

## McLean County Fair Royalty Contest and Scholarship

Sponsored by McLean County Fair

Royalty Committee Chair: ..... Jill Parrent  
Committee: ..... Brian Basting, Carolyn Hansen, Tina Veal

Informational Meeting: Tues, May 31, 6p.m. (optional) – McLean County Fair office,  
2242 Westgate Drive, Bloomington (next to Tractor Supply). Zoom option, contact Fair  
office for login. Supper provided. Parents encouraged to attend.

Entry and Two Letters of Recommendation due: Friday, June 24 by 5:00 p.m.

Preliminary Contest: Wednesday, July 13, at 7 p.m. – McLean County Fair office,  
2242 Westgate Drive, Bloomington (next to Tractor Supply)

Court Dinner: Wednesday, July 27 at 7 p.m. – Rob Dob’s Restaurant, Bloomington

Finals Contest: Wednesday, August 3 at 7 p.m. – Cloverleaf Auditorium, Fairgrounds

### Rules and Prizes:

1. Candidates may be any youth exhibiting at the 2022 McLean County Fair who is at least 16 years of age as of September 1, 2021.
2. An entry form may be completed online at [www.mcleancountyfair.org/royalty](http://www.mcleancountyfair.org/royalty), or printed and delivered to the McLean County Fair office, 2242 Westgate Drive, Bloomington, (McLean County Farm Bureau building) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 25.
3. Candidates must also have two letters of recommendation from individuals not related to them sent directly to the Fair office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 25.
4. The Preliminary Contest judging criteria are based on application, references, and judges’ interview. Candidates, if then selected to the court, must agree to participate in the Final Competition, and activities each day of the Fair. Court Dinner attendance is strongly encouraged.
5. Court Dinner contestants must return an information sheet and final commitment form provided after their selection to the court.
6. Final Competition judging criteria are based on speech and communication skills and stage presence. The contestants’ prepared speech is to be no more than 90 seconds in length. Candidates will also be asked to answer one judge’s question. If a candidate is more than 10 minutes late for the Final Competition, they will be disqualified.
7. Members of the court must attend the Fair each day, present awards and ribbons, attend the evening programs, and fulfill other duties as assigned. After each court member successfully completes their activities at the Fair they will receive a \$50 premium.
8. Court members will get season guest passes for their immediate family to attend the fair.
9. Up to two (2) winners will each receive a \$500 scholarship. Payment will be made directly to recipient upon receipt of a transcript from a post-high school educational institution.

### Thank you to the following donors:

Rob Dob’s Restaurant & Bar for Royalty Court Supper -- Casey’s Garden Shop for Royalty Contest Flowers -- Niepagen Greenhouses and Garden Center for Stage Decorations -- Tractor Supply Co. for Hats -- Kelly Graeber for Crowns -- Brian Basting for Royalty Car Signs and Parade Escort -- Fantasy Amusements and McLean County Fair for Entertainment and Carnival Rides -- McLean County Fair for Scholarship Funds, Family Guest Passes, Meal Tickets and Gifts.



## 2022 Royalty Code of Conduct

### Fair Time Responsibilities:

1. Arrive at the designated time each morning ready for the day and know the schedule.
2. Make scheduled appearances at various fair activities and functions including evening activities each night.
3. Present trophies and ribbons each day during the McLean County Fair livestock and general shows.
4. Represent yourself as member of court at all times during the day and evening.
  - a. Maintain proper posture and appropriate sitting (and modest) positions.
  - b. Express gratitude and good manners.
  - c. Demonstrate interest and welcoming attitude toward those you meet without forsaking court duties for personal friends/significant others.
  - d. Express appropriate public displays of affection.
  - e. Smile. Enjoy the fair days.
5. Visit the fairgrounds, visiting and thanking commercial exhibitors.
6. Thank sponsors (preferably in writing) for donations of trophies, flowers, hat, crown, and time.
7. Remove any identifying royalty clothing prior to going in the carnival in the evenings.
8. Be a friend to each person you meet.
9. Always remember that you are a role model. Someone is watching you even if you don't think so. It may be a little one who can't wait to be in your position someday.
10. Decisions to select the winner(s) will be made only by the judges. All decisions are final, and scores will not be available at the conclusion of the contest.

As a candidate for the 2022 McLean County Fair Royalty Contest, I agree to abide by the requirements for participation in McLean County Fair Royalty and duties of McLean County Fair Royalty. If for some reason I cannot complete my duties or comply with the requirements, I understand that I will be removed from the royalty court and forfeit any premiums or benefits. The decision of the royalty committee to remove a member will be final.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

For contestants under 18: As a parent/guardian of a participant in McLean County Royalty Competition, I agree to allow my minor child to fulfill the requirements outline in the royalty guidelines.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Royalty Committee Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Please sign and return to McLean County Farm Bureau by July 27.*



## Royalty and Court Member Dress Code

As a youth representative of McLean County, your presentation in appearance and behavior is expected to be appropriate. Royalty committee may request court member change into more appropriate clothing.

### Female:

- No visible cleavage or midriffs showing.
- Spaghetti straps/strapless tops/dresses are not allowed during the day and evening events. The only exception is gowns worn during the evening contest.
- Skirts/dresses must be appropriate length to walk in, sit, and be active in activities.
- Appropriate undergarments are required under dresses and tops.
- Weekly attire includes dresses, skirts, dress slacks/crops during the fair.
- Closed-toed shoes with low heel are necessary for certain activities.

### Male:

- Suit and tie are required for the contest.
- Weekly attire includes dress/khaki pants and provided polo.
- Comfortable closed-toed shoes.

### All:

- Crown, hat, sash, and nametag are to be worn at all times except while showing, after evening activities, and visiting the carnival.
- Jeans are acceptable during evening activities.

### **Specific Event Dress Codes in Addition to those Listed Above**

The following dress codes are to assist in understanding the formality of each specific event and should be followed.

#### **Preliminary Contest – July 13**

This is the opportunity for first impressions with the preliminary judges. First impressions only happen once, make it count. A photo of the chosen court will be taken that evening to promote the contest on social media and other publications.

#### Females:

- Dressy clothing – a nice dress, blouse, or skirt/dress pants.
- Shoes you can walk in, heels are acceptable.

#### Males:

- Dress shirt, tie, and dress pants – jackets are preferred but optional.
- Dress shoes.

#### **Court Supper – July 27**

This is the opportunity for first impressions with the final judges. First impressions only happen once, make it count. Remember a meal will be served.

#### Females:

- Dressy clothing – a nice dress, blouse and skirt/dress pants.
- Shoes you can walk in, heels are acceptable.

Males:

- Dress shirt, tie, and dress pants

**Final Contest at Fair – August 3**

Females:

- Evening gown/formal attire
- Spaghetti straps/strapless tops/dresses are only allowed during the evening contest.
- Shoes you can walk in, heels are acceptable.

Males:

- Tuxedo you will be fitted for.

**During Fair Week**

Female:

- Weekly attire includes dresses, skirts, dress slacks/crops during the fair.
- Closed-toed shoes with low heel are necessary for certain activities.
- Skirts/dresses must be appropriate length to walk in, sit, and be active in activities.
- Appropriate undergarments are required under dresses and tops.

Male:

- Weekly attire includes dress/khaki pants and provided polos.
- Comfortable closed-toed shoes.

All:

- Crown, hat, sash, and nametag are to be worn at all times except while showing, after evening activities, and visiting the carnival.
- Jeans are acceptable during evening activities



## McLean County Fair Royalty Frequently Asked Questions

**Question:** Why should I apply?

**Answer:** There are many reasons. The fun, relationship building, memories, and scholarships. This is not a typical pageant. It's based upon scholarship, leadership, and service in McLean County.

**Question:** What can I win?

**Answer:** Winner(s) will receive a \$500 scholarship, a crown or cowboy hat, meal tickets for the week at the fair, carnival ride passes, other gifts and prizes. Each court member will receive a \$50 premium in addition to meal tickets, carnival ride passes, and more.

**Question:** What happens after I apply?

**Answer:** After the application is due June 24, the preliminary contest will be held at 7 p.m. on July 13 at the McLean County Farm Bureau building. Contestants will be scored on application, references, and judges' interview. If selected to be on the Royalty Court, it is heavily encouraged to attend the Court dinner on July 27 at 7 p.m. at Rob Dobb's to meet the final's judges for the first time. The final contest will take place at 7 p.m. on August 3 in Cloverleaf Hall on the fairgrounds. Each contestant will give a 90 second speech and answer two impromptu questions. Final selection is based on speeches, communication, and stage presence. After the contest, the court will spend the week at the McLean County Fair.

**Question:** What is the time commitment?

**Answer:** The short answer is three evenings and three days at the fair. If selected as a winner of the competition, the queen will also have the opportunity to compete at the Illinois County Fair Queen State Contest in January. Royalty winner(s) will also be able to ride in parades and other events throughout the year representing McLean County. The county fair queen is invited to attend the County Fair Day with the other county fair queens at the state fair on Friday, August 12.

**Question:** What is the dress code?

**Answer:** As representatives of the fair, you will be asked to be in nice clothing for each event, with the exception for evening events. This is outlined in the McLean County Fair Code of Conduct.