

2013 Congress Queen Contest Rules

1. Each recognized Quarter Horse Association is eligible to select one queen candidate.
2. A candidate will be able to represent only one adult or junior association and cannot run for more than three cumulative years.
3. The candidate must be 18 to 25 years of age (as of January 1, 2013) and not married, divorced or a parent.
4. The candidate will be entered only upon receiving a completed application, including an original signature from her association president or vice president.
5. Each candidate and/or the association she represents is responsible for all expenses (with the exception of a few complimentary meals) incurred from her trip to the All American Quarter Horse Congress. A check made out to OQHA in the amount of \$275.00 must accompany the application to cover hotel expenses.
6. Candidates must also send (2) 8 X 10 color photos and (6) wallet-sized photos to accompany the application. All photos must be labeled with first and last name and association represented on back side of photos. Photos must also be vertical, in color, separated and taken in queen attire.
7. A completed entry will include the following items and must be postmarked by **August 25, 2013** to the Queen Committee Chairperson:
 - Completed application with original signature from association president or vice president
 - Completed and signed release of liability form
 - Check made payable to OQHA in the amount of \$275.00
 - (2) 8 X 10 and (6) wallet sized photos**The candidate will be entered only when the above items are received by postmarked date.**
8. Upon receiving the completed application, the following items will be sent to each candidate within seven (7) days of the deadline date:
 - Updated agenda
 - List of candidates
 - Congress show booklet
 - Dinner reservation card
 - Press release
 - Hotel brochure
 - Style Show size information sheet
9. Candidates are required to display their sashes (provided by OQHA), to be helpful to the guests, to attend all public functions and further the cause of the Quarter Horse in our audience's esteem.
10. Judging selections will be made based on the following criteria:
 - a. **40% Oral Interview:** Judged by outstanding people in the field on candidate's poise, appearance and personality.

b. **40% Written Test:** Knowledge of horses and the breed. All questions will be taken from the 2012 AQHA *Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations*.

c. **20% Horsemanship:** Judged by a panel of judges. The class will consist of performing a pattern and rail work; balance of the class at judges' discretion to prove superior horsemanship.

All candidates will be given a score in each portion of the contest that will determine the overall results. Top ten medallions will be given out, however overall results will be based on total points earned not top ten placings.

11. No candidate will be permitted to show in any classes prior to the crowning of Congress Queen, with the exception of youth team tournament classes. The candidate is not required to own the horse exhibited in the horsemanship portion of the contest, however it is their responsibility to make prior arrangements for the horse that will be shown. If a stall is needed, reservations must be made prior to arrival and may be permitted to stall with an association youth team.

12. The All American Quarter Horse Congress Queen will be crowned at the recognition night ceremony (long gown will be worn for this occasion). The queen's duties will commence the morning after the crowning and she will be required to stay through the end of the show as our guest. As Congress Queen, you are not permitted to show at the Congress as an exhibitor nor any event where you are representing the Congress as queen.

13. As queen you will represent OQHA at several major horse shows and events throughout the year, the AQHYA World Show and attend the Congress as reigning queen the following year. These details and events are worked out with Kelli Diaz. Expenses are paid for the queen to these events.

14. Upon marriage or becoming pregnant, the Congress Queen must relinquish her crown and all prizes connected with the crown to the first runner up in the contest.