



# Cinderella Scholarship Program

## Official Rules & Regulations

condensed from OFFICIAL STAGING HANDBOOK (other rules may apply... check with your local director)

Welcome to the wonderful world of Cinderella Pageants, the largest and most prestigious scholarship pageant system of its kind. This is the pageant for those who "dare to dream" and have the courage and determination to make their dreams come true.

By entering this official preliminary event you have stepped into the "winner's circle", for in Cinderella there are no losers... only winners! Every participant gains something from participating in this unique youth development program. Cinderella offers opportunities for developing poise, self-confidence and good grooming by providing the inspiration and incentives for achievement. The pageant's emphasis on high moral values and a strict code of ethics has won acclaim from across the nation.

Cinderella is more than just a beauty pageant. It is a year-round program that builds character and leadership abilities in young ladies. We hope that you will let the magic of this challenging and rewarding experience enter every part of your daily life.

The Rules & Regulations included in this pamphlet should answer any questions you might have about your participation in the pageant. Underline the most important points and carry it with you at all times during the event as a reference. Your director will be happy to answer any additional questions that you may have. Good luck and always remember, "A winner never quits and a quitter never wins."

### WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU

The foremost requirement of participants entering an official Cinderella Pageant is good sportsmanship and having the right attitude toward competition. In life, as well as in competition, it is not important who won or lost... but, how you played the game. If you enter the pageant with a positive attitude you will find that your participation will be a rewarding and meaningful experience that will be cherished for a lifetime. Practice the "Golden Rule" and treat your fellow participants as you would want them to treat you. If you are not a young lady who can sincerely congratulate the winner and share her happiness... then you really do not have the qualities that are required to become a true Cinderella Girl. A Cinderella winner must wear her crown with all of the love, kindness and humility that has made Cinderella one of the most admired figures in literary history.

### ELIGIBILITY

1. Eligibility to enter an age division is established on the day of the official preliminary pageant you have entered. Should a winner change age before the state pageant (or the international finals), she may remain in the same age division in which she won her local or district title. Age divisions are: Cinderella Infant 0-11 mths; Cinderella Baby - 12-23 mths; Cinderella Tiny Tot - 24-35 mths; Cinderella Tot- 3-6 years; Cinderella Miniature Miss- 7-9 years; Cinderella Miss- 10-12 years; Cinderella Teen- 13-17; Cinderella Woman- 18-26 years.

2. Children or members of the immediate family of a director may not compete in that director's own pageant; however, they may compete in another director's pageant for which they are eligible to enter. Children or members of the families of members of a civic club staging a pageant may enter the pageant so long as they are not related to the actual person that is designated as the pageant director. Children of preliminary pageant directors are eligible for a direct invitation to the state pageant if they wish to bypass local competition under the rules governing "Reigning Winners".

3. Children of state directors are eligible for a direct invitation to the world finals under the rules governing "Reigning Winners".

4. Entrants holding a current title from another system may enter the pageant; however, they must understand that should they win a Cinderella title they are obligated to attend the next level competition.

### CINDERELLA BEAUTY DIVISION

The Cinderella Beauty division is not judged on physical appearance only, but rather the "total contestant" including her inner beauty, grooming, poise, stage presence, self-confidence and choice of garment. Remember that for our Tot thru Teen divisions our motto is "Real Clothes on Real Kids"... therefore "pageant dresses" are not allowed and will be scored low if worn. All contestants will participate in this portion of the pageant which consists of adjudication in the following categories:

Cinderella Tot thru Cinderella Woman Age Divisions:

a) Interview: An interview with the judges consisting of brief, simple questions appropriate for the age group. This is not an intelligence test; however, alertness, self-confidence, manners, poise and personality will be observed. Appropriate attire: Tailored street length dress. (Make-Up is not allowed for the Cinderella Tot & Miniature Miss Division in Interview!)

b) Casualwear: Contestants appear in casual attire (slacks, shorts, tailored wear: NO swimsuits). Presentations include a self-introduction (name, age, hometown) at center stage before proceeding down the runway.

c) Partywear: For Tot, Miniature Miss and Miss age divisions any length party dress is acceptable EXCEPT for formal length. For the Teen and International Woman divisions, full length formals are required.

Cinderella Baby Divisions:

(Please note the following: Each participant in our Baby Divisions must be escorted on stage by an adult escort. While the escort is not officially judged, the appearance and grooming of the escort is important and will be considered in the judging the overall presentation of the participant.)

a) Partywear (mandatory on preliminary, state and international levels) - Any length dress acceptable. In pageants that do not have a Casualwear competition, Chaperones will be asked to introduce the participant by giving her name, age and where she's from.

b) Casualwear (optional on preliminary and state levels; mandatory on international level) "Dressy Casual" is encouraged. Chaperone will introduce participant by announcing her name, age and where she is from.

c) Playtime / Close-up Appraisal (optional on preliminary and state levels; mandatory on international level)

SPECIAL NOTE: A "Cinderella Beauty" winner will be crowned in each age category.

### COMPETING FOR THE OVERALL CROWN

#### (Cinderella Tot thru Woman Divisions Only)

Contestants desiring to compete for the overall crown in each age division must also compete in the TALENT COMPETITION (onstage interview for the 3-6 year old category). The score from this phase of competition will be added to the Cinderella Beauty score to determine the overall winner. In addition, a "Cinderella Talent Winner" and "Tot Personality Winner" will be named from those competing for the overall crown. 1st Alternates will also be named.

### RUNWAY APPEARANCES

The judges at an official Cinderella Pageant are judging the overall appearance of the participants and not their ability to model. The contestant's walk and turns during casualwear and party dress competition should be natural, smooth and simple. This is not a modeling contest so the judges will not be influenced by affected hand motions, footwork and facial expressions. You only need to know how to stand attractively, walk gracefully to each "Stopping Point" and then exit... nothing more.

Props, such as tennis rackets, sunglasses, hats, purses, flowers, etc. are not allowed in Cinderella modeling competition; however, gloves are permissible, but not recommended.

### OFFICIAL RUNWAY MODELING MUSIC

All official Cinderella Pageants are required to use the official runway modeling music which is available for purchase on a special cassette tape or CD. This is an invaluable aid to the participant in preparing for the pageant as she will be able to practice to the actual music she will be appearing with on stage. The music will become an "old friend" to the entrant while she is appearing in the pageant.

This revolutionary idea serves a two fold purpose: 1) It ensures that each participant will have an equal amount of time in which to be adjudicated since each musical selection is approximately 45 seconds long. 2) The music contains electronic tones which remove all doubt from the participant's mind as to how long she should remain in front of the judges panel, etc.

Complete instructions for using the music and a "How To Model" sheet are included with the cassette tape. To order your cassette with credit card, call the International office at (225) 344-7628.

### TALENT COMPETITION

#### (Cinderella Miniature Miss thru Woman Divisions Only)

Talent may be anything that entertains an audience and shows a contestant's poise before an audience (humorous skits, dramatics, pantomime, dancing, singing, musical instruments, baton twirling, etc.). Showmanship, stage presence, preparation, level of accomplishment, proficiency, staging, transitions, composition of the routine and costume will be considered. The judges are not to be swayed by beauty in judging talent which is judged on the participant's ability to entertain an audience.

a) Talent presentations should be about two (2) minutes in length and may not exceed 2 minutes and 30 seconds (2:30). This time frame begins with the first sound or movement on stage. Participants with overtime talent will not be eligible to win the overall title, cannot be placed in the top 5 (state pageant) and cannot be a Talent winner or alternate.

b) The contestant is responsible for furnishing her own music and/or accompanist (see local pageant information for the type of recordings that are required by the pageant). Special attention should be given to the quality of recorded music as this is an important part of the talent presentation.

c) Participants will not be allowed to use the runway during their talent presentations.

d) Any participant performing vocally (singing or talking) will be required to use a microphone.

e) The size and number of props should be limited and must be a functional part of the talent.

f) No type of fire act, special lighting or black light will be permitted. All performers will be required to perform under spotlight.

g) The use of Samoan knives or any other type of talent that is deemed "dangerous" by the director will be prohibited.

h) Acrobats and gymnasts are restricted to the use of one (1) mat no larger than 6' X 12' X 1" which may not be moved during the talent presentation. Mats are not recommended for stage presentations.

i) An additional person may be used in a talent presentation if the talent cannot be performed alone. Example: Adagio, musical accompanist,

ballroom dance. The judges will consider only the contestant's talent and her ability to work with her accompanist or partner.

j) In the event of a mechanical failure or technical malfunction during a performance, it is within the judges' discretion alone to allow the contestant to perform again.

#### **TOT ONSTAGE INTERVIEW (Tot Personality)**

In judging the "Tot Personality" division (the counterpart of the talent division in the older age divisions), the judges panel will be looking for poise, personality, appearance, self-confidence and the ability to articulate in a pleasing and intelligent manner. The participants will be brought onto the stage for a lineup to introduce themselves and make a statement about their goals, dreams and aspirations. The emcee will then ask each contestant a question relating to the information given on the emcee card.

#### **PHOTOGENIC GIRL CONTEST**

Participants are judged on their ability to portray their beauty, personality and charm through the photographic medium. Photos may be "color" or "black and white" and any size on the local pageant level. All photogenic entries must be contestants in the pageant and should be a current photo. Please note that for our Baby Divisions we request that participant be fully clothed in her photogenic and advertisement photos.

#### **PAGEANT STANDARDS**

Cinderella is searching for a natural, wholesome young lady to represent the pageant. She should be charming and personable; well groomed and poised; self-confident; and above all have the character, humility and inner beauty that sets her apart as a leader. A Cinderella winner is at ease in a crowd and is respectful of those around her. Her manners and behavior are becoming to her age.

The winner must typify the age division in which she is participating. In the 3-6 and 7-9 age brackets we are not looking for a teenager; in the 10-12 age bracket we are looking for a pre-teen look; likewise, in the 13-17 age bracket we are not looking for an adult as we are in the 18-26 age group.

Just because a participant has a "polished" look does not necessarily mean that she is affected or that she has lost her wholesome natural appearance; however, Cinderella is looking for the "old fashion girl" with the style and grooming of "today's young woman."

1. A "standard of modesty" is required of all participants and chaperones throughout the pageant (while both on and off stage).

2. The use of cosmetics when on stage is allowed in all age brackets; however, makeup MUST be appropriate for the participant's age group. (Note: NO make-up is allowed in Interview for Tot and Miniature Miss Division Participants and for Babies in Playtime/ Close-up Appraisal)

3. False hair or artificial eyelashes are not permissible in the 3-12 age divisions, unless it is the result of a medical necessity (i.e. illness, chemotherapy, etc.). This does not apply for talent. Use discretion in determining whether a participant has violated this rule; however, when, upon casual inspection, these are discernible the contestant may be disqualified.

4. Cosmetic dentistry is ok. Consideration is given for braces so long as they do not detract from the contestant's personality and self-confidence.

5. Caution: Talent presentations or costumes of a suggestive nature will be disqualified. The judges' decision is final.

#### **WHAT TO WEAR**

Garments for a Cinderella Pageant are to be simple and unaffected. Casualwear should be something from the participant's everyday wardrobe and not a costume. Party dresses for the younger age divisions and formalwear for the teen division should be in keeping with today's fashions. A good rule of thumb to use when selecting a garment is, "Would I wear this to an occasion other than a pageant?" If the answer is "Yes", then the garment is probably acceptable for Cinderella, providing it is in "good taste" and reflects age appropriate attire. Our motto: "Real Kids in Real Clothes".

#### **WHAT IS EXPECTED OF A WINNER**

There are important responsibilities that go with winning an official Cinderella title. Representing your hometown at the state finals and throughout the year is a great honor and an obligation that you will not want to take lightly. Each preliminary pageant pays the \$75.00 state entry fee for its overall winners, beauty winners, talent (personality) winners and photogenic winners to attend the state finals and benefit from this outstanding week of glamour, excitement and inspiration. It's an opportunity of a lifetime to achieve; to win scholarships and awards; but more importantly, to be with other young ladies from across your state who are "achievers."

The following rules are for all official Cinderella winners:

1. Winners are to conduct themselves with the dignity of the titles they hold. Any winner, chaperone or guest who displays unladylike or unsportsmanlike conduct will be subject to dismissal from the pageant.

2. Failure to attend the next level pageant will mean automatic forfeiture of the title and all rights thereof. The title will not have to be relinquished if reasonable notice is given and the circumstances for not attending are excused by the director; however, the 1st alternate will be eligible to fill the position but will not assume the crown.

3. State Overall Winners not attending the International Pageant will have their title taken away and will be banned from future participation in the world-wide Cinderella Scholarship Program. Exceptions are exceptionally rare and can only be made by the Executive Director of the International Cinderella Scholarship Program.

3. Local winners may compete in pageants other than Cinderella with their director's permission if they have paid their state deposit.

4. Local overall winners may not compete in another Cinderella preliminary pageant during the pageant year in which they have won their title; however, they may enter another local pageant in subsequent years within

the same age division if they have fulfilled their duties to their previous crown by attending the state pageant.

5. Overall state winners may not compete in any other pageant before attending the world finals (unless competing for a specific title within a field). They may not resume competition before crowning their successor without the express permission of their state director.

6. Overall international winners may not enter any other pageant until they have crowned their successors without special permission.

7. Participants may not win an overall state or international title more than once in an age group.

8. Winners are to release no publicity without the express permission of the pageant director.

9. Winners of Cinderella titles (all levels) agree upon entering the pageant that they will abide by all rules, regulations and stipulations for winners as set forth by the Cinderella Scholarship Pageant.

#### **HONOR ROLL & WINNER'S CIRCLE**

Unlike other pageants that eliminate their winners from further competition, Cinderella encourages its winners to "try again" for the next level title by placing them in the "Winners Circle" or recognizing their achievements by placing them on the Cinderella "Honor Roll."

NOTE: "Beginning Of The Current Pageant Year" is the day following the Awards Banquet of the previous pageant year's International Pageant.

#### **Preliminary Pageant Winner's Circle**

1. Preliminary Pageant Winner's Circle: Once you have won an overall preliminary title within an age division you are a member of the Preliminary Pageant Winner's Circle and you will receive an invitation back to the State the Finals as long as you are of the correct age for that age division as of beginning of the current pageant year.

2. A reigning overall preliminary winner whose birthday falls prior to beginning of the current pageant year will receive an invitation to the State Pageant but must move up to the next oldest age division.

3. A past preliminary pageant overall winner whose birthday is prior to the beginning of the current pageant year and who will be older than the division in which she won her crown, will NOT receive an invitation to the state finals because she will be eligible to compete in the next older age division on the preliminary level.

4. Local and district Beauty, Talent (Personality) and Photogenic winners are not members of the "Winners Circle" and are therefore eligible to compete again on the local level of competition the following year.

#### **State Winner's Circle & State Honor Roll**

1. The state Honor Roll, consisting of the Top Five state finalists, state Talent (Personality) winners, state Cinderella Beauty winners and state Photogenic winners, are eligible for a paid entry fee and direct invitation back to the state pageant so long as they remain in the same age division in which they won their eligibility.

2. State Winner's Circle: Once you have won an overall state title within an age division you are a member of the State Winner's Circle and will receive an invitation to the International Finals as long as you are of the correct age for that age division as of the 1st day of the current pageant year.

3. A reigning overall state winner whose birthday falls prior to the 1st day of the current pageant year will receive an invitation to the International Pageant but must move up to the next oldest age division.

4. A past state overall winner whose birthday is prior to the 1st day of the current pageant year and who will be older than the division in which she won her crown, will NOT receive an invitation to the International finals because she will be eligible to compete in the next older age division on the preliminary and state level.

#### **INTERNATIONAL HONOR ROLL**

1. The international Honor Roll, consisting of the Top Ten Int'l finalists, Talent (Personality) winners, Cinderella Beauty winners, Photogenic winners and all special award winners, are eligible for a paid entry fee and direct invitation back to the world finals so long as they remain in the same age division in which they won their eligibility.

#### **CONDUCT**

At all official Cinderella events emphasis is placed on participants and adults displaying good manners and grooming, listening to and following instructions, adjusting to conditions, maintaining discipline and, above all, displaying excellent sportsmanship at all times. Any parent, teacher, guest or participant who conducts themselves in an unsportsmanlike or unladylike manner (either before, during or after an official event) will be subject to dismissal from the pageant system. Such conduct by a participant will mean automatic forfeiture of her title and all rights thereof.

No alcoholic beverages or other mind altering drugs will be allowed in or around the staging area of an official event. This rule is strictly enforced and includes the participants, parents, staff and guests. Smoking by participants during the pageant is prohibited and may result in disqualification. If you cannot abide by the rules of the pageant please do not participate.

#### **HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE**

Participants and parents must agree to hold IPPI, Cinderella Scholarship Pageant and its directors harmless of any damages or liabilities due to theft, accident or injury during or resulting from participation in the pageant.

#### **QUESTIONS?**

Contact your local or state director or:  
(225) 344-7628 (Monday - Thursday, 9:30 am-5:00 pm CST)

Cinderella - P. O. Box 3689 - Baton Rouge, LA 70821

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