

2026 Huron County Horse Royalty Contest King, Queen, Prince & Princess Guidelines and Rules

Eligibility Requirements

King or Queen Applicants Must:

- Be a current Huron County 4-H or FFA member enrolled in a horse project.
- Be between the ages of 14–18 as of January 1, 2026.
- If a 4-H member, have at least one prior year of 4-H participation before the current year.

Prince or Princess Applicants Must:

- Be a current Huron County 4-H or FFA member enrolled in a horse project.
- Be between the ages of 9–13 as of January 1, 2026.
- If a 4-H member, have at least one prior year of 4-H participation before the current year.

General Eligibility

- Application must be submitted by May 27th, 2026, along with the \$20.00 fee.
- Applicants may compete in multiple years; however, they may not succeed themselves as King, Queen, Prince, or Princess from the previous year. Runners-ups may compete again the following year.
- Applicants must be enrolled to compete at the Huron County Fair with a Horse Project.
- All applicants must compete at judging event listed below.
- All rules and guidelines of the Huron county Horse Royalty Program and Ohio State 4-H handbook must be followed.
- If no qualified applicants apply, no titles will be awarded.
- If only one applicant applies for a title, they are not guaranteed to win.
- All judges' decisions are final.

Judging Information

- Date & Location: All judging will take place at the Huron County Fairgrounds on **July 26, 2026 at 3:00 PM**. All contestants are required to attend.
- Attire: Provided t-shirt, show pants or jeans, and boots are required. All contestants and horses must be neat and well-groomed.

Judging Events

1. Showmanship / Trail-in-Hand Class

- Patterns emailed on June 15, 2026 will be judged by a preselected judge.
- Questions will be allowed before the class starts.
- 4-H rules and guidelines will be followed. Contestants may show in any discipline allowed by 4-H showmanship rules (ex. ranch, western, or english).

2. Interview

- 5-minute interview about yourself and 4-H.
- More details will be provided in the study guide.

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3. Written Test

- Based on *Project Book 174: Beginning Horse Management*
- Question types: multiple choice, true/false, and fill-in-the-blank from a word bank.
- Study guide will be provided via email on June 15, 2026.
- Please let us know if you will need help reading the test.

4. Public Speaking

- Presentation (max 5 minutes) on: a topic provided in the study guide on 6/15/26.
Last year's topics were: King/Queen - *"Learning to ride a horse: overcoming challenges and building a connection."* Prince/Princess - *"What does 4-H mean to you?"*

General Rules

All contestants are required to attend judging day. No make-up dates will be allowed.

Responsibilities of Royalty

- Assist with duties assigned by a Huron County Jr. Horse Council member (when not showing), such as handing out ribbons.
- Be available for appearances including press, radio, and public events promoting the equine program.
- Represent the program respectfully at all times.

Behavior Expectations

- Maintain appropriate, respectful conduct at all times
- No smoking, drinking, profanity, or inappropriate behavior.
- Dress appropriately when representing the title.

Failure to follow these expectations may result in removal of the title.

If a titleholder cannot complete their responsibilities, they must notify the Huron County Horse Council or Horse Royalty Committee immediately. The next eligible contestant may assume the role.

Important Dates

Money and Application due May 27, 2026 at Horse Council Meeting
No Late Entries Accepted - \$20 Fee (non-refundable) CASH ONLY
Showmanship patterns and study guides emailed by June 15th, 2026.
Judging will be held on July 26, 2026, 3:00pm at Huron County Fairgrounds.
Crowning Ceremony: During the Huron County Fair (date/time TBD)

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the Royalty Committee!

Contact Information

HCHorseRoyalty@outlook.com

Mandi Stang (419) 602-2935
Allison Boyer (419) 541-8766
Michele Purdy (440) 935-2535