



The Mr./Ms. South Carolina Leather Contest

2011 Guidebook

2011 Mr./Ms. Contestant Guidebook
Copyright 2010, Revised - June 2011
Revised July 2011

The Mr./Ms. SC Leather Contest

Fee and Application Requirements:

A twenty-five dollar (\$25) non-refundable* Contestant Fee must accompany applications postmarked prior to Friday, August 26, 2011. Contestant applications presented after August 26, 2011 require a thirty-five dollar (\$35) Contestant Fee. In-person applications are to be paid by cash or money order - **no personal checks accepted** after Friday, August 26, 2011. **No credit cards accepted.**

Cutoff for applications is Friday, September 2, 2011. Any exceptions are on a one to one basis and arrangements made and approved by The SC Leather Contest board/directors prior to cut off date.

Contestants must be at least 21 years old, with current state of SC driver's license or ID. In order to verify your eligibility to compete, please attach a copy of your legal ID (driver's license, state ID, or passport) to The SC Leather Contest Application.

Completed and signed applications, Proof of Age and Residency and checks made payable to: The SC Leather Contest, and mailed to, PO Box 12471, Columbia, SC, 29211.

Personal Information and Photo. Upon acceptance, all contestants will be sent a questionnaire, which will be used to develop write-ups for the program provided to attendees. A signed model release wavier and a "head and shoulders" photo will also be required for use on; the website, contest promotion and/or the program.

* In the event a contestant application is not accepted, any application fees will be reimbursed, by check, from The SC Leather Contest after September 11, 2011.

If you have any questions about any rules or requirements, The SC Leather Contest, contact information can be found on the back of this guidebook.

The Mr. SC Leather Title - Requirements

Contestant Requirements:

1. One title shall be awarded, "Mr. South Carolina Leather" or "Ms. South Carolina Leather".
2. All Mr. contestants shall compete for the title of "Mr. South Carolina Leather".
3. Contestant must identify as, and legally be a male, for the "Mr." title, and may be of any sexual orientation. As long as I own this contest, I will follow original concepts of the title, male is male.
4. Contestants must appear on stage in appropriate Leather and/or fetish gear, while conforming to local laws pertaining to nudity and obscenity. No full nudity, or genitals (Vagina, Nipple, Areola, Penis, Scrotum, Anus) showing. (SC Title 16, Chapter 15, Article 3. See below.)

The Ms. SC Leather Title - Requirements

Contestant Requirements:

1. One title shall be awarded, "Mr. South Carolina Leather" or "Ms. South Carolina Leather".
 2. All Ms. contestants shall compete for the title of "Ms. South Carolina Leather".
 3. Contestant must identify as, and legally be a female, for the "Ms." Title, and may be of any sexual orientation.
 4. Contestants must appear on stage in appropriate Leather and/or fetish gear, while conforming to local laws pertaining to nudity and obscenity. No full nudity, or genitals (Vagina, Nipple, Areola, Penis, Scrotum, Anus) showing. (SC Title 16, Chapter 15, Article 3. See below.)
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South Carolina Laws

SC Title 16, Chapter 15, Article 3. Offenses Against Morality, and Decency, Section 16-15-365.

Exposure of private parts in lewd and lascivious manner, aiding or procuring person to perform such act, or permitting use of premises for such act prohibited; penalties. Any person who willfully and knowingly exposes the private parts of his person in a lewd and lascivious manner and in the presence of any other person, or aids or abets any such act, or who procures another to perform such act, or any person, who as owner, manager, lessee, director, promoter, or agent, or in any other capacity knowingly hires, leases, or permits the land, building, or premises of which he is owner, lessee, or tenant, or over which he has control, to be used for purposes of any such act, is guilty of a misdemeanor Section 16-15-375, subsection (6) "Sexually explicit nudity" means the showing of: (a) uncovered, or less than opaquely covered human genitals, pubic area, or buttocks, or the nipple or any portion of the areola of the human female breast; or (b) covered human male genitals in a discernibly turgid state.

The Mr./Ms. SC Leather - Contestant Qualifications

1. Contestants must be at least 21 years old.
2. Contestants must reside in SC, for a minimum of 6 (six) months prior to The SC Leather Contest event (March 10, 2011) and continue to do so during the title year, (Sep 10, 2011 - Sep 9, 2012), if they should win. If personal/family responsibilities require Mr./Ms. SCL to relocate outside of the SC state lines, the producers and contestant will discuss the Mr./Ms. SCL's ability to fulfill their remaining title responsibilities.
3. Contestants must plan to stay over-night, locally, a minimum of Saturday night, at their own expense. Photo shoot for winner, 1st, & 2nd runner-ups will take place Sunday morning.
4. Contestants must not have any current, and must remain free of, warrants of felony convictions and/or unresolved charges at time of application and throughout their title year. Legal matters that may reflect badly on the SC Leather/BDSM community and/or any contestants, titleholders, sponsors, vendors, as well as the board of directors, staff, and volunteers of any of The SC Leather Contest titles will be subject to disqualification from contest and/or a possible removal of the awarded title.
5. Contestants will agree to and sign a model release wavier before being qualified for The SC Leather Contest title. Receipt of the contestant's completed wavier entitles The SC Leather Contest rights to the use of all photographs, images, and other recorded measures acquired during the titleholder's title year, for documentation, archive and promotion, including but not limited to print media and website use.
6. Contestants agree to release The SC Leather Contest, its contestants, titleholders, sponsors, vendors, as well as the board of directors, staff, and volunteers from any personal injuries, economic loss, personal loss, or any liability. Contestants agree to pay all court costs in any litigation that may arise from any legal action taken by the contestant against the aforementioned.
7. Contestants must demonstrate an active interest and participation in Leather/BDSM and South Carolina's Leather/BDSM community, fetishes and/or Master/slave dynamics, as determined by the judges.
8. Contestants are expected to conduct themselves in a way to bring credit to themselves, The SC Leather Contest, their sponsor(s) and any club, groups or organizations involved. It will be to the contestant's advantage to spend time with attendees and other contestants.
9. A contestant's use of illegal drugs or excess consumption of alcohol (judges or board discretion) during the contest will result in disqualification. Any alcohol consumption should be in moderation. Contestant should be aware that they are being observed at all times before the contest decision is made, and their conduct may reflect in the judge's decision.
10. Contestants must provide their Leather/fetish wear, (a minimum of boots and a vest must be owned by the contestant). Other Leather formalwear (image) and fetish wear may be owned or borrowed. Props and aids may be borrowed.
11. Any music and/or audio to be used for a contestant's presentation must be submitted, on two, (2) CDs. CDs shall be marked clearly and submitted with any notes of position on CD and any special instructions. Contestants will submit CDs no less than (2) hours before the event.

The Mr./Ms. SC Leather - Expectations

1. Over the contest judging periods, contestants will be required to give a brief introduction that will share with the judges their abilities and passions for the Leather, BDSM and/or Fetish lifestyles. Other portions being judged on are in the forms of their "Leather Image", "Public Speaking" and "Fantasy/Leather Scene" segments. Judges will also be able to question contestants about personal history, experience, social affiliations, and other topics related to BDSM/Leather aspects. Contestants are expected to present in a Leather Formal Wear style during portions of the Mr./Ms. SC Leather Title Contest.
2. Contestants will be observed, by the judges throughout The SC Leather Contest duration for social interaction with attendees of the event, as well as how they handle themselves, handle public situations, and their behavior. Contestants will be judged on how they conduct themselves and present themselves as a potential Mr./Ms. titleholder, representing The SCLC. This observation time begins at the start time of The SC Leather Contest Event, and continues until the winner is announced.
3. In the event that the winner resigns, has their title removed, or for any other reason, as determined by The SC Leather Contest board, is not able to fulfill or carry out their term as titleholder, the first runner-up at the preliminary level agrees to assume the Mr./Ms. SC Leather title, privileges, and responsibilities of the winner. Similarly, the second runner-up agrees to do the same should the winner and first runner-up be determined ineligible to hold the title during the official title year term.
4. You are welcome to participate in any social/cocktail parties throughout the event if you desire.
5. Unacceptable behavior during the Contest, as well as during the title year may result in disqualification and/or removal of their title. Such behavior may include but is not limited to, substance abuse, public intoxicated and other conduct unbecoming a titleholder. Sexual favors are NEVER required of any contestants. The other judges and/or the contest board will make this decision. Once made, this decision is final.
6. Contestants must refrain from inappropriate fraternization with judging personnel during the contest and until the announcement of the winner. Contestants are expected to conduct themselves throughout the weekend with honor, integrity, and collegiality. Cheating of any kind, disrespecting The SC Leather Contest staff, and judges, during the weekend will be grounds for disqualification. Contestants must remain above reproach at all times.
7. Contestants must attend all mandatory meetings the day of contest to receive their contestant numbers and review the contest details and for any judges meetings requiring contestant's presence.
8. Photo Shoot. Each contestant will have a short photo shoot with The SCLC official photographer. Photos will be used for publicity at future events and functions of The SCLC.
9. Winners must agree to represent The SC Leather Contest and/or whatever title that is won by performing outreach in at least 4 (four) lifestyle groups/clubs within SC, including at least one outreach for the pansexual Leather/BDSM groups and one outreach for the gay Leather/BDSM groups.

The Mr./Ms. SC Leather - Judging Categories and Scoring:

A minimum of Seventy, (70) points must be attained to qualify for the title of "SC Leather Bootblack".

Please note that the title will not be awarded if none of the contestants meets the minimal levels, as determined by the members of The SC Leather Contest judges and producers. The decisions of The SC Leather Contest judges are FINAL.

Beginning with the Individual Interviews Saturday morning and ending with the evening portion(s) on Saturday night, the judges will be "observing" all of the contestants.

For "Individual Interview" with judges, consider appropriate non-formal, Levi, Leather, and/or fetish clothing.

"Leather Image", Public Speaking/Introduction" and "Formal Attire/on-Stage Interview", you should wear your best Leather apparel.

For the "Fantasy/Leather Scene Presentations" and attire should be appropriate for the contestant's scene.

20% = Individual Interview (In-Private, Questions from the judges)

This is an individual contestant's interview and questions from the judging panel. Contestants will be prepared to give a brief summary (5 minute max), to the judges about what they bring to the community through their Leather lifestyle. Each contestant will then have a 10-minute (Max.) interview with the panel of judges concerning, but not limited to, technique, skill, knowledge, history (both skill and personal. Contestants are expected to, NOT discuss these interviews with anyone until after The SC Leather Contest winner is announced.

20% = Public Speaking/Introduction. (Held during the "Meet the Contestants" social, this is a formal attire event for contestants.)

Contestants will have 3-5 minutes each, to introduce themselves to the audience. During the "on-stage" portion, contestants may talk about themselves and the club, organization, or business sponsor they represent. Contestant's attitude, viewpoint, and character will also be principal in the judges' decisions.

20% = Leather Image (Appearance in Leathers). (During the "Meet the Contestants" social, this is a formal attire event for contestants.)

The judging panel will be observing the contestants attire, conduct, and social interaction with contest attendees. Leather folk need not have any on in order to be recognized. The judges' focus will be on the contestants' presence and personal presentation.

10% = Question from the judges. (Held during evening contest portion.)

Questions will be randomly drawn. Contestants will have 3 minutes to answer. Contestants will be judged on how quick they think and the audience appreciation of their reply, as seen by the judges.

20% = Fantasy/Leather Scene (Brief fantasy performance and audience interaction) (Held during the evening contest portions.)

Line up placement for the Fantasy/Leather Scene competition will be drawn at random. Individual rehearsal time will also be assigned.

An entertaining and erotic part of the Contest is the contestants Fantasy/Leather Scene. General guidelines for the Leather Scenes are:

- 2 additional participants, (max), are allowed but they must purchase the attendee package and accommodations.
- A detailed description of your scene shall be submitted to the Contest Committee no later than September 4, 2011. The description should include music to be used and any lighting requirements, equipment you plan to use and the names of individuals participating with you. The Committee will either approve your scene or ask you to revise it. If you have questions regarding acceptable activities, contact The SC Leather Contest Board/Director.
- Time allotments; Set-Up 2 minutes max. Fantasy/Leather Scenes, 7 max. Clean up, 2 minutes max.

Contestants are responsible for the removal of any props and any clean up of the stage. Contestants judged on how they perform their Fantasy/Leather Scene, making it interesting, entertaining, sexy, intriguing, and different.

10% = Contestant Baskets.

Contestants are required to bring a basket, to be raffled off, that reflects what is important to them, their group, personality, hometown, sponsors, and/or a theme of the competitor's choosing. The proceeds will aid in the cost of The SC Leather Contest Title's travel fund. Basket raffle, ticket sales by the contestants will be part of the judging contest and promoted all during the event, until a designated cut-off time to be determined and announced the day of the contest. Many of your local businesses, groups, individuals, and organizations will be very willing to donate for a contestant's basket. Baskets must be completed and received by The SC Leather Contest organizers, prior to the day of the contest.

Note: If you do not have means to do this, please let us know, and we will find resources for you.

Points awarded for Basket Raffle sales are by totals. Example: Contestant with the highest ticket sales is awarded 10 points, second (2nd) highest sales is awarded 9 points, 3rd highest sales is awarded 8 points, etc. In the event of any ties:

Example 1: Highest sales awarded 10 points, 2-way tie for second (2nd) highest sales are both awarded 9 points, 3rd highest is awarded 7 points, etc.

Example 2: 3-way tie for second (2nd) highest sales are each awarded 8 points and 3rd highest is awarded 7 points, etc.)

Single Contestants

In the event that any of The SC Leather Contest title competitions are limited to a single contestant, that contestant must score a minimum of 70% of the total possible points (70 out of 100). The producers reserve the right to deviate from this procedure if they feel the circumstances warrant further consideration.

Tie Breaker

In the event of a tie for any final placement will be the Individual Interview points will determine the higher ranking. Other categories follow in the following order: Leather Image, Public Speaking/Introduction, Fantasy/Leather Scene, Question from the Judges, Basket Raffle Ticket Sales.

The Mr./Ms. SC Leather - Recognition and Awards

The Winner(s) will receive a sash, a medallion, a trophy, and an additional photo shoot.

The winner of The Mr./Ms. SC Leather Title will receive a sash from The SC Leather Contest. This sash will be returned at the end of their reign to The SC Leather Contest to be given to the winner(s) of the next year's Contest.

The winner of The Mr./Ms. SC Leather Title will get a patch for their Leathers from The SC Leather Contest. This patch, indicating they won one of The SC Leather Contest titles, is theirs to keep and wear during and after their title year at events they attend to fulfill their reign's requirements.

Mr./Ms. SC Leather will also receive a medallion, a trophy and an additional photo shoot on Sunday morning, while displaying the new Mr./Ms. SC Leather sash have their picture taken and be documented towards preserving the history of The SC Leather Contest.

A minimum of \$100, raised through Baskets raffle ticket sales, will be given to the winner, by The SCLC to go towards travel expenses. 50% at the 2011 contest weekend, and 50% 6 months from the 2011 contest date.

Basket funds are not intended to provide for all the costs incurred by traveling to the required events during the reign. Portions of travel costs not covered by this travel fund will be the responsibility of the titleholder. The first and second runners-up will receive trophies and medallions. All contestants who complete the entire list of scheduled events will be awarded a medallion and a special "thank you" gift bag.

The Mr./Ms. SC Leather Contest - Winning The Title

Titleholders shall promote The SC Leather Contest event, websites and its sponsors, as well as its board of directors, staff, and volunteers in a positive manner, such as; in person at events when representing The SC Leather Contest. Mention of The SC Leather Contest in; print media indicating a titleholders' title; and as links in personal website noting their title, during their title year.

Titleholders shall be aware at all times, that they are seen, publically, as not only representing The SC Leather Contest, its sponsors, as well as the board of directors, staff, and volunteers, but as representatives of the greater SC Leather/BDSM community as well.

Sponsors of The SC Leather Contest 2011, MAY request 2011 titleholder(s) to attend annual events or functions, but sponsors or clubs will be responsible to supply accommodations, and furnish a complimentary event package to the titleholder. Within reason, The SC Leather Contest 2011, titleholder(s) will attempt to accommodate these requests and serve as an ambassador for The SC Leather Contest to the best of their ability.

The SC Leather Contest 2011, titleholders will be expected to attend and host The SC Leather Contest 2012 "Meet the Contestants" social at The SC Leather Contest, 2012.

Titleholders will communicate with a designated SC Contest Staff in order to verify that requirements are being met within the title year.

Titleholders are reminded they signed a release and will have their picture taken and be documented towards preserving the history of The SC Leather Contest. Completed waiver entitles The SC Leather Contest rights to the use of photographs, images, and other recorded measures, during the titleholder's title year, for documentation and promotion, including but not limited to print media and website use.

Winners of any of The SC Leather Contest titles agree to attend the following contest year to hand over their title and sash to the newest winner/titleholder(s).

Winners must agree to represent The SC Leather Contest and/or whatever title that is won by performing outreach in at least 4 (four) lifestyle groups/clubs within SC. These representations must be done in person. This can be done in the form of presentations, demos, helping a group's events, any presence in a group's functions.

As an added requirement for fulfilling the number of Leather/BDSM events or functions designated, contest winners need to have at least one outreach for the pansexual Leather/BDSM groups and one outreach for the gay Leather/BDSM groups.

Titleholders must remain free of any warrants of felony convictions and/or unresolved charges throughout their title year. Legal matters that may reflect badly on the SC Leather/BDSM community and/or any contestants, titleholders, sponsors, vendors, as well as the board of directors, staff, and volunteers of any of The SC Leather Contest titles will be subject to disqualification from contest and/or a possible removal of the awarded title.

**The South Carolina Leather Contest, Inc.
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