

Closest Ball Pageant Application and Rules

Revised as of 12/13/2017

Pageant Rules and Scoring

1. All contestants, at every pageant, will be listed by number which must be displayed on the contestant at all times during competition.
2. Contestants will compete in the following categories for each pageant:
 - A. Closet Ball – Presentation pre-drag transformation and presentation of post-drag transformation.
 - B. Golden Spike Universe – Country Presentation, Evening/Formal Wear, Talent, Onstage Q&A
 - 1) Contestants will select a foreign country to represent for Presentation category.
 - C. Gay Utah – Theme Presentation, Talent, Formal/Evening Wear, Onstage Q&A.
 - D. King and Queen of Hearts, Red & White Theme presentation, Talent, Formal/Evening Wear, Onstage Q&A.
 - E. Gay Pride – Gay Pride Theme Presentation, Talent, Formal/Evening Wear, Onstage Q&A.
3. A contestant's talent presentation can be no longer than seven (7:00) minutes.
 - A. This includes set up, presentation and take down.
 - B. This time limit will be enforced.
4. Pageant Committee Members and Door persons shall arrive no later than one (1) hour prior to the start time of the pageant.
5. Judges shall arrive no later than thirty (30) minutes prior to the start time of the pageant.
6. During the half hour prior to the start time of the pageant, the pageant chair or designated a designated committee member will brief the judges on proper judging standards so that they are aware of how to score contestants properly.
7. Pageants Shall be scored as follows:
 - A. Judged pageants shall be scored by adding up each judge's score per category.
 - B. The Highest and lowest score per contestant, per category, will be dropped and an adjusted score will be used for each contestant for each category.
 - C. At the end of each adjusted score being tabulated, the contestant with the highest number of adjusted score points will be declared the winner.
 - 1) Scores shall be added by the pageant chair and another pageant committee member or board member and then confirmed by a third pageant committee member or board member for accuracy.
 - D. In voted pageants, the Pageant Committee will create a ballot to be approved by the Board of Directors.
 - 1) One ballot will be distributed to each paying attendee to be filled out and deposited into a voting box.
 - a) To ensure that there are not duplicate ballots, the ballots given out will be numbered.
 - b) Only the door person(s) should be in possession of ballots.
 - 2) After the final category, voting is closed, and the ballots shall be gathered and counted by the pageant chair and another pageant committee member or Board Member and confirmed by a third pageant committee member or board member for accuracy.
 - 3) The contestant with the highest number of votes shall be declared the winner. a) If a voted pageant only has one contestant for that title, they must secure 50.1% of the votes to secure the victory.
8. Contestants are not allowed to accept tips during contestant talent performances.
 - A. Audience members are allowed to tip into a tip jar where all tips will be donated to the General Fund
9. Pageant specific rules are as follows:
 - A. Closet Ball.
 - 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.
- 5) 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. a) This ensures all contestants start on an even footing.
- 6) Only the contestants, their sponsors, and members of the pageant committee are allowed backstage.
- 7) Sponsors are the only ones allowed to perform the transformation on the contestants. No other help/helpers will be allowed.
- 8) A member of the pageant committee will be stationed backstage to ensure these rules are followed.

B. King and Queen of Hearts:

- 1) Contestants will campaign for voter support no sooner than the end of the GAY Utah pageant. a) The duration of said campaign will be until the day of the pageant.
- 2) During the pageant contestants will be compete in the categories listed above.
- 3) Ballots will contain a space for King of Hearts and a space for Queen of Hearts.
 - a) The audience may vote for one (1) King and one (1) Queen.
 - b) Audience members will write the number of their choice for the winner of each title in these respective spaces.

Pageant Contestant Criteria

1. All contestants must be residents of the RCGSE boundaries.
 - A. Those competing in the Gay Utah or Gay Utah Youth pageants may live outside the RCGSE boundaries, but must still reside in the state of Utah.
2. All contestants must provide Utah State Issued ID showing residency.
 - A. If the address on the ID is not current, they may provide additional proof of residency by providing the Utah State Issued ID AND one of the following items:
 - 1) A bank statement dated within the last 60 days that contains an address within the RCGSE boundaries and the voter's name.
 - 2) A utility bill dated within the last 60 days that contains an address within the RCGSE boundaries and the voter's name.
 - 3) A lease agreement that is currently in effect that contains an address within the RCGSE boundaries and the voter's name.
3. Adult contestants must be 21 years of age to compete for an adult title.
4. Youth contestants must be between the ages of 18 – 20 to compete for a youth title.
5. Contestants may not be reigning titleholders of another RCGSE title.
 - A. Contestants for the Gay Utah or Gay Utah Youth pageants may also not be reigning pageant titleholders of another realm.
6. Contestants must not have previously held the title they are competing for
7. Contestants must arrive no later than one (1) hour prior to the start time of the pageant to begin the registration process.
 - A. 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.
 - 1) Their decision is final.
 - B. Any contestant arriving more than 15 minutes late will not be allowed to compete.
8. During the hour prior to the pageant, the pageant chair of designated committee member will brief the contestants on the rules, regulations, obligations of the title, etc.

Pageant Contestant Fees

1. Contestants must be members of the RCGSE and reside within RCGSE boundaries.
2. Contestants must pay a \$10 entry fee to compete.
 - A. If contestants are not members at the time of competing, they must submit an additional \$10 membership fee along with their membership application.
3. Contestant applications and fees, as well as membership applications and fees may be paid in the following methods:
 - A. Cash
 - B. Money order
 - C. Square, if applicable.
4. All applications and fees from pageant contestants will be collected by the Pageant Chair.
 - A. In the absence of the Pageant Chair, a designated Board Member will collect the fees.
5. All pageant fees are non-refundable
6. All pageant fees will benefit the RCGSE General Fund.
7. A receipt for fees paid may be requested from the RCGSE treasurer.
8. Contestant Fees will be accepted no later than one (1) hour prior to the start time of the pageant.

Pageant Titleholder Rules and Responsibilities

1. Each newly crowned pageant title holder is required to hold at least two (2) functions to benefit the RCGSE funds.
 - A. One (1) Function must go to the General Fund and the other function may go to a RCGSE fund of their choice.
 - 1) For the Gay Pride of Utah and the Gay Pride Youth of Utah titles, one (1) function will benefit the RCGSE General Fund and the other will benefit the Gay Pride Fund.
2. The first function must be held in the first six (6) month of stepping up
3. The second function must be after the first six (6) months but 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. 1) Any decision made by the board of directors is final.
4. Each reigning pageant titleholder is encouraged to attend all other pageants hosted by the RCGSE during the reign of their title.
 - A. Since Youth pageant titleholders are unable to attend pageants held at 21+ venues, they are only encouraged to attend pageants held at venues allowing minors until they turn 21 years of age.
5. Each reigning pageant title holder is encouraged to attend and walk at the RCGSE's Coronation during their reign.
6. If a pageant titleholder, at any time during their reign, accepts any other 'working title' position, they voluntarily relinquish their title.
 - A. Working Title is defined as:
 - 1) Emperor or Empress
 - 2) Prince Royale or Princess Royale
 - 3) Crown Prince or Crown Princess.
 - B. Exceptions may be made for Gay Pride and Gay Pride Youth titleholders, as the RCGSE Pride Pageant is traditionally the week after Coronation.
 - 1) The Gay Pride Titleholders must still have met all requirements to be eligible to step down.
7. All titleholders are required to live and reside within the State of Utah for the duration of their reign.

- A. If a titleholder relocates outside the state of Utah it will be considered an automatic relinquishment of their title.
- 8. All titleholders are required to keep an active method of communication (i.e. active phone, active email address, active mailing address) to be contacted at for the duration of their reign.
 - A. It is the responsibility of the reigning titleholder to provide updated information in the event of a change/move.
- 9. All titleholders must will be held to the highest accountability of honesty, integrity, and community representation.
- 10. Titleholders are responsible for the co-promotion of their pageant stepdown.

Pageant Disciplinary Guidelines

- 1. If at any time a titleholder is found to be within breach of the regulations set forth in the By-Laws and Resolutions, titleholders will be brought before the Board of Directors for possible disciplinary actions up to and including revocation and removal of their title.
- 2. Disciplinary hearings will be held within the guidelines established by the Disciplinary Committee section of the By-Laws.
- 3. Should a titleholder be stripped of their title, a certified letter shall be sent to the titleholder to the address on records as a courtesy to inform them that they will not be recognized by name on the RCGSE history and will not be allowed to step down at their pageant.
 - A. This letter shall be signed by the Pageant Chair and President of the Board.
 - B. A copy of this letter will be filed with the registered agent.
- 4. Should a title holder voluntarily relinquish their title, be stripped, or pass away, the 1st alternate will be offered to fulfill the position.
 - A. If the first alternate declines, then each following alternate will be asked in order.
 - B. 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.
 - C. If a title holder has relinquished a title they may not run for another pageant for 12 months from their resignation date.
- 5. If a pageant title holder has been stripped/ removed they are not eligible to run or be elected for a RCGSE title again.

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 at least 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 6/15/2016

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

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

Date application was approved: _____