

Blackberry Pageant Rules & Regulations

Candidate Requirements:

- Candidate must live in the McCloud Public School District
- Candidate must compete in the category for their age as of May 1 of the contest year.
- Candidate must complete an application and provide a current photo for publicity
- Candidate must participate in the contestant functions and complete all three competition categories as scheduled.
- Formal attire is required for the coronation.
- Candidates will distribute collection containers for the 'penny vote' in area businesses
- Each Candidate will hold at least two community fundraisers (car wash, bake sale, etc) in addition to the 'penny vote' containers. These fundraisers must have the approval of the candidates sponsor and the contest coordinator prior to scheduling.
- The candidate (and a parent for candidates under age 13) must be available to work in the Chamber of Commerce booth at the Blackberry Festival.
- The candidate is responsible for maintaining the highest level of moral integrity during their candidacy and reign if they are crowned as title winner.
- Any conduct that the chamber deems inappropriate could, at their discretion, warrant removal of the candidate from the competition. This includes threats toward or slander of other candidates.

Sponsor Requirements:

- Only one business sponsor per candidate.
- The sponsor should be active in the McCloud community and be a company that the candidate would endorse during their candidacy and beyond.
- Sponsors will be listed in any publicity for the candidate.
- The sponsor will provide the transportation used in the parade for the candidate, unless the candidate makes other arrangements.
- The sponsor will make sure that the theme of the parade is reflected in the parade float/ transportation of the candidate.
- Sponsors will furnish candidate with flowers or corsage for the parade.
- Sponsors must attend the coronation ceremony. The sponsors of each crowned winner will be recognized with a plaque and photos of the winner & sponsor will be submitted to the newspaper.

Competition Areas and Categories:

Competition includes three areas:

1. Fundraising: one penny counts as one vote.
2. Personal Interview: Personal style, communication and composure
3. Written expression: Essay or story on the parade theme

Competition is available for six categories:

King – males age 13 through 18

Queen – females age 13 through 18

Prince – males age 9 through 12

Princess – females age 9 through 12

Jr. Prince – males age 4 through 8

Jr. Princess – females age 4 through 8

There must be a minimum of three candidates running for a title or that title will be eliminated from competition for the current year.

Judging:

The candidate will earn points in each of the three categories, Fundraising, Personal Interview and Written Expression in the following manner:

First place = 3 points

Second place = 2 points

Third place = 1 point

The candidate who accrues the most points will be crowned the title winner.

The only time one category will weigh more heavily than another is in the event of a tie. In that instance the tie will be broken by awarding an extra point to the tied candidate who has turned in the most money in the fundraising portion of the contest.

Contest specifics:

- ❖ Contestant applications must be submitted to the Pageant Coordinator.
- ❖ Fundraising cannot begin before April 1 of the contest year.
- ❖ Contestants cannot combine their fundraisers. *Each* candidate must have at least two fundraisers, the proceeds of which will count as 'votes' for them alone.
- ❖ One penny counts as one vote. All money collected is for the McLoud Chamber of Commerce and is used to fund the festival's fireworks display on Sunday night. The candidate, the candidate's family nor the candidate's sponsor is to use any portion of these funds for any reason. The candidate is responsible for the integrity of this issue. Failure to abide by this can constitute disqualification from the contest.
- ❖ All money must be turned in at Banc First, 508 W. Broadway, McLoud between the hours of 1:00pm and no later than 3:00pm on the date specified in the Candidate Functions Schedule. All coins must be rolled before being turned in to the bank.
- ❖ Contestants, Family, and Sponsors are to keep the amount they raised private. This detail should not be discussed during nor after the competition. The amount raised by individual contestants is NEVER disclosed. Only a total raised by all contestants will be reported at the coronation.
- ❖ Candidates will participate in a personal interview where a panel of judges will ask them questions about themselves, McLoud, and about the responsibilities that will be required of them as title holder should they win. This interview will earn the candidate points toward the title they seek.
- ❖ Candidates will participate in an essay/story writing contest. The parade theme will be the topic of this written expression portion of the pageant. DO NOT put your name or personal information on the essay/story pages. They are judged blind. Pages must be turned in before the deadline listed in the Candidate Functions Schedule to receive points. King and Queen candidates will write a 300 word essay, Prince and Princess candidates will write a 150 word essay, and Jr. Prince and Princess candidates will write a 50 word story. These essays/stories should be in the contestants own words and reflect their thoughts and feelings about McLoud as represented by the parade theme.
- ❖ The parade line up begins at 9:00am at the McLoud High School. Each candidate is responsible for submitting the appropriate forms to the parade coordinator to ride in the parade as a candidate. A sign should be affixed to the parade transportation identifying the candidate by name and as a candidate for the title they seek.
(Katherine Ross 2015 Blackberry Jr. Princess Candidate)

Crowned Royalty:

Being blackberry royalty means supporting and representing McCloud in everything that you do during your reign.

The crowned winner of each title will receive half dozen roses, crown, trophy, savings bond and an 8x10 copy of the official portrait that will be hung in the chamber office.

Royalty will have the following duties during the year of their reign:

- Attend special appearances such as ribbon cuttings, and other functions of the McCloud chamber of commerce.
- Attend at least one McCloud chamber of commerce meeting every three months during their reign
- Ride in parades of neighboring communities as a representative of McCloud. (This includes providing appropriate transportation for each of the required parades; a list of required parades will be provided at the candidate meeting.)
- Perform a minimum of twelve hours of community service in McCloud with an organization approved by the McCloud Chamber of Commerce.

Failure to perform the required duties or any conduct that the chamber deems inappropriate or embarrassing for McCloud could, at the discretion of the chamber, warrant removal of the awarded title. The runner up will assume the title for the remainder of the term and be recognized as the title holder.

Once a title has been awarded the title holder can not run for the same title in future years. For example if you win the title of Princess you can not run for princess again, you must wait until you meet the requirements for the Queen category then you may seek that title.