

# **Miss Georgia**

***Pageant Corporation***

## **LOCAL PAGEANT JUDGING ELIGIBILITY RULES** **PAGEANT YEAR JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2016**

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS:**

- A. Minimum Requirements for All Miss Georgia Local Pageant Judges Panels.**
- B. Restrictions on Who May Judge Miss Georgia Local Pageants:**
  - 1. Judging a Contestant More than Once.
  - 2. Individuals Who May Not Judge Local Competitions in Georgia.
  - 3. Limitations on Former Contestants and Potential Contestants.
  - 4. Limitations on Immediate Family of Current Contestants, Former Contestants and Potential Contestants.
  - 5. Limitations on Local Organization Board Members, and their Immediate Family, serving as Judges in Georgia.
  - 6. Other Restrictions on Miss Georgia Local Pageant Judges.
- C. Judges Affidavit.**

This entire document must be furnished to all prospective Local Pageant Judges prior to the date of the Local Pageant. All Local Pageant Organizations and Local Pageant Judges must comply with the rules and requirements stated in this document.

# **Miss Georgia**

## ***Pageant Corporation***

### **LOCAL PAGEANT JUDGING ELIGIBILITY RULES** **PAGEANT YEAR JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2016**

#### **A. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL LOCAL PAGEANTS**

##### **Every Miss Georgia Local Pageant Judges Panel Must Include:**

1. Five (5) to seven (7) Judges.
2. At least one “Novice” Judge. More than one Novice Judge is permitted. “Novice” is defined as someone who has never judged a local or state pageant in the Miss division of the Miss America system.  
  
*- Example: A person who has previously judged an MAO-affiliated Outstanding Teen competition, but not a Miss level competition, is deemed a Novice Judge.*
3. At least 3 “MAO Affiliated” Judges (any of whom may also be the Novice Judge). An “MAO Affiliated” Judge must have at least one of the following credentials, as of any date within 6 months prior to the Local Pageant date:
  - Included on the Miss Georgia Accredited Judges List; or
  - Included on another State’s Accredited Judges List; or
  - Serves on either a Local Pageant or State Pageant’s Board of Directors in another State; or
  - A former “Miss Local,” “Miss State” or “Miss America” titleholder in the Miss America system, who is now eligible to judge.
4. Additional Requirement for Statewide Open Local Pageants:  
3 judges must be EITHER:
  - A Novice Accredited Judge, either from Georgia or any other state; or
  - A resident of any state other than Georgia.
5. No later than 30 days prior to the Local Pageant’s crowning date, every Local Pageant organization must submit a list of at least 7 potential Judges to their Field Director, for approval by the Miss Georgia Organization.

**When submitting a list of potential Judges for approval, the Local Pageant organization must identify which potential Judges satisfy the criteria stated in items 2, 3 and 4 above. No Local Pageant Judges Panel will be approved unless all these criteria are satisfied.**

## **B. RESTRICTIONS ON WHO MAY JUDGE LOCAL PAGEANTS**

### **1. Judging a Contestant More than Once:**

At the Local Pageant level, but not the State Pageant level, a person may judge a contestant whom they have previously judged. However, they must do so with absolute objectivity and without bias. It is important that Local Organizations, to the best of their ability, limit the number of judges who have previously judged the contestants competing.

### **2. individuals Who May Not judge Local Competitions in Georgia:**

(a) Individuals who financially benefit from working with Contestants may not judge in the Miss America system. Examples include (without limitation):

- Pageant Coach
- Interview Coach
- Contestant Hairdresser or Make-Up Artist
- Pageant Wardrobe Retailer
- Contestant Fitness Trainer

This rule applies beyond the individual's business territory. A person who charges any contestant may not judge any contestants, anywhere, under any circumstances.

Per MAO rules, this also prohibits from serving as a Judge: such person's spouse, domestic partner and Immediate Family. "Immediate Family" is defined as children, grandchildren, siblings, nieces and nephews, whether by natural relation, marriage or adoption.

(b) Sponsors and donors, including their employees and Immediate Family, may not judge the Local Organization that they support.

(c) Individuals who have business or social connections to a contestant or her Immediate Family may not judge that contestant.

(d) Field Directors may not judge Local Competitions in Georgia, except in cases of emergency and with the express prior consent of the Miss Georgia Organization.

(e) Miss Georgia Board Members may not judge Local Competitions in Georgia.

### **3. Limitations on Former Contestants and Potential Contestants:**

(a) A former Teen or Miss contestant in the Miss America system, who competed in any state, regardless whether she ever won a local or state title, may not judge in the Teen or Miss division in Georgia until 3 years after the date she became ineligible to compete in the Miss division, by having either:

- aged out of Miss level competition
- gotten married, or
- won a Miss State title in the Miss division.

(b) A former Teen or Miss contestant may never judge anyone against whom she previously competed (on any level), even more than three years after the judge stopped competing.

(c) A former Miss or Teen Titleholder may never judge a former sister Titleholder (e.g., a former “Miss Local A” titleholder may not judge the holder of the “Miss Local A’s Outstanding Teen” title from the same pageant year) regardless how many years have passed.

(d) Females who are 24 and under who have never competed in the Miss America System, but who meet eligibility guidelines to compete in any state (“Potential Contestants”), may not judge on either the Miss or Teen level in Georgia.

### **4. Limitations on Immediate Family of Current Contestants, Former Contestants and Potential Contestants:**

(a) Immediate Family of a reigning Miss or Teen Local or State Titleholder from any state may not judge in any state. For purposes of this limitation, “Immediate Family” is defined as parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts and uncles (by natural relation, marriage or adoption).

(b) Immediate Family of a current or former contestant in either the Miss or Teen Division in Georgia (regardless of whether she has ever won a local or state title) may not judge in Georgia until 3 years after the former contestant has become ineligible to compete in the Miss division, by having either:

- aged out of Miss level competition
- gotten married, or
- won any state title in the Miss division.

For purposes of this limitation, “Immediate Family” is defined as parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts and uncles (by natural relation, marriage or adoption).

(c) Note: This provision applies to a narrower scope of family members:

Parents, stepparents and siblings of a female who is eligible to compete in Georgia - in either the Teen or Miss Division - but who has never competed on either the local or state level (an “Eligible Potential Contestant”), may not judge in Georgia until after the Eligible Potential Contestant has become ineligible to compete in the Miss division, by having either:

- aged out of Miss level competition; or
- gotten married.

## **5. Limitations on Local Organization Board Members, and their Immediate Family, serving as Judges in Georgia:**

(a) No member of the “Miss Local A” board or committees may judge a former holder of the “Miss Local A” or “Miss Local A’s Outstanding Teen” title. This rule extends to a person who formerly served on the “Miss Local A” board or committees at the time a current contestant held the “Miss Local A” or Outstanding Teen title.

(b) Board or committee members affiliated with “Local Organization A” may not judge the same local pageant (“Miss Local B”) more frequently than every four (4) years.

(c) Immediate Family of a “Local Organization A” board or committee member may not judge the “Miss Local A” pageant. “Immediate Family” is defined as children, grandchildren, siblings, nieces and nephews, whether by natural relation, marriage or adoption.

## **6. Other Restrictions on Miss Georgia Local Pageant Judges:**

(a) Related or Closely-Affiliated individuals may not serve together on a judges’ panel. Examples include, without limitation:

- Couples;
- Immediate Family members;
- Roommates;
- Co-Workers; or
- Members of the same Local Organization board or committees.

(b) Nobody may judge the same Local Competition more frequently than every four (4) years.

(c) No person may select more than two (2) Local Titleholders in Georgia, or more than four (4) Local Titleholders nationwide, in the same pageant year (July 1 – June 30). If two crowns are awarded at one pageant event (a stacked or dual pageant), that shall count as two Local Titleholders for purposes of this rule. The sole exception to this rule will be in the event a “triple crown” pageant is held.

(d) While it is not a violation of the rules to use a person from another pageant system, we request that discretion be used and our judging process is not used in any way to promote another pageant system.

*It is the responsibility of each Miss Georgia Local Organization and each prospective Judge to review and adhere to the above guidelines. Any Judge who is found to be in violation of any of the above guidelines will be prohibited from judging at any level of the Miss America Organization’s Competition System.*

*The Miss Georgia Organization reserves the right to revise or supplement these rules and guidelines at any time. The Miss Georgia Organization also reserves the right and sole discretion to approve or deny any proposed Local Pageant Judge for any reason it deems appropriate, including, but not limited to, a reported violation of any Miss America / Miss Georgia Organization judging rules or guidelines.*

# Miss Georgia

## Pageant Corporation

### JUDGES AFFIDAVIT FOR LOCAL COMPETITIONS

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Title/Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- .....
1. I have received and read the Miss Georgia Judges Eligibility Rules and confirm that I meet the eligibility to participate as a judge in Georgia.
  2. I agree to serve as an unpaid Volunteer Judge in the finals of the Miss \_\_\_\_\_ Pageant, to be held on \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, Georgia.
  3. I affirm that I, my company/business, spouse, domestic partner or significant other, have not and will not provide for profit or otherwise (compensated or uncompensated) any product or service directly or indirectly to any potential or actual contestant in any Miss America competitions other than in the normal routine duties as an official of the pageant organization.
  4. I also attest that, during this pageant year, including this competition, I have not judged more than four (4) Local Competitions nationwide; no more than (2) Local Pageants in Georgia; and no more than two (2) State Competitions. (Double or Dual Pageants count as two competitions in the same year. Holdovers count for the next competition year.)
  5. I acknowledge that I have been provided with and understand the judging criteria and methods of scoring for the competition. I will, to the best of my ability, objectively apply the judging criteria. In performing my duties as a judge, I will not permit geography, race, religion, age, type of talent, or choice of platform of a contestant to interfere with my objective application of the judging and scoring criteria.
  6. I understand that I have been/will be provided with information about each participant in the competition that I will judge and score. I will review the information and disclose any Conflicts of Interest, which may or will likely not permit me to objectively judge any participant.
  7. "Conflicts of Interest" for this purpose shall include: any facts or circumstances which would from the common sense standpoint of a member of the general public be perceived as compromising the ability of a judge to objectively perform his or her duties; and specifically, any relationship or interest of a judge, the employer, the business or the family of a judge, with a participant in the competition, the family of a participant, or the local or state organization from which the participant in the competition has been a part.

8. I understand that only at the local pageant level may I judge a contestant whom I may have previously judged. I will disclose the contestants whom I knowingly judged previously on point number twelve of this affidavit and promise to judge this local pageant and all contestants with absolute objectivity and without bias.

9. I will perform my duties in a dignified and professional manner that is appropriate and sensitive to the feelings and impressions of the women who are participating and I will maintain an environment to the end that each and every contestant receives a fair, objective and unbiased opportunity to compete.

10. I will maintain the confidentiality of the information entrusted or known by me by virtue of my position as a judge regardless of the source of the information (i.e. contestants, pageant personnel or any other person). I will not allow, under any circumstances, any person to exert or try to exert any influence upon me in my capacity as a judge. If anyone should attempt to influence me, then I, as part of my fiduciary responsibility, agree to immediately disclose such attempted influence to the Field Operations office of the Miss America Organization (1-800-282-6477) as soon as it is practical.

11. (If applicable) In the interests of maintaining the actual and perceived objective integrity of the judging and scoring system, listed below (or attached) are, to the best of my knowledge, any facts of circumstances which may constitute a Conflict of Interest or may be perceived as a Conflict of Interest. I request a prompt review of these disclosures to advise me if they may be perceived as Conflicts of Interest.

12. Disclosure: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If I am found to be in violation of any portion of this affidavit, I understand and agree that I will be prohibited from judging at any level of the Miss America Organization's Competition System.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_