closet Ball Queen - #AAAC106
 - v. Miss Golden Spike Universe - #AHAC127
 - vi. Miss Gay Utah - #ARAC136
 - vii. Ms. Gay Utah - #ADAC152
 - viii. Miss. & Ms. Gay Utah Youth - #T136
 - ix. Queen of Hearts - #ABAC100
 - c. Any deviation from the approved crown designs must have prior approval from the Board of Directors. The current Pageant chair must provide “just cause” (i.e. design no longer available) to the board of directors before any consideration will be taken in regards to changing any of the above listed designs.
 - d. Title Holders will be crowned/awarded their medallion with a Crowning crown/medallion that will be used for pictures that evening, but must be turned in at the end of pageant. Once ALL title requirements are fulfilled, the Title holder will be given the approved RCGSE pageant Crown/Medallion.
 - e. All crowning paraphernalia is RCGSE property until the titleholder has completed all required functions/duties and has stepped down successfully.
7. All contestants, at every pageant, will be listed by number. Before representing for each category.
8. Contestants will be judged in the following categories for each pageant:
 - a. Closet Ball – Presentation of self-identified gender and on to opposite said gender
 - b. Golden Spike Universe – Country Theme Presentation (Entries can be a city, country, or land that can be identified on a commonly accepted globe/map), Evening/Formal Wear, Talent, Onstage Q&A
 - c. Gay Utah – Theme Presentation, Talent, Formal/Evening Wear, Onstage Q&A
 - d. King and Queen of Hearts (scoring by ballot) –Contestant Campaign , Talent, Red & White Formal/Evening Wear
 - e. Gay Pride – Gay Pride Theme Presentation, Talent, Formal/Evening Wear, Onstage Q&A
9. The contestant’s talent presentation can be no longer than seven (7:00) minutes max. This is to include set up, presentation and take down. This time limit will be enforced.
10. Pageant Contestants, door persons and pageant committee members must arrive at the pageant at least one (1) hour prior to advertised pageant time. Arriving at this time allows for:
 - a. Turning in music, filling out forms, paying entry/membership fees, and draw numbers for order of entrance.
 - b. A review and explanation by the pageant committee of the rules, regulations and obligations of the title for full understanding.
 - c. If a contestant arrives no more than 15 minutes late they may petition the Pageant Chair, Reigning Monarchs, and President of the Board for approval as to whether or not the contestant will be allowed to compete. Their decision is final. Any contestant arriving more than 15 minutes late will not be allowed to compete.

- d. During the hour prior to the pageant, the pageant chair or designated committee member will brief the judges on proper judging standards so that they are aware of how to score contestants properly.
11. Should a title holder voluntarily relinquish their title, be stripped, or pass away, the 1st alternate will be offered to fulfill the position. If the first alternate declines, then each following alternate will be asked in order. If no one is available to accept the position then that title will remain empty and will only be acknowledged on the website and history by the year/number of the pageant.
12. Adult contestants must be 21 years of age and a resident with a valid Utah State ID to enter any of the adult RCGSE pageants, including Closet Ball King and Queen, Mr. Miss and Ms. Golden Spike Universe, Mr., Miss and Ms. Gay Utah, King and Queen of Hearts, and Mr. Miss and Ms. Gay Pride Utah.
13. Youth contestants must be 18 to 20 years of age at the time of the pageant and a resident with a valid Utah State ID to enter any of the RCGSE youth pageants, including Mr. Miss and Ms. Gay Utah Youth and Mr. Miss and Ms. Gay Youth Pride Utah.
14. Contestants are not allowed to accept tips during contestant performances.
Current pageant title holders ARE NOT eligible to run for another RCGSE pageant title until the term/reign of the title which they hold has successfully concluded. If a title holder has relinquished a title they may not run for another pageant for 12 months from their original step up date. If a pageant title holder has been stripped they are not eligible to run/be elected for a RCGSE pageant title again.

Closet Ball Rules

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10. After presentation of self-identified gender, the contestants and sponsor will have 1 hour to transform to opposite gender.
11. Male to Female gender transformation contestants may not have any makeup on their face. None of the contestant are allowed to wear any transformation aides (which include but are not limited to breast binding wraps, spanx type apparel, tuckers.etc.) prior to or while being presented in their self-identified gender. This ensures all contestants start on an even footing.
12. Only the contestants, their sponsors, and members of the pageant committee are allowed backstage.
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14. A member of the pageant committee will be stationed backstage to ensure these rules are followed.

Voting and scoring rules for King and Queen of Hearts

1. Contestants will campaign for voter support no sooner than the end of the GAY Utah pageant. The duration of said campaign will be until the day of the pageant. During the pageant contestants will be “judged” by the audience as they present themselves in each category. The audience may vote for one (1) King and one (1) Queen. Ballots will contain a space for King of Hearts and a space for Queen of Hearts. Audience members will write their choice for the winner of each title in these respective spaces. One (1) ballot per person will be provided to each audience member with paid admission into the pageant. To insure that there are not duplicate ballots, the ballots given out will be numbered. Only the door person(s) should be in possession of ballots.
2. After the final contestant category has ended, audience members will be asked to deposit their ballots in the monitored ballot box. When scoring the ballots, the King and Queen Contestant with the greatest number of votes will be crowned the winners.

Voting and Scoring for Golden Spike, Gay Utah, and Golden Spike and Gay Pride

1. The final tally in each category for each contestant after the highest and lowest score has been removed.

2. The contestant with the highest tally will be named the winner for each title (Mr. Ms. Miss, youth...etc)

Pageant Title Holders Rules and Responsibilities

1. Each newly crowned pageant title holder is required to hold at least two (2) functions to benefit the RCGSE funds. One (1) Function must go to the General Fund and the other function may go to a RCGSE fund of their choice with the exception of Gay Pride title holders. One (1) function will benefit the RCGSE General Fund and the other will benefit the Gay Pride Fund.
2. Both functions must be held no later than 30 days of the date of the respective step down pageant.
 - a. If both functions are not completed within this time frame they will not be allowed to step down and will not be recognized by name in the RCGSE court history.
 - b. Each pageant titleholder must submit with all of the proper signatures and accompanied by a copy of the advertisement for the event stapled to the back a show form to the RCGSE Board of Directors for approval.
 - c. The exception to this requirement is if the Titleholder passes away, is hospitalized, or any other extenuating circumstance deemed appropriate by the board of directors by majority vote. Any decision made by the board of directors is final.
3. Each reigning pageant title holder is encouraged to attend all other pageants hosted by the RCGSE during the reign of their title. Since youth pageant title holders are unable to attend pageants held at age 21 and over venues, they are only encouraged to attend pageants held at venues allowing minors, until such time they turn 21 years of age.
4. Each reigning pageant title holder is encouraged to attend and walk at the RCGSE's coronation (the Sunday evening prior to Memorial Day) during their reign.
5. If a pageant titleholder, at any time during their reign, accepts any other 'working title' position they voluntarily relinquish their title. 'Working title' is defined as Emperor or Empress, Prince Royale or Princess Royale and Crown Prince or Crown Princess. There is an exception for Gay Pride, if ALL obligations of the title are fulfilled prior to receiving a working title. That individual may step down from their Gay Pride pageant title.
6. All title holders are required to live and reside within the State of Utah and maintain an active phone number, mailing address, and email address for the duration of their reign (It is the responsibility of the reigning titleholder to provide updated information in the event of a change/move.). If a title holder relocates outside of the state of Utah it will be considered automatic relinquishment of said title.
7. Title Holder Standard Code of Conduct:
 - a. Title holders must always hold themselves to the highest code of conduct when representing their title.
 - b. Title holders are responsible for the co-promotion of their pageant step down.
 - c. All title holders will be held to the highest accountability of honesty, integrity and community representation.
 - d. If at any time a title holder is found to be within breach of these regulations, title holders will be brought before the Board of Directors for possible disciplinary actions, up to and including revocation and removal of their title.

Disciplinary Guidelines

1. These guidelines have been set forth in an effort to instill concrete disciplinary actions for those who do not abide by the Pageant Titleholder Rules and Regulations stipulated in the RCGSE Resolutions. All decisions made by board of directors of the RCGSE in regards to disciplinary actions are FINAL and IRREVERSABLE so long as all parties involved in the decision making process have participated justly.
2. As mentioned above all Title holders are required to hold 2 Functions to benefit the RCGSE Funds no later than 30 days prior to the date of said stepping down pageant. Failure to complete this requirement will be an automatic relinquish of title. A certified letter will be sent to the title holder to the address on record as a courtesy to inform them that will not be recognized by name on the RCGSE history and will

not be allowed to “step down” at said pageant. This letter will be signed by the pageant Chair and the RCGSE Board president and a copy will be filed with the Registered Agent.

QUESTIONS & CONTACT INFORMATION

- Additional applications and event information can be found on our website at www.rcgse.org
- Completed applications can be sent via mail, however, you will not be considered eligible to compete if the application is incomplete and/or until the pageant and membership fees have been paid.
 - Address to send completed application to is:

The Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire
PO Box 11793
Salt Lake City, UT 84147

- Any questions or concerns can be address to any member of the pageant committee.
 - Their contact information is:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>Email</u>
Chairperson:		Email: pageants@rcgse.org
Emperor:		Email: emperor@rcgse.org
Empress:		Email: empress@rcgse.org

Closet Ball Pageant Application

CONTESTANT #

RUNNING FOR THE TITLE OF

CLOSET BALL KING

CLOSET BALL QUEEN

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name: _____ A.K.A.: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Height: _____ Weight: _____ Hair Color: _____

Personal Interests: _____

I am running for this title because: _____

FOR PAGEANT COMMITTEE USE ONLY

- Is the Contestant between 18 & 21 Years of Age?** Yes No N/A
- Has Contestant Shown Valid Utah ID?** Yes No N/A
- Has Contestant Paid their Pageant Fee?** Yes No N/A
- Has the Contestant Paid the Membership Fees?** Yes No N/A

Pageant Committee Chairperson

Date

Treasurer

Date

By signing this document, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the rules and requirements of this Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire Pageant as they are written.

Contestant Signature

Date

The Royal court of the golden Spike Empire Membership Application

Revised as of 1/26/2016

Member Name: _____
Also Known as: _____
Highest Court Title: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Physical Address: _____
Home Phone: _____
Cell Phone: _____
Birthday: _____
Email Address: _____

Is it okay to send you court related emails?	Yes	No	
May we text you event reminders?	Yes	No	
Do you have a Facebook account?	Yes	No	
If yes, may we add you as a friend?	Yes	No	
If yes, what is the name you would like to be added under?	_____		
How would you like to receive your newsletter?	Email	Postal Mail	Both
Is your \$10 membership fee enclosed?	Yes	No	

Please give your application to the current Emperor or Empress, or you can mail it along with the \$10 Membership fee to:

Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire
Attn: Membership Application
P.O. Box 11793
Salt Lake city, UT 84147

Any further questions please email:
Emperor: emperor@rcgse.org
Empress: empress@rcgse.org



For RCGSE use only

Date Membership fee was paid: _____ No fee paid (past Monarch) _____

Date application was approved: _____