

Miss Czech-Slovak WI Pageant Official Rules and Procedures



Rules

1. Contestants must be of partial Czech, Slovak, Silesian, Moravian or Rusyn descent or be legally adopted by parents of this descent.
2. Contestants must never have been married and cannot be an unmarried mother. If the applicant wins the title, she must remain unmarried until the reign is complete, and the completion of her reign as national queen or runner-ups if chosen at the National Level.
3. Contestants must be between 17 and 25 years of age prior to August 1st of the current year.
4. She must be attending high school or be a high school graduate.
5. Contestants must appear in a Czech, Slovak, Silesian, Moravian, or Rusyn folk dress.
6. Contestants must be personally present and participate in all four pageant categories and all pageant scheduled events as scheduled per pageant committee. The four categories in order are: Private Interview by Judges, Public On Stage Interview, Kroj Modeling, and Talent Presentation.
7. Contestants will choose an appropriate title and wear a sash with her chosen title. Titles usually are a representation of the region or region the contestant's ancestors are from. i.e. Miss Bohemia, Miss Popradno, Miss Prague, etc. Sashes are the responsibility of the candidate.

Procedures:

1. Contestants must attend the Friday afternoon orientation.
2. Contestants must attend the Friday evening Lidice Memorial Service.
3. Contestants may attend the Saturday evening Polka Mass service (not required).
4. No alcoholic beverages will be consumed while the contestant is wearing kroj.
5. Little Sisters will be appointed by the Miss Czech-Slovak WI Pageant Committee.
6. Contestants should be in their hotel by 10pm Friday evening for a good night sleep.
7. Lodging will be provided by the Phillips Czechoslovakian Festival and the Miss Czech-Slovak WI Pageant if not a local candidate.
8. If crowned Queen, 1st Princess, or 2nd Princess, new royalty must attend a meeting with the Pageant director the morning after the pageant to review protocols and to sign contracts. If crowned Queen, official portraits will also be taken the morning after the pageant.

Contestant's Entry Information

1. Entries must be postmarked by May 31.
 - a. Email : missczechslovakwipageant@gmail.com
 - b. Mail: Trinity Pesko 475 S. Argyle Ave, Phillips, WI 54555
2. Changes to the entry form, kroj description, or questions will not be accepted after submission unless permission is given by the Miss Czech-Slovak WI Pageant Committee and/or Pageant Director.
3. The following parts must be included in the Contestant's Entry Packet.

- a. Entry form and Application Questions
 - b. Kroj Description (please send as a Word/Google Doc)
 - c. Copy of Family Tree or brief description to show heritage.
 - d. \$50 Entry Fee by sponsor. Payable to Phillips Czechoslovakian Festival, please send to Trinity Pesko, 475 S. Argyle Ave. Phillips, WI 54555
 - e. Contestant Headshot. Does not need to be in kroj. Must be of quality to submit to newspaper. May be either digital (via email to missczechslovakwipageant@gmail.com) or physical photo mailed with application. Photos will not be returned.
 - f. Image Likeness Agreement
4. Google and/or Word documents may be shared as well. Kroje Descriptions should be sent this way.

Individual Category Rules

Private Interview

1. Contestants must be interviewed in the same kroj she presents during the kroj modeling category.
2. Contestants will receive a nine (9) minute interview, panel-style with the judges.
3. All contestants will receive the same first three questions. After these standard questions, judges ask questions utilizing the contestant's entry form & question answered on their form. At the seven minute mark, the judges will ask kroj focused questions for the remaining two minutes.
4. Judges cannot ask questions about personal political affiliation, sexual topics, or personal religious affiliation or beliefs. Judges cannot insert personal bias when scoring.
5. There will be a timer present in the room who will announce when 30 seconds are left. Contestant should finish answering the current question at that point.

On Stage Interview

1. Contestants must be interviewed in the same kroj she presents during the kroj modeling category.
2. Contestant will draw a formal question to answer on stage (you will be given these. They are also on the website). A personalized question will be presented on stage. The contestant will also draw an impromptu kroj question.
3. Contestants cannot read the question before handing it to the master of ceremonies.

Kroj (Costume)

1. A written description of no more than 250 words must be sent with the entry form. The description should be written in 3rd person and will be read aloud as you model your kroj on the stage during the kroj competition. For example: Suzi is wearing a Plzen kroj created with family assistance. *If the description is more than 250 words, the State Pageant Director will edit the contestant's description.*

2. Kroj descriptions should include (but not limited to): the origin, how it represents your family, if any element/s is/are authentic or replicated, the meaning of the kroj and its physical description. Get a bit personal with your kroj description. Judges may deduct points for kroj that do not represent the region, town, or village of your family's ancestry. Your kroj should represent your family's cultural heritage.
3. All contestants must end their description of their kroj with footwear.
4. Kroj descriptions should be either submitted as a Google Doc or Word Doc and shared to missczechslovakwipageant@gmail.com. A physical paper description does not need to be included with the entry packet.

Talent:

1. Talent presentations are limited to no more than four (4) minutes. Presentations begin with a formal introduction and conclude with final work, note, or motion.
2. Contestants are encouraged, but not mandated, to introduce their talent including: what talent they will be performing, why they chose their talent and how it relates to the contestant. The introduction is part of the four (4) minute time.
3. Talent presentations are limited only by your imagination and our stage capabilities! Past examples include singing, dancing, playing a musical instrument, dramatic reading, skit, art display, dress designing, poetry, drawings, gymnastics, verbal oration on a subject.
4. Pre-recorded and pre-created props will not be considered/judged in the overall performance. This is about you. If a recording is used for musical accompaniment, it must be instrumental with no background vocals. An on stage accompanist is allowed but no other partners can perform with contestants.
5. Contestants must describe their talent in detail on their entry form.
6. Contestants are responsible for all props for their talent. Pageant will supply microphone, keyboard (if known ahead of time), and sound system.
7. We encourage contestants to perform their talent in Czech/Slovak/related language or works by composers of the Czech, Slovak, Rusyn, Moravian, Silesian heritage. Performing a nationality talent is not a requirement.

Traditional Prizes

Miss Czech-Slovak Wisconsin will receive:

- crown, flowers, sash, pin
- professionally photographed portrait
- \$600 cash at end of reign,
- all-expenses paid trip to national competition in Wilber, Nebraska when she runs.

The Princess (1st Runner-up) will receive

- crown, flowers, sash, pin
- \$400 cash at end of reign



The cash prizes are awarded at the end of the reign at the following state pageant. If the queen cannot attend the National Pageant, the Princess will receive the all-expenses paid trip.

A cash award is also presented for oratory, talent, and kroje. Czech crystal is awarded for the Toni Brendel Heritage Award. Other awards may be given depending on donations.

Basic Queen Expectations:

- Several appearances at community functions around the state are expected during the year until the end of the Queen's reign the 3rd full weekend in June of the following year. Appearances will be arranged to fit Queen's schedule and will be tailored based on her location.
- The following functions are generally considered to be firm commitments to help promote the Phillips Festival (where the Pageant is held), the Queen Pageant, and the Czech-Slovak cultures:
 - Phillips Fall Harvest Festival (1st weekend in October);
 - Wisconsin Pageant Activities (3rd weekend in June);
 - National Pageant (1st weekend in August).
 - Portage County Cultural Fair (early May);
 - MN State Queen Pageant (2nd Saturday in April).
 - Various parades and events near the Queen

Questions may be directed to Trinity Pesko, Wisconsin State Pageant director
Email: missczechslovakwipageant@gmail.com