COMPETITION AND JUDGING

Scoring Percentages for Local Pageant

Interview	25%
Evening Wear	15%
On Stage Question	20%
Talent	30%
Swimsuit	10%

The Private Interview

- A podium will be used
- Interview begins immediately
- Interview continues until the 9 minutes and 30 seconds timing mark
- 30 seconds to close this phase of competition, (optional by contestant)
- If discussion ends before the 30 seconds are up, then the interview ends.

Lifestyle & Fitness in Swimsuit Competition

The Lifestyle and Fitness in swimsuit is designed to see how well the contestant maintains a lifestyle of good physical health, whether she meets the public expectation of a titleholder, and whether or not she has the confidence need to be a titleholder. The contestant's confidence, attractiveness and presence must be considered.

Swimsuit may be one or two piece. (two piece will need to be approved by director)

Talent Competition

Guidelines and Requirements

The time limit for talent presentation is **1:30 minutes**. Nothing longer will be accepted, and this will be strictly enforced! Contestants should plan a performance that will not exceed this limit.

A contestant may pre-record herself as a back-up vocalist or instrumental accompanist and use that CD to accompany her live talent performance. However, it cannot be announced to the judges that the accompaniment CD contains any performance by the contestant. A talent cannot be performed electronically (i.e. video tape) or with live accompaniment.

CD Enhancements

Regardless of the talent performed, the background CD cannot have voices, instruments, or other noises which mimic the talent of the contestant. (Example: A vocalist may have background vocals with "oohs and aahs" or other background lyrics, but cannot have a CD with a voice singing the melody line for the contestant to sing along with. The same would be said for instrumentalists, dancers, and any other talent which could provide for an unfair advantage it a judge could not delineate from the talent on the track versus the live performance of the contestant.)

Double Talents
If a contestant wishes to perform a double talent, i.e. singing and dancing, or singing and piano playing, she must do both live on stage. She will only be judged for what is done live. For example, if a contestant danced to a pre-recorded tape of herself singing, she would only be judged on her dancing. If she sang on stage and performed a dance segment with it, she would be judged on both singing and dancing.

Talents Involving Original Work or Material
Any contestant who plans to present a talent act that involves prior original work on her par; i.e. own painting, dressmaking, music arrangement, song writing, dramatic reading, etc., must have notarized authentication that she created that work if she wishes to receive credit for the same. This responsibility will rest with the contestant and her director.

Props Use and Restriction
Any article brought on stage must actually be NEEDED. Non-functional props tend to distract from the performance. No props will be permitted unless they are absolutely functional!

- No mood setters or background enhancers
- No props that imitate those used in a Broadway or screen version of your music
- No props that require excessively large stage areas and complicated setting up
- No use of motion pictures, slides or projection of any kind
- No live animals
- No props involving safety hazards, such as fire batons, sword and/or knife twirling, bow and arrow skills
- No lighting enhancements

Evening Wear Competition
The Evening Wear phase of competition is designed for the judge to assess the contestant's beauty, poise, grace and commanding stage presence. The contestant's total look is considered. Her evening wear (not the value of the evening wear) should complement the contestant's individuality.

On-Stage Question
Demonstrates contestant's ability to project her interest, opinions and aspirations.

Final Scoring
The scores from these competition determine the Winner and Runners-up.

Effective immediately, the Final Ballot is no longer used at any level of the Miss America program.