



PO BOX 464 ~ 74473 Hwy 74 LENA ~ Heppner, OR 97836

Phone - (541) 676-9474 or 541-379-2998

Thank you for your interest in applying for the 2025 Morrow County Fair and Rodeo Queen. The Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Boards have placed a significant emphasis on this individual and their role as a public leader for the County in the coming year.

The selected queen applicants are expected to prepare and present a 3-minute speech for an interview panel, describing their interest in serving as a member of the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo Court and to convey why they would be the best person to represent the County. The applicant will also answer some impromptu questions from the interview panel after the speech. Some equine experience is necessary to apply. After the interview, the contestants will be asked to ride a selected pattern, carry a flag and perform one run in. Samples of possible patterns will be available. Then, the applicants will show a dismount, answer some equine related questions from the panel, then return to the trailer to unbridle and unsaddle.

Applicants from Morrow County or closely adjacent Counties are encouraged to apply. Applicants must be between the ages of 14 and 19 at the time of application submittal.

Morrow County Fair Court members have a unique opportunity to represent Morrow County and the fair and rodeo not only during fair week in August, but at parades, luncheons, meetings and many other functions throughout Eastern Oregon in 2025.

Attached you will find a copy of the 2025 Fair Court Expectations & Guidelines Agreement and Fair Court Application. **All applications must be post marked to the Morrow County Fair Office, no later than Monday December 31st, 2024 or delivered to the office by January 6th 2025.**

We look forward to receiving your completed application, letters of reference, photograph and signed agreement. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Morrow County Fair office at (541) 676-9474 or the cell phone at 541-379-2998.

Sincerely,

Sue Gibbs (Fair Manager)

mcfair@morrowcountyor.gov

MORROW COUNTY FAIR

2025 Morrow County Queen Expectations & Guidelines Agreement

Introduction:

The Morrow County Queen becomes an ambassador of the highest ideals for the people of Morrow County. The expectations and guidelines listed below have been developed to create a fulfilling experience for the reigning queen. The schedule will be organized by the Morrow County Fair queen director (along with an advisory committee) and the legal guardian of the queen will be the Chaperone. They will answer directly to the Morrow County Fair queen director. This individual will work with this advisory board comprised of the Morrow County Fair Board as well as the Morrow County Rodeo Board. The queen will report directly to their chaperone and the Morrow County Queen Director. The queen will always have access to the fair and rodeo offices and both Fair and Rodeo Boards.

Expectations and Guidelines:

Along with the honor of being selected as Morrow County Fair royalty, there are certain guidelines that must be followed in order to fulfill the Fair Court commitment.

- The Fair Court program is open to young people who live in or reside closely adjacent to Morrow County and are between the ages of 14 and 19 at the time of application submittal.
- Any commitments or actions such as public appearances, publicity, endorsements, gifts, photographs etc. The queen must have specific approval from the Fair Court Chaperone and Fair Director prior to any participation or acceptance. This includes posting on social media of any kind.

Schedule and Activities:

While serving in official capacity, activities and time will be organized by the Fair Court Chaperone and the Court Director. The queen and their family members are expected to cooperate with fair management, staff and volunteers, members of the public, coordinators, event hosts and Chaperones. All official Court appearances and activities will be supervised by the Fair Board appointed Chaperone(s).

Activities will begin at the Town & Country Dinner in Heppner on February 6, 2025 and end at the coronation of the following court in February 2026. Activities include contact with local schools, parades, luncheons, meetings, County appearances, Chamber of Commerce events, radio shows, community holiday events, rodeos and multiple Morrow County Fair functions. All efforts are made to schedule events on weekends but occasional evening and weekday obligations occur. All schedules are subject to change but notice will be given as far in advance as possible. All efforts will be made to work around school hours.

The queen must be available to serve as the official host of the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo August 13th-17th, 2025. The queen is required to be present at the fair for all five days and can expect to spend at least 12 hours each day in official capacity. At the conclusion of official events or appearances, the queen will only be released to legal guardians unless prior arrangements have been made between parents and the Fair Court Director.

Court duties must be a priority for the duration of the court member's reign and families are asked to please consider scheduling vacations, etc. around the Court schedule. Chaperones need to ensure that court members competing in 4H/FFA, sports, horse shows, jobs, or other athletic events during their reign, make their Fair Court related activities a priority. Communication between the Court Director, the queen and Chaperone(s) is imperative. The Fair Court Chaperone(s), and the Director will make scheduling arrangements for the queen if she wishes to exhibit during fair. The Chaperone(s), Directors and sub-board committee will provide a schedule of meetings and appearances. Absences must be approved through the Chaperone(s) and Director.

Equine Activities:

Many appearances will be on horseback. The individual should have some horse experience and be able to ride and present their mount at their best during parades, and rodeos. The individual should own or lease a suitable mount (A seasoned, sound quarter horse type) that is not a stallion or mare in late term pregnancy. A chaperone will be available to assist during horse events. A safe trailer and truck should be available to transport the queen and her mount. Horses will wear the assigned bridle and breast collar. The queen's tack will be safe and free from get-down ropes and be kept clean of debris and dirt. A back up horse is highly recommended in case of horse situations that come up that renders the mount unavailable. The mount will be approved by the Court Director and Chaperone. Depending on the experience and ability of the queen on horseback, she also agrees to practice sessions with the Queen

Director or personnel from either board. A Queen Court camp will be available and highly recommended in Madras with the Chaperone on April 11th-13th. The tuition cost will be paid for by Morrow County Fair.

Attire and Appearance:

The queen will arrive at least 30 minutes ahead of most scheduled event, with hair/makeup/clothes ready. The Morrow County Fair will furnish all of the required clothing for the queen position. The Morrow County Rodeo Board will purchase items to assist with this. The court member will have their clothing cleaned and/or pressed between events. Some type of official attire will be worn at all court appearances and is not permitted to be worn outside of these activities. All attire is assigned and coordinated by the chaperone and Fair Queen Director. Minimal makeup and jewelry may be worn and all court members will have their personal appearance reviewed and approved by the Chaperone(s) before each event. The color coordination must be approved by the Court Director and her advisory committee. The wardrobe and equipment must be kept clean and free from damage during the queen's reign. Wiping down and oiling horse equipment and laundering clothes after each use is recommended. The attire must follow the recommendations of the queen camp held in April. *If a Court member is relieved of their duties or resigns prior to fulfilling the full duration of the commitment, they are required to reimburse the Morrow County Fair for all MCF provided attire and accessories.*

Conduct:

While at the fair or participating in official activities, court **members will not smoke or vape substances of any kind, chew tobacco, take recreational drugs or drink alcoholic beverages.** Cellular phone and use of other **electronic devices will be limited.** Posting to social media must be reviewed first by the court Chaperone and Director. There will be **no public displays of affection. No visible tattoos or excessive visible body piercing or unnatural colored hair dye.** Earrings are permitted. **Courtesy and respect** of volunteers and adults will be expected at all times. It is important to understand that if accepted into the Morrow County Queen position, the individual becomes an ambassador of Morrow County itself, whether on or off "duty" and is expected to **conduct themselves with dignity. Bullying or harassment of any kind from the queen or parents is prohibited** and will be dealt with accordingly. If necessary, the immediate removal of a court member from an event is at the discretion of the Fair Court director or queen Chaperone. Consequences for missing appearances and for misconduct, will be determined by the Chaperone(s), the Queen Director and the advisory board. If unforeseen circumstances come up communication is vital. The removal of a queen from her position, due to misconduct will be decided by the Morrow County Fair Rodeo Boards. **The queen will reply to all communication within 24 hours.** The position requires the individual to **emulate high morals, abide by the laws of the state and county, and she must be an outstanding citizen.** This means the individual will display a high level of morality, integrity, honesty and sincere concern for this highly visible position. The individual will show **high respect to authority** including Court Director, Fair Manager, Chaperones, Board members and volunteers. The queen agrees that **her social media, or any other public profile is subject for review by the Court Director and Chaperone.** Any posting of Court events must go through the Chaperone or director first. If asked to remove a post deemed inappropriate the queen will do this immediately. The queen understands any infraction of these rules by a titleholder may result in the removal or forfeiture of prizes and/or forced resignation upon review of the queen Fair Director, and both Fair and Rodeo Boards. **The goal is to serve Morrow County to the best of her ability in a positive and moral way.**

Costs:

There will be *some* costs associated with the court program. Court members may need to purchase items such as their own makeup, some jewelry and/or accessories, scrapbooks, fuel and dry-cleaning. Extra items can be purchased at the queen's expense. These types of optional items are not budgeted by the county and will be the responsibility of the member herself, keeping in mind that all items must be approved whether they are supplied by the Morrow County Fair, or paid for by the court member. Travel (fuel)/meals will be at member's own expense. Queen fundraising opportunities may cover *some* meal and travel costs. Please see the Fair Queen Director for more details. The Queen's Chaperone(s) will advise the queen in advance as to whether or not a meal will be provided. During fair week, the queen will receive vouchers for meals each day, redeemable at participating Morrow County Fair concessions vendors. The county will seek sponsorship to help promote the program. Sponsorships are asked to not be pursued by the queen, however private fundraising will be considered with board approval.

Application Process:

- 1. Each applicant is required to submit their completed application to the Fair Office by January 6th or post marked by Mon., Dec. 31st 2024 along with this signed agreement.**
2. If selected for an interview, staff will contact applicants to schedule an interview time. Weather and safe road conditions will be taken into consideration(See Court Application for details). Interviews are conducted by a small panel of individuals ranging from Fair Board members, local business owners,

county employees and/or past court program participants. During the interview process, each applicant will be asked to present a **3-minute speech describing themselves and their interest in serving as the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo Queen**. The panel will ask impromptu questions. 3. This will be followed by the equestrian riding portion of the interview. Three different patterns will be available for the applicants to practice before the event, but one will be chosen on the try out day. The last phase of the process will be a dismount, followed by equine questions from the panel and unbridling and saddling at the trailer. All applicants will be notified whether accepted or not, within one week following the tryout date. Any ties will be decided by the judges and decisions are final. Preference will go to Morrow County applicants. A "Helpful Hints" page will be available to practice both questions and riding patterns.

Agreement of Acceptance:

Applicant:

I have read, understand and accept the above stated expectations and guidelines which apply to me if I am selected to serve as Queen of the Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo. I am not engaged, plan to be engaged during my rein. I am not pregnant and understand if this occurs during my reign I forfeit and must repay the money spent on the position to the Morrow County Fair. I have not been convicted of any misdemeanor or major crimes. I am in good health and without any health concerns which would lead to my inability to safely and fully participate in the court activities. This position is required to be treated as a job. I will have sufficient free time for court events, including wardrobe fittings, photo shoots (which are used for media releases), media interviews and local events agreed upon between the Director and her advisory committee, Chaperone and Queen.

Signature of Applicant

PRINT NAME

DATE

Parent/Guardian:

I have read, understand and accept the above stated expectations and guidelines as a parent/guardian of a Morrow County Fair and rodeo Court applicant. I understand the role of the fair court chaperone and that scheduling, supervising and managing the queen program and my child's involvement will be the responsibility of the coordinators listed above.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

PRINT NAME

DATE



2025 MORROW COUNTY FAIR COURT APPLICATION

ELIGIBILITY: Morrow County Resident or closely adjacent to Morrow County. Must be between the ages of 14 and 19 at the time of application submittal.

MAIL or DELIVER APPLICATION TO: Morrow County Fair
74473 HWY 74 LENA.
PO Box464
Heppner, OR 97836
Office: 541-676-9474 or Cell: 541-279-2998

****APPLICATIONS must be post marked by DECEMBER 31st, 2024 or in the fair office by Jan. 6th 2025 ****

APPLICANT NAME: _____

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

(If different from Physical Address)

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

HOME PHONE: _____ **AGE:** _____ **GRADE:** _____ **DATE OF BIRTH:** _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ **CELL PHONE:** _____

ARE YOU CURRENTLY EMPLOYED? _____ **If Yes, WHERE:** _____

PARENTS OR LEGAL (custodial) GUARDIANS:			
<u>Name(s)</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>	<u>Cell or phone</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

PERSONAL REFERENCES:

List TWO Personal References not related to you:

1. Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

2. Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

- **SUBMIT TWO LETTERS OF REFERENCE WITH YOUR APPLICATION.** (Suggested sources for references: teachers, administrators and/or employers.)
- **PLEASE ATTACH YOUR PICTURE WITH THE APPLICATION** no larger than a 5"x 7". These photos are for face recognition purposes but may be posted on the county website. These photos will not be returned.

Did you attend the 2024 Morrow County Fair? Yes No

Have you attended the MCF prior to 2024? Yes No

Describe your past & current involvement with the Morrow County Fair: _____

Awards and achievements (school and non-school related): _____

Describe activities where you have exhibited leadership: _____

Describe your involvement in any community activities: _____

Describe your future goals (college, career, training):

Tell us about your hobbies & activities (sports, clubs, etc...):

In the space below please explain your interest in becoming the queen for the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo and what you believe you can contribute to them while serving as the queen for Morrow County. *(Use an additional sheet of paper if necessary.)*

The goal of the Morrow County Fair Queen program is to form a connection with the public at diverse social and community events.

All applicants will be judged by an interview panel and scored by a point system. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) may be interviewed as part of the process. Parents will be notified if their presence is requested.

****APPLICATIONS MUST BE POST MARKED BY DEC. 31ST OR DELIVERED TO THE FAIR OFFICE BY JAN. 6TH 12:00 NOON. ALONG WITH THE SIGNED 2025 EXPECTATIONS & GUIDELINES AGREEMENT****

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT:

If selected for the interview phase of the application process, applicant will be contacted and assigned an interview time and day. The parent or guardian should attend and be available for questions. After the interview, the riding portion will follow with their horse.

After the interview process, the successful applicants and their parents will be notified within one week and asked to attend The Town & Country in Heppner for their official coronation.

**Morrow County Fair Court
Agreement Statement**

We, _____ and _____
Print - Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Print - Applicant

I Fully understand the commitment required to serve as the 2025 Morrow County Fair and Rodeo Queen and agree to abide by the Expectations & Guidelines. I will participate in the associated activities set forth by the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo boards from February 2025 through February 2026. I also understand the parent or guardian will be the Chaperone for this position and will travel with the queen to each event unless otherwise arranged.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Legal Guardian Signature: _____ Print: _____

Legal guardian's relation to applicant: _____ Date: _____