



2026 MQHA Queen Rules

- The Queen will be crowned at the 2026 MQHA Easter Eggstravaganza!
- The Queen will represent MQHA at the All-American Quarter Horse Congress in October 2026

The purpose of the MQHA Queen Contest is to select a special lady to represent the Michigan Quarter Horse Association, one who will positively promote Michigan as a great place to visit and show horses and who will be a positive role model for all young women.

1. Candidate must complete the contest application and return it with the \$25.00 fee, a biography, three (non-related) references and a color photo. The complete packet must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2026, or emailed by March 15. The candidate understands that the photo may be used for publicity on the MQHA website and Facebook pages.
2. Queen candidate must be between the ages of 19 and 26 as of January 1 of the current year. The candidate must be single, never divorced/annulled or a single parent. The candidate must also be a high school graduate and currently employed, in college, or taking a gap year.
3. Previous Queen Contest winners are encouraged to enter; however, the contestant is ineligible if she has been Queen three times for this or any other Quarter Horse association.
4. The candidate must have been a MQHA member at least one year prior to the Queen Contest application due date and be a current member in good standing of both MQHA and AQHA. The candidate must also be a Michigan resident with a residency exception granted for a candidate who can prove two years prior involvement with the Association (volunteering, showing or other activities that the Queen Committee may deem good fit for a candidate). All candidate's involvement including showing and volunteering at MQHA events prior to application deadline will be considered and reviewed by the board and the Queen's Committee prior to accepting the application.
5. Candidate must ride an AQHA registered horse. The Candidate does not have to own the horse.
6. The contest winner will automatically be on the following years' MQHA Queen Committee.
7. Queen candidates must compete in all categories of the Contest:
 - a. Oral Interview – max. 40 points (3 Judges)
 - b. Written Test – max. 40 points (Questions from AQHA Rule Book)
 - c. Horsemanship – max. 20 points (3 Judges)(Please note that in judged categories, the overall scores will be averaged)
8. The Queen will represent Michigan at the QH Congress. Additionally, attendance will be **mandatory** at the following:

- a. AQHA Level 1 Championship East
 - i. Reach out to Congress Queen for more information
- b. MQHA Spartan Spectacular
 - i. Be in attendance on the day of the Thayne Miner Memorial Horsemanship class
 - ii. Help with presentation of the Thayne Miner Memorial Horsemanship class awards
- c. MQHA Harbor Classic
 - i. Attend show on day of the MQHA Princess Contest and the day of Queen/Princess photoshoot
 - ii. Organize/run the MQHA Princess Contest
 - iii. Hand out awards when applicable
- d. Michigan State 4-H Horse Show (August)
 - i. Attend show and hand out awards
 - ii. Coordinate an MQHA information table
- e. MQHA Futurity
 - i. Attend entire show and hand out awards. Conflicts due to school or work must be determined 14 days prior.
- f. MQHA Convention
 - i. Prepare Queen Speech
 - ii. Pose for photographs with award winners
 - iii. Have a Queen/Princess display for attendees
 - iv. Submit a Queen's message 30 days prior to Convention. This will be published in the Honor Roll.
- g. MQHA Easter Eggstravaganza (following year)
 - i. Help coordinate the MQHA Queen contest with Queen committee
 - ii. Crown the next year's Queen

9. Optional Events:

- a. Present awards during the leadline classes at all the MQHA shows (if possible) during reign. The leadliners enjoy interacting with the Queen!
- b. MQHA Tack Sale (if available)
 - i. Interact with attendees
 - ii. Set up Queen display for attendees
- c. The Queen will also be encouraged to attend additional events that are approved by the Queen committee and will work within the Queen's availability. These include but are not limited to: remaining MQHA shows, local fairs, open horse shows, etc.

10. Queen will be responsible for thanking sponsors.

11. If Queen is actively showing a horse on the MQHA circuit, the committee will, on a case-by-case basis, take into consideration the showing commitments and Queen duties and adjust appropriately.

12. The Queen must not post any improper posts on social media during or prior to her reign. Social media posts should always reflect good judgement, values and professionalism. They should also always reflect MQHA positively. Any disagreements with MQHA should be dealt with through the Committee or the MQHA Board of Directors.

13. The Queen must not drink, smoke, or vape when representing MQHA in any capacity.