



# Iowa Honey Producers Association

## Royalty Program



### Purpose

The Iowa Honey Queen (and Princess) are the chief promoters of honey products and the beekeeping industry in Iowa. Furthermore, they are the public image of the Iowa Honey Producers Association. It is a yearlong position, beginning with coronation at the Iowa Honey Producers Association (IHPA) Annual Meeting each November and ending with the coronation of a new Queen (and Princess) at the same event one year later. Their duties are to promote the value of the honeybee, beekeeping, and the consumption of honey.

### Who Can Compete?

Any young woman who has reached her 17th birthday by January 1 (of representation year) and who has not passed her 23rd birthday by January 1 (of representation year) and who has been approved by the Honey Queen Committee.

### Iowa Honey Royalty Competition

- The Iowa Honey Queen (and Princess) competition take place every year at the November Annual Meeting of the Iowa Honey Producers Association.
- The candidates are expected to complete an application expressing their interest and return it to the Queen Program Chair, Connie Bronnenberg, by September 30th.
- Candidates will be evaluated by three anonymous judges throughout the annual meeting.
- The candidates will attend an interview with the board members of the IHPA on the Thursday night before the annual meeting begins.
- Sash, crown, and formal attire is required. The board will be provided with copies of the candidate's application prior to the interview.
- Formal attire is required for the entirety of the annual meeting.
- Friday morning candidates will greet members as they arrive and check in.
- Throughout the annual meetings, candidates will assist with the distribution of door prizes.
- Friday afternoon, candidates will present brief speeches (3-7 minutes in length) to the organization expressing their interest in being queen.
- Immediately following speeches, candidates will be dismissed to change into evening gowns (prom dresses/other fancy dresses) for mead and cheese social.
- Following the social, the entire membership will attend the banquet.
- At the banquet, candidates will be expected to assist with the auction of beekeeping and honey items before coronation.
- Saturday morning, the newly crowned Queen (and Princess) and other royalty candidates will be expected to assist with door prizes.
- The Queen will be loaned a suitcase of promotional materials, an IHPA laptop, and projector for her year reign.
- The Queen (and Princess) will sit down with Queen Chair Connie Bronnenberg for a verbal explanation of rules and obligations as royalty, and a contract will be signed.

# Expectations of Iowa Royalty

When a young woman enters the IHPA Royalty competition, it is an affirmation of her commitment of time and effort to the position. These guidelines are meant to serve as a rule-of-thumb as to what is expected by both the Iowa Honey Queen Program Chair Connie Bronnenberg, and the members of the Iowa Honey Producers Association.

## Duties of the Elected Honey Royalty

- All appearances made by the Queen (and/or Princess) will be approved by the Queen Chair Connie Bronnenberg. If for any reason the Queen is unable to make an appearance at a scheduled event, the Princess will assume responsibly in her stead.
- After each event, the Queen (and/or Princess) is required to submit an expense form, provided by the association, to the IHPA Treasurer, Rhonda Heston. This allows the IHPA to provide reimbursements for travel, meal, and lodging expenses.
- Verbal thanks are required to events hosts and written thank-you's are strongly encouraged.
- The Queen (and/or Princess) is required to provide her own transportation, or make arrangements as deemed necessary. Transportation is not the responsibility of the Queen Chair or the IHPA.
- The Queen is required to submit a monthly article for the IHPA state publication of *The Buzz* newsletter. The article should be emailed to Publicist Ron Rynders on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. The purpose of the article is to keep the organization up to date on the current and future queen events.
- The Queen (and/or Princess) will be asked to email a photo in their sashes and crowns, their favorite honey recipes, and write a brief biography for the creation of brochures.
- The Queen will keep a scrapbook of her activities to present at the following annual meeting. (This will also be needed for competition at the American Honey Queen level.)
- The Queen (and/or Princess) will be required to work at the IHPA Bee Booth at the Iowa State Fair six (6) days. Additionally, the Queen will be required to present five different presentations in the Agriculture Building. Two will be about honey/beekeeping and three will be cooking demonstrations, and one will be a kids and bees themed presentation with hands-on activities.
- If for any reason the Iowa Honey Queen is unable to complete her reign, the Iowa Honey Princess will be promoted to Queen and assume her position.

## Royalty Etiquette

The Queen (and Princess) must exhibit exemplary behavior at any time she is representing the IHPA, including times when she may not be wearing her crown and banner. Smoking and drinking of alcoholic beverages in public situations are not allowed and could lead to forfeiture of her title. Body piercings and tattoos should be concealed to project the professional and wholesome image of the royalty program and the industry. Professional behavior and appearance is critical at all times, including any and all social media. If disciplinary problems arise during the Queen's reign, the problem will be reviewed by the Queen Chair and the IHPA Board of Directors. If behaviors that do not reflect positively on the IHPA continue to occur, the Queen may be asked to resign her title. In the case of that event, the Princess would then assume the title.

**For further questions and information about the Iowa Honey Producers Association Honey Royalty Program, contact Queen Chair Connie Bronnenberg at 515-480-6076 or [cbronny823@aol.com](mailto:cbronny823@aol.com)**