

Rules And Regulations Governing USofA Pageant Preliminaries

1. All Preliminary Promoters must renew their Franchise Agreement within ninety (90) days after the last day of the National Pageant. The Franchise fee and two entry fees to the National Pageant must be paid at the time of renewal. If a Promoter fails to renew the respective Franchise within the ninety (90) day period, it will be cancelled and another Promoter will be named within the Region/State. If there is no response within the ninety (90) day period, the Franchise will revert to USofA Pageants.

2. All Promoters must parallel their Rules and Regulations with the Rules and Regulations of USofA Pageants' National Pageant and adhere to the Franchise Agreement.

3. Each Official Preliminary Promoter may establish their own residency requirements for their Preliminary Pageant

4. Preliminary Promoters must provide ample advertising for their Preliminary throughout the State/Region encompassed by that Pageant and it should include the wordage "USofA Pageants and _____ Presents". It must also include the USofA Ribbon Logo for their perspective preliminary division.

5. Preliminary Promoters must provide transportation and lodging for the reigning National Title Holder (Miss Gay USofA for a Preliminary to Miss Gay USofA, Miss Gay USofA Classic for a preliminary to Miss Gay USofA Classic, Miss Gay USofA at Large for a Preliminary to Miss Gay USofA at Large, Miss Gay USofA Newcomer for a preliminary to Miss Gay Newcomer, etc). The performance fee for the National Title Holder (Miss Gay USofA, Miss Gay USofA At Large, and Miss Gay USofA Classic) shall be \$300.00 (for Miss Gay USofA Newcomer shall be \$200.00) per night as services required. The services of the National Title Holder are required only on the Final Night of your Pageant, unless you specifically request additional nights. If there is no current National Titleholder or the National Titleholder is not available, USofA Pageants shall select the representative to be present.

6. Travel arrangements and other fees must be finalized at least four (4) weeks prior to the planned Preliminary date. Travel arrangements will be prepaid. If there is more than one preliminary pageant scheduled the same weekend, the Promoters must coordinate all travel arrangements with the Assistant to the Titleholders (Darryl Neumann can be reached via email at

dneumann@usofa.org

or via phone at 254-717-4190) prior to purchasing airfare. Only one airline ticket should be purchased for the entire itinerary. Promoters should then split the costs of the ticket evenly between themselves by dividing the total cost of the ticket by the number of preliminaries on the itinerary. Any pageant that does not have transportation for the Titleholder arranged thirty (30) days in advance may be cancelled at the National Promoter's discretion with no refund of fees.

7. If the case occurs in which the National Title Holder's previously confirmed bookings conflict with the Pageant date for your Preliminary, with the approval of the National Office, an approved representative of USofA Pageants must attend at the above scheduled rate

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of pay, excepting performance fee. The appearance fee of the representative is negotiable with the representative and the Promoter. At no time will USofA Pageants be responsible for these expenses.

8. The Promoter is not responsible for any additional checked baggage fees.

9. All performance fees for the National Title Holder or the representative will be paid immediately after the crowning ceremony.

10. Once a Contestant has qualified to enter a Pageant by winning **or** placing as First Alternate at any Preliminary Pageant, they may not enter another Preliminary Pageant to the same division in the same Pageant Year.

There are no exceptions to this rule.

11. If a person has been placed on the USofA Pageants barred list, they may not compete in, judge, entertain, host or attend any USofA Pageants City, Local, State, Regional or National Pageants.

12. Promoters may, at their discretion, disqualify from entry into their Preliminary Pageant any contest who:

1. Has been a winner of that Preliminary before.

2. Does not present themselves in a professional manner.

3. Does not abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Preliminary.

4. Possesses an ability to cause substantial problems as to their personal performance history.

5. Promoters must use the scoring system provided by USofA Pageants. They may not add additional categories or change the categories. Note: Score sheets for Personal Interview, Evening Gown, and Talent are available for download at www.usofa.org/promoter

6. Pageant dates need to be spaced throughout the entire year. Promoters should be cautious in scheduling and must arrange the schedule with USofA Pageants.

7. No Preliminary Promoter may franchise a preliminary and make an appointment of persons to represent the preliminary at the National Pageant without holding a preliminary pageant.

8. Following their pageant, Promoters may, at the National Office's discretion, choose a representative of their Preliminary Pageant to compete in the National Pageant providing that the winner or First Runner-up of the Preliminary Pageant cannot or fails to attend the National Pageant. Promoters must ask all other contestants who competed in the Preliminary Pageant, in order of final standings (that is 2nd Runner-up, 3rd Runner-up, etc) if they are willing to attend the National Pageant before choosing someone else to represent their Preliminary Pageant. All representatives to the National Pageant must have competed in a USofA Pageants preliminary pageant in the current National Pageant year.

9. Preliminary Promoters may be groups, a bar, organizations (profit or nonprofit), or interested individuals who possesses the ability to organize, direct, and financially back their proposed Preliminary Pageant.

10. Preliminary Promoters may have their Franchise revoked if:

1. They do not abide by the Rules and Regulations of USofA Pageants.

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2. Fail to obtain the reigning National Title Holder or an approved representative within a reasonable time for their Preliminary Pageant.
3. They are proven involved in contest fixing or scoring manipulations in any Preliminary Pageant.
4. They do not renew their Franchise Agreement with the ninety (90) day period provided for renewal
5. They do not schedule their Preliminary Pageant in a timely manner.
6. They do not have two (2) contestants attend the National Pageant as representatives of their Preliminary.

7. State Franchised Pageant owners may not charge more than \$100.00 for any City or Local Sub-Franchised Pageant. A copy of the state pageant systems contract for local preliminaries must be submitted to the National Office for approval before any franchises may be offered. Regional Pageants may not be franchised.

8. All new Preliminaries and any preliminary that has had complaints or issues raised with the National Office must have one Staff Member attend their Preliminary to insure that the Rules and Regulations of USofA Pageants are followed and that the Promoter runs his/her Preliminary as an asset to the system. This staff member may be an officer of USofA Pageants, the National Pageant Director, or a Regional Director.

9. All Promoters will change their Rules and Regulations concerning Prize money given at Preliminary Pageants as follows:

1. The winner of any Official Preliminary Pageant will receive their prize money as follows:

1. 1/2 of the money the night of the Preliminary Pageant,
2. 1/2 of the money to be given at the National Pageant.

3. The first runner up will receive their prize money as follows:

1. 1/2 of the money the night of the Preliminary Pageant.
2. 1/2 of the money to be given at the National Pageant

3. A Promoter may elect to pay the Prize money in full the night of his Preliminary Pageant, **but they are still responsible to ensure that two representatives attend the National Pageant**

Promoters may not make the payment of price money at a winner's stepdown part of the prize package.

4. Promoters are welcome to use a crown of their choice for the winner's crown, **BUT AT NO TIME** may the winner's crown be larger than the National Titleholder's crown. Crowns may be purchased from Allen's Crowns or FIERCE Jewels by Nova Starr or a crown maker of their

choice. If you chose to use FIERCE Jewels by Nova Starr, you may contact her at 801-548-2145 or by visiting www.fiercedragjewels.com. USofA Pageants reserves the right to indicate what crowns are acceptable for use at local, city, state and regional preliminaries.

5. Before a preliminary may be announced, advertised, or placed on the official online calendar, a copy of the contestant handbook must be submitted to the National Pageant Director. This copy must include the listing of the prize package offered. This copy may be submitted electronically by email or as a hard copy.

6. After an Official USofA Judges Panel has made its decision, and the contestant has been crowned, the only way to remove the title is with the express **consultation and permission** of the National Office. There are **no exceptions** to this rule.

Revised October 18, 2011