

Bluegrass Leather Pride



Contest Handbook 2019

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Pup and Trainer Qualifications

The foremost duty of the winners is to promote the goals of the Bluegrass Leather Pride Pup and Trainer title in a positive light throughout the year. It is expected that they will conduct themselves as positive role models.

The winners may not compete in any other "leather" or "fantasy" contests during their BLP title year, outside of the Great Lakes Puppy and Trainer Contest.

The winners are required to attend next year's BLPT to give a step aside speech and are required to compete at Great Lakes Puppy and Trainer Contest.

In addition, the winners are required to hold 2 fundraising events, over the course of their title year branded as Bluegrass Leather Pride events. These events can benefit the contestant's travel fund or another cause. These events may also be coproduced with other members of the BLP Title Family. To be eligible to receive the contestant's travel fund at least one of these events must take place before Great Lakes Puppy and Trainer Contest.

The winners are encouraged to attend as many other major leather events and contests as they may see fit.

Respectful and honest communication between title holder and producers is expected.

Title holders and producers are not to misrepresent themselves or their accomplishments. Honesty and integrity are tenants of the leather community and should be priority all times.

Conflicts are to be resolved in private, not on social media. There will be no misrepresentation of the title, title holder, or the producers.

Creating a separate social media site for our title is recommended.

Title holder should be cognizant that as they're using social media, they're representing their title and producers. If there are posts that misrepresent the title, title holder, or the producers, the producers have the right to request removal of the post.

Travel funds will be comprised of all moneys made from auctioning of the contestant's baskets, respectively. Also, from money's raised from raffle ticket sales from the meet and greet, divided evenly over all BLP title holders.

It is the title holder's responsibility to use their funds wisely. Once it's gone, there will be no further funding from the BLP organizers/producers/owners.

The producers agree to support and help the title holder in scheduling and producing fund raising events. They should not, however, be expected to do all the work. They will assist as much as reasonably possible but as the titleholder is doing the event, they should be doing the work.

If the title holder fails to meet any of these expectations, actions up to and including (but not limited to) probation or revocation of title may be taken. Any probationary period will be determined by the producers as will the terms of the probation.

The producers reserve the right to revoke any title, at any time, for any reason.

Pup and Trainer Scoring Guidelines

The scoring is based on a 500-point system. Each contestant is judged individually and not as a pair. For all contestants competing as puppies, the best score out of 500 will be the winner of Bluegrass Leather Pride Puppy. For all contestants competing as Trainers, the best score out of 500 will be declared the winner of Bluegrass Leather Pride Trainer. In the event that no contestant scores 70% of points or more, there will not be a winner for that title. In case of a tie, it will be the decision of the head judge to determine the winner. An Olympic style scoring system in which the high and low scores for each category are thrown out will be used. The categories are as follows:

Interview: (200 points available)

Each contestant will participate in an approximately 20-minute interview. Numbers will be drawn to establish the order of interviews. The head judge will establish the order of questions and will moderate the session. Each judge should be allowed to ask whatever types of questions they deem necessary to learn what they need to know about each contestant. Based on the number of contestants to interview, and the time allowed, the head judge will set limits on how many questions the judging panel will ask. Contestants should make an effort to meet each judge before the interview portion of the contest.

Speech/Formal Wear: (150 points available)

The contestants will prepare and deliver a speech. The speech can be of any topic the contestant wishes but must be recited from memory and not read. The judges will be awarding points on both speech content as well as comfort of speech delivery. The speech should be no longer than 2 minutes. Each speech will be timed, and the judges will be informed of the timing recorded after each speech. Points will be deducted for speeches under as well as over time. Judges will also evaluate the contestant's formal attire, as defined by the contestant.

Lifestyle Image: (75 points available)

Judges will observe all contestants during the course of the event weekend. Judging officially begins once contestants arrive on the property, Friday. From their observations, judges will award Lifestyle Image points based on their opinions of how each contestant behaves and interacts as a puppy or trainer. This will include but will not be limited to both public and mosh pit interactions. The scoring for this segment will conclude at the beginning of the contest proceedings Saturday Night.

Fantasy: (75 points available)

Each contestant will appear onstage while performing a puppy play scene that they have written. The scene can be read by the emcee if requested by the contestant or they can use a sound track. Judging in this category is based on the contestant's creativity and ability to convey their most playful puppy play scene. Contestants may involve additional performers. Props may be used but must be approved by the contest producers for safety and compliance with the law. The pup Scene cannot exceed 5 minutes in length.

Each contestant is expected to assemble a basket to be raffled off at the event. Each contestant will put together a basket for auction that represents their personality. The proceeds from the raffle go into the travel fund for the winners of Bluegrass Leather Pride Puppy and Trainer respectively.

Ms. Leather Pride Qualifications

The Bluegrass Leather Pride, Ms. Leather Pride Contest is open to person regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity (as long as Contestants are comfortable representing the Ms. Title for a year). We also honor other dimensions of diversity such as race, religious/spiritual beliefs and/or political affiliation. The BLP Ms. Leather Pride contest is a competition for a women's title. Each Contestant must self-identify as part of the women's leather community and must be willing to represent the title of BLP Ms. Leather Pride during their title year.

To be eligible to enter the Ms. Leather Pride Contest, a contestant must:

Be at least 21 years of age at the time of the contest and have a valid form of ID.

Have a demonstrated interest in Leather, BDSM or fetishes.

Be a resident of the state of Kentucky, unless the producers of Bluegrass Leather Pride have granted an exception after consultation with the Executive Director of Great Lakes Leather Alliance.

Not hold a current leather, bootblack, rubber, fetish, etc., title.

Agree to appear onstage wearing appropriate attire and perform a five-minute onstage BDSM Fantasy Sex Scene of an explicit nature (while conforming to local regulations, if any, pertaining to nudity and obscenity). Except for clothing and props used in the Fantasy Sex Scene portion of the contest, the contestant must own all clothing worn during the contest.

Agree to represent the title, if they win, throughout their title year and refrain from competing in any other leather, rubber, fetish or bootblack title contest until the conclusion of their title year, with the exception of Great Lakes Leather Alliance. And must agree to return to the Bluegrass Leather Pride event the following year, if they win, to step aside from their title.

Agree to permit onstage photographs to be taken of themselves for the use of the Bluegrass Leather Pride Website.

Bluegrass Leather Pride Title Holders are required to hold 2 fundraising events, over the course of their title year branded as Bluegrass Leather Pride events. These events can benefit the contestant's travel fund or another cause. These events may also be coproduced with other members of the BLP Title Family. To be eligible to receive the contestant's travel fund at least one of these events must take place before the Great Lakes Leather Alliance Contest.

The producers agree to support and help the title holder in scheduling and producing fund raising events. They should not, however, be expected to do all the work. They will assist as much as reasonably possible but as the titleholder is doing the event, they should be doing the work.

Travel funds will be comprised of all moneys made from auctioning of the contestant's baskets, respectively. Also from money's raised from raffle ticket sales from the meet and greet, divided evenly over all BLP title holders.

It is the title holder's responsibility to use their funds wisely. Once it's gone, there will be no further funding from the BLP organizers/producers/owners.

The winners are encouraged to attend as many other major leather events and contests as they may see fit.

Respectful and honest communication between title holder and producers is expected.

Title holders and producers are not to misrepresent themselves or their accomplishments. Honesty and integrity are tenants of the leather community and should be priority all times.

Conflicts are to be resolved in private, not on social media. There will be no misrepresentation of the title, title holder, or the producers.

Creating a separate social media site for our title is recommended.

Title holder should be cognizant that as they're using social media, they're representing their title and producers. If there are posts that misrepresent the title, title holder, or the producers, the producers have the right to request removal of the post.

If the title holder fails to meet any of these expectations, actions up to and including (but not limited to) probation or revocation of title may be taken. Any probationary period will be determined by the producers as will the terms of the probation.

The producers reserve the right to revoke any title, at any time, for any reason.

Ms. Leather Pride Scoring Guidelines

The scoring is based on a 500-point system. In the event that no contestant scores 70% of points or more, there will not be a winner for that title. In case of a tie, it will be the decision of the head judge to determine the winner. An Olympic style scoring system in which the high and low scores for each category are thrown out will be used. The categories are as follows:

Fantasy: (100 points available)

Each contestant will appear onstage while performing a play scene that they have written. The scene can be read by the emcee if requested by the contestant or they can use a sound track. Judging in this category is based on the contestant's creativity and ability to convey how they play and their fantasy play scene. Contestants may involve additional performers. Props may be used but must be approved by the contest producers for safety and compliance with the law. The Fantasy cannot exceed 5 minutes in length, points will be deducted for going over time or being drastically under time.

Interview: (150 points available)

Each contestant will participate in an approximately 20-minute interview. Numbers will be drawn to establish the order of interviews. The head judge will establish the order of questions and will moderate the session. Each judge should be allowed to ask whatever types of questions they deem necessary to learn what they need to know about each contestant. Based on the number of contestants to interview, and the time allowed, the head judge will set limits on how many questions the judging panel will ask. Contestants should make an effort to meet each judge before the interview portion of the contest.

Speech/Formal Wear: (100 points available)

The contestants will prepare and deliver a speech. The speech can be of any topic the contestant wishes but must be recited from memory and not read. The judges will be awarding points on both speech content as well as comfort of speech delivery. The speech should be no longer than 2 minutes. Each speech will be timed, and the judges will be informed of the timing recorded after each speech. Points will be deducted for speeches under as well as over time. Judges will also evaluate the contestant's formal attire, as defined by the contestant.

Image: (75 points available)

Judges will observe all contestants during the course of the event weekend. Judging officially begins once contestants arrive on the property, Friday. From their observations, judges will award Lifestyle Image points based on their opinions of how each contestant behaves and interacts as leather person. This will include but will not be limited to both public and mosh pit interactions. The scoring for this segment will conclude at the end of the contest proceedings Saturday Night.

Hot Wear/Pop Question: (75 points available)

Contestants will be asked a Pop Question, this is the chance for the contestant to show how quickly they are able to think on their feet while addressing a crowd. Contestants should show off a quick wit and spontaneous side! Also judged will be the contestant's idea of "Hot Wear" and how comfortable they are in their own skin.

Each contestant is expected to assemble a basket to be raffled off at the event. Each constant will put together a basket for auction that represents their personality. The proceeds from the raffle go into the travel fund for the winners of the Bluegrass Leather Pride Ms. Leather Pride contest.

LeatherSir/Leatherboy Qualifications

The Bluegrass Leather Pride, LeatherSir/Leatherboy Contests all dimensions of diversity such as race, gender, sexuality, religious/spiritual beliefs, political affiliations, etc.. The BLP LeatherSir/Leatherboy contests are a competition for a gay male title. Each Contestant must self-identify as part of the gay male leather community and must be willing to represent the title of BLP LeatherSir or Leatherboy during their title year.

To be eligible to enter the Ms. Leather Pride Contest, a contestant must:

Be at least 21 years of age at the time of the contest and have a valid form of ID.

Self-identify as a gay male.

Have a demonstrated interest in Leather, BDSM or fetishes.

Be a resident of the state of Kentucky, unless the producers of Bluegrass Leather Pride have granted an exception after consultation with the Executive Director of Great Lakes Leather Alliance.

Not hold a current leather, bootblack, rubber, fetish, etc., title.

Agree to appear onstage wearing appropriate attire and perform a five-minute onstage BDSM Fantasy Sex Scene of an explicit nature (while conforming to local regulations, if any, pertaining to nudity and obscenity). Except for clothing and props used in the Fantasy Sex Scene portion of the contest, the contestant must own all clothing worn during the contest.

Agree to represent the title, if they win, throughout their title year and refrain from competing in any other leather, rubber, fetish or bootblack title contest until the conclusion of their title year, with the exception of Great Lakes Leather Alliance. And must agree to return to the Bluegrass Leather Pride event the following year, if they win, to step aside from their title.

Agree to permit onstage photographs to be taken of themselves for the use of the Bluegrass Leather Pride Website.

Bluegrass Leather Pride Title Holders are required to hold 2 fundraising events, over the course of their title year branded as Bluegrass Leather Pride events. These events can benefit the contestant's travel fund or another cause. These events may also be coproduced with other members of the BLP Title Family. To be eligible to receive the contestant's travel fund at least one of these events must take place before the Great Lakes Leather Alliance Contest.

The producers agree to support and help the title holder in scheduling and producing fund raising events. They should not, however, be expected to do all the work. They will assist as much as reasonably possible but as the titleholder is doing the event, they should be doing the work.

Travel funds will be comprised of all moneys made from auctioning of the contestant's baskets, respectively. Also from money's raised from raffle ticket sales from the meet and greet, divided evenly over all BLP title holders.

It is the title holder's responsibility to use their funds wisely. Once it's gone, there will be no further funding from the BLP organizers/producers/owners.

The winners are encouraged to attend as many other major leather events and contests as they may see fit.

Respectful and honest communication between title holder and producers is expected.

Title holders and producers are not to misrepresent themselves or their accomplishments. Honesty and integrity are tenants of the leather community and should be priority all times.

Conflicts are to be resolved in private, not on social media. There will be no misrepresentation of the title, title holder, or the producers.

Creating a separate social media site for our title is recommended.

Title holder should be cognizant that as they're using social media, they're representing their title and producers. If there are posts that misrepresent the title, title holder, or the producers, the producers have the right to request removal of the post.

If the title holder fails to meet any of these expectations, actions up to and including (but not limited to) probation or revocation of title may be taken. Any probationary period will be determined by the producers as will the terms of the probation.

The producers reserve the right to revoke any title, at any time, for any reason.

LeatherSir/Leatherboy Scoring Guidelines

The scoring is based on a 500-point system. In the event that no contestant scores 70% of points or more, there will not be a winner for that title. In case of a tie, it will be the decision of the head judge to determine the winner. An Olympic style scoring system in which the high and low scores for each category are thrown out will be used. The categories are as follows:

Fantasy: (100 points available)

Each contestant will appear onstage while performing a play scene that they have written. The scene can be read by the emcee if requested by the contestant or they can use a sound track. Judging in this category is based on the contestant's creativity and ability to convey how they play and their fantasy play scene. Contestants may involve additional performers. Props may be used but must be approved by the contest producers for safety and compliance with the law. The Fantasy cannot exceed 5 minutes in length, points will be deducted for going over time or being drastically under time.

Interview: (150 points available)

Each contestant will participate in an approximately 20-minute interview. Numbers will be drawn to establish the order of interviews. The head judge will establish the order of questions and will moderate the session. Each judge should be allowed to ask whatever types of questions they deem necessary to learn what they need to know about each contestant. Based on the number of contestants to interview, and the time allowed, the head judge will set limits on how many questions the judging panel will ask. Contestants should make an effort to meet each judge before the interview portion of the contest.

Speech/Formal Wear: (100 points available)

The contestants will prepare and deliver a speech. The speech can be of any topic the contestant wishes but must be recited from memory and not read. The judges will be awarding points on both speech content as well as comfort of speech delivery. The speech should be no longer than 2 minutes. Each speech will be timed, and the judges will be informed of the timing recorded after each speech. Points will be deducted for speeches under as well as over time. Judges will also evaluate the contestant's formal attire, as defined by the contestant.

Image: (75 points available)

Judges will observe all contestants during the course of the event weekend. Judging officially begins once contestants arrive on the property, Friday. From their observations, judges will award Lifestyle Image points based on their opinions of how each contestant behaves and interacts as leather person. This will include but will not be limited to both public and mosh pit interactions. The scoring for this segment will conclude at the end of the contest proceedings Saturday Night.

Hot Wear/Pop Question: (75 points available)

Contestants will be asked a Pop Question, this is the chance for the contestant to show how quickly they are able to think on their feet while addressing a crowd. Contestants should show off a quick wit and spontaneous side! Also judged will be the contestant's idea of "Hot Wear" and how comfortable they are in their own skin.

Each contestant is expected to assemble a basket to be raffled off at the event. Each constant will put together a basket for auction that represents their personality. The proceeds from the raffle go into the travel fund for the winners of the Bluegrass Leather Pride Ms. Leather Pride contest.

Person of Leather Qualifications

The Bluegrass Leather Pride Person of Leather Contest is a celebration of the diversity in the Leather Community. The title of Person of Leather exists to promote that diversity.

Bluegrass Leather Pride Person of Leather is a community service title. We see that the leather community consists of extremely diverse people with a common thread throughout, that thread being Leather culture.

Each year a single Bluegrass Leather Pride Person of Leather will be selected not based on gender-identity, sexual-orientation, race, physical appearance, age or disability, but rather on their ability to articulate their views, passions, and dedications and to make an impact in their communities. We will expect these people of Leather to act as mentors, educators, role models and spokespeople throughout their title year.

To be eligible to enter the Ms. Leather Pride Contest, a contestant must:

Be at least 21 years of age at the time of the contest and have a valid form of ID.

Have a demonstrated interest in Leather, BDSM or fetishes.

Be a resident of the state of Kentucky, unless the producers of Bluegrass Leather Pride have granted an exception after consultation with the Executive Director of Great Lakes Leather Alliance.

Not hold a current leather, bootblack, rubber, fetish, etc., title.

Agree to appear onstage wearing appropriate attire and perform a five-minute onstage BDSM Fantasy Sex Scene of an explicit nature (while conforming to local regulations, if any, pertaining to nudity and obscenity). Except for clothing and props used in the Fantasy Sex Scene portion of the contest, the contestant must own all clothing worn during the contest.

Agree to represent the title, if they win, throughout their title year and refrain from competing in any other leather, rubber, fetish or bootblack title contest until the conclusion of their title year, with the exception of Great Lakes Leather Alliance. And must agree to return to the Bluegrass Leather Pride event the following year, if they win, to step aside from their title.

Agree to permit onstage photographs to be taken of themselves for the use of the Bluegrass Leather Pride Website.

Bluegrass Leather Pride Title Holders are required to hold 2 fundraising events, over the course of their title year branded as Bluegrass Leather Pride events. These events can benefit the contestant's travel fund or another cause. These events may also be coproduced with other members of the BLP Title Family. To be eligible to receive the contestant's travel fund at least one of these events must take place before the Great Lakes Leather Alliance Contest.

The producers agree to support and help the title holder in scheduling and producing fund raising events. They should not, however, be expected to do all the work. They will assist as much as reasonably possible but as the titleholder is doing the event, they should be doing the work.

Travel funds will be comprised of all moneys made from auctioning of the contestant's baskets, respectively. Also from money's raised from raffle ticket sales from the meet and greet, divided evenly over all BLP title holders.

It is the title holder's responsibility to use their funds wisely. Once it's gone, there will be no further funding from the BLP organizers/producers/owners.

The winners are encouraged to attend as many other major leather events and contests as they may see fit.

Respectful and honest communication between title holder and producers is expected.

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If the title holder fails to meet any of these expectations, actions up to and including (but not limited to) probation or revocation of title may be taken. Any probationary period will be determined by the producers as will the terms of the probation.

The producers reserve the right to revoke any title, at any time, for any reason.

Person of Leather Scoring Guidelines

The scoring is based on a 500-point system. In the event that no contestant scores 70% of points or more, there will not be a winner for that title. In case of a tie, it will be the decision of the head judge to determine the winner. An Olympic style scoring system in which the high and low scores for each category are thrown out will be used. The categories are as follows:

Fantasy: (100 points available)

Each contestant will appear onstage while performing a play scene that they have written. The scene can be read by the emcee if requested by the contestant or they can use a sound track. Judging in this category is based on the contestant's creativity and ability to convey how they play and their fantasy play scene. Contestants may involve additional performers. Props may be used but must be approved by the contest producers for safety and compliance with the law. The Fantasy cannot exceed 5 minutes in length, points will be deducted for going over time or being drastically under time.

Interview: (150 points available)

Each contestant will participate in an approximately 20-minute interview. Numbers will be drawn to establish the order of interviews. The head judge will establish the order of questions and will moderate the session. Each judge should be allowed to ask whatever types of questions they deem necessary to learn what they need to know about each contestant. Based on the number of contestants to interview, and the time allowed, the head judge will set limits on how many questions the judging panel will ask. Contestants should make an effort to meet each judge before the interview portion of the contest.

Speech/Formal Wear: (100 points available)

The contestants will prepare and deliver a speech. The speech can be of any topic the contestant wishes but must be recited from memory and not read. The judges will be awarding points on both speech content as well as comfort of speech delivery. The speech should be no longer than 2 minutes. Each speech will be timed, and the judges will be informed of the timing recorded after each speech. Points will be deducted for speeches under as well as over time. Judges will also evaluate the contestant's formal attire, as defined by the contestant.

Image: (75 points available)

Judges will observe all contestants during the course of the event weekend. Judging officially begins once contestants arrive on the property, Friday. From their observations, judges will award Lifestyle Image points based on their opinions of how each contestant behaves and interacts as leather person. This will include but will not be limited to both public and mosh pit interactions. The scoring for this segment will conclude at the end of the contest proceedings Saturday Night.

Hot Wear/Pop Question: (75 points available)

Contestants will be asked a Pop Question, this is the chance for the contestant to show how quickly they are able to think on their feet while addressing a crowd. Contestants should show off a quick wit and spontaneous side! Also judged will be the contestant's idea of "Hot Wear" and how comfortable they are in their own skin.

Each contestant is expected to assemble a basket to be raffled off at the event. Each constant will put together a basket for auction that represents their personality. The proceeds from the raffle go into the travel fund for the winners of the Bluegrass Leather Pride Ms. Leather Pride contest.

Bootblack Qualifications

To be eligible to enter the Ms. Leather Pride Contest, a contestant must:

Be at least 21 years of age at the time of the contest and have a valid form of ID.

Have a demonstrated interest in Leather, BDSM or fetishes.

Be a resident of the state of Kentucky, unless the producers of Bluegrass Leather Pride have granted an exception after consultation with the Executive Director of Great Lakes Leather Alliance.

Not hold a current leather, bootblack, rubber, fetish, etc., title.

Agree to represent the title, if they win, throughout their title year and refrain from competing in any other leather, rubber, fetish or bootblack title contest until the conclusion of their title year, with the exception of Great Lakes Leather Alliance. And must agree to return to the Bluegrass Leather Pride event the following year, if they win, to step aside from their title.

Agree to permit onstage photographs to be taken of themselves for the use of the Bluegrass Leather Pride Website.

Bluegrass Leather Pride Title Holders are required to hold 2 fundraising events, over the course of their title year branded as Bluegrass Leather Pride events. These events can benefit the contestant's travel fund or another cause. These events may also be coproduced with other members of the BLP Title Family. To be eligible to receive the contestant's travel fund at least one of these events must take place before the Great Lakes Leather Alliance Contest.

The producers agree to support and help the title holder in scheduling and producing fund raising events. They should not, however, be expected to do all the work. They will assist as much as reasonably possible but as the titleholder is doing the event, they should be doing the work.

Travel funds will be comprised of all moneys made from auctioning of the contestant's baskets, respectively. Also from money's raised from raffle ticket sales from the meet and greet, divided evenly over all BLP title holders.

It is the title holder's responsibility to use their funds wisely. Once it's gone, there will be no further funding from the BLP organizers/producers/owners.

The winners are encouraged to attend as many other major leather events and contests as they may see fit.

Respectful and honest communication between title holder and producers is expected.

Title holders and producers are not to misrepresent themselves or their accomplishments. Honesty and integrity are tenants of the leather community and should be priority all times.

Conflicts are to be resolved in private, not on social media. There will be no misrepresentation of the title, title holder, or the producers.

Creating a separate social media site for our title is recommended.

Title holder should be cognizant that as they're using social media, they're representing their title and producers. If there are posts that misrepresent the title, title holder, or the producers, the producers have the right to request removal of the post.

If the title holder fails to meet any of these expectations, actions up to and including (but not limited to) probation or revocation of title may be taken. Any probationary period will be determined by the producers as will the terms of the probation.

The producers reserve the right to revoke any title, at any time, for any reason.

Bootblack Scoring Guidelines

The scoring is based on a 500-point system. In the event that no contestant scores 70% of points or more, there will not be a winner for that title. In case of a tie, it will be the decision of the head judge to determine the winner. An Olympic style scoring system in which the high and low scores for each category are thrown out will be used. The categories are as follows:

Contest Elements

There are six elements to the Bluegrass Leather Pride Bootblack Contest: Judging Categories, two Minute Speech, On-Stage Question and Answer, Open Interview, and Technical and Teaching Presentations. The scores for these elements are then totaled.

Judging Categories:

Physical Skills: Judges will evaluate the technique or procedure used to serve a customer's boots, leather and rubber, etc. What is physically done to create the best end product and ensure customer satisfaction.

Social Skills: Judges will evaluate how well each contestant interacts in the social sphere. How does the contestant interact with the customer, spectators, judges, and other contestants?

General Knowledge: Judges will evaluate each contestant's demonstrated knowledge of boot and leather care in addition to history of bootblacking in the leather community. To what extent does the contestant demonstrate an understanding of bootblacking in historical and contemporary contexts? Does the contestant have a working knowledge of leather history, traditions, and some understanding of commonly held protocols?

Purpose: Judges will evaluate each contestant's special skills or unique contribution to the art of bootblacking. Is there some flair or distinctive element to the bootblack's presentation or skill, or does the act of blacking seem rote or mundane?

Public Speaking: Judges will evaluate each contestant's ability to speak on stage in a clear and concise manner. This category will be evaluated especially during the Speech, On-Stage Question and Answer, and Teaching Presentation elements.

Each contestant is expected to assemble a basket to be raffled off at the event. Each constant will put together a basket for auction that represents their personality. The proceeds from the raffle go into the travel fund for the winners of the Bluegrass Leather Pride Ms. Leather Pride contest.

Master/slave & Power Exchange Qualifications

The Bluegrass Leather Pride Master/slave and Power Exchange contests are committed to providing the Leather/BDSM community with titleholders who will represent the Master/slave and Power Exchange communities and lifestyles with integrity and competence. The titleholders will be spokespersons for their respective communities and as such, one of the most important attributes of the titleholders should be the ability to clearly and effectively communicate what it means to them to live and identify as Master/slave or D/s.

It is expected that the holders of the titles will take every opportunity to educate the Leather/BDSM community on their respective lifestyles, and will actively seek out venues that will allow them to speak on Master/slave and Power Exchange Dynamic issues, whether that be through speeches, seminar presentations, participation on panel discussions, writing articles, etc.

The Bluegrass Leather Pride Master/slave and PE titles are not about a particular “look,” dress, body type, gender or sexual orientation. There is no required set of protocols that BLP M/s or BLP PE are expected to follow.

Contestants are not required to have a formal “platform”; however, questions from the judges regarding any specific plans or goals the contestants might have should they win the titles are quite appropriate.

To be eligible to enter the Ms. Leather Pride Contest, a contestant must:

Contestants must self-identify as Master/slave or Power Exchange

Contestants must have been in a self-identified Master/slave or Power Exchange relationship with each other for at least 1 year prior to running for the Bluegrass Leather Pride M/s or PE titles.

The contestants must be willing, should the win, to travel to Leather/BDSM events or Leather/BDSM group meetings to present on M/s or PE relationships and/or to represent the titles.

The titleholders are strongly encouraged to attend as many events as possible and to seek out every opportunity to speak on M/s or PE relationships.

Agree to represent the title, if they win, throughout their title year and refrain from competing in any other leather, rubber, fetish or bootblack title contest until the conclusion of their title year, with the exception of Great Lakes Leather Alliance. And must agree to return to the Bluegrass Leather Pride event the following year, if they win, to step aside from their title.

Agree to permit onstage photographs to be taken of themselves for the use of the Bluegrass Leather Pride Website.

Bluegrass Leather Pride Title Holders are required to hold 2 fundraising events, over the course of their title year branded as Bluegrass Leather Pride events. These events can benefit the contestant’s travel fund or another cause. These events may also be coproduced with other members of the BLP Title Family. To be eligible to receive the contestant’s travel fund at least one of these events must take place before the Great Lakes Leather Alliance Contest.

The producers agree to support and help the title holder in scheduling and producing fund raising events. They should not, however, be expected to do all the work. They will assist as much as reasonably possible but as the titleholder is doing the event, they should be doing the work.

Travel funds will be comprised of all moneys made from auctioning of the contestant’s baskets, respectively. Also, from money’s raised from raffle ticket sales from the meet and greet, divided evenly over all BLP title holders.

It is the title holder's responsibility to use their funds wisely. Once it's gone, there will be no further funding from the BLP organizers/producers/owners.

The winners are encouraged to attend as many other major leather events and contests as they may see fit.

Respectful and honest communication between title holder and producers is expected.

Title holders and producers are not to misrepresent themselves or their accomplishments. Honesty and integrity are tenants of the leather community and should be priority all times.

Conflicts are to be resolved in private, not on social media. There will be no misrepresentation of the title, title holder, or the producers.

Creating a separate social media site for our title is recommended.

Title holder should be cognizant that as they're using social media, they're representing their title and producers. If there are posts that misrepresent the title, title holder, or the producers, the producers have the right to request removal of the post.

If the title holder fails to meet any of these expectations, actions up to and including (but not limited to) probation or revocation of title may be taken. Any probationary period will be determined by the producers as will the terms of the probation.

The producers reserve the right to revoke any title, at any time, for any reason.

Each contestant is expected to assemble a basket to be raffled off at the event. Each constant will put together a basket for auction that represents their personality. The proceeds from the raffle go into the travel fund for the winners of the Bluegrass Leather Pride Ms. Leather Pride contest.

Master and slave Scoring Guidelines

The scoring is based on a 500 point system. In the event that no contestant scores 70% of points or more, there will not be a winner for that title. In case of a tie, it will be the decision of the head judge to determine the winner. An Olympic style scoring system in which the high and low scores for each category are thrown out will be used. The categories are as follows:

Speech: (100 points available)

The Master and the slave will each make a speech during the Saturday evening contest on the topic of their choice. The Master and slave will have 2 minutes each for their speeches. The speeches should be no longer than 2 minutes. Each speech will be timed and the judges will be informed of the timing recorded after each speech. Points will be deducted for speeches under as well as over time. The Master and the slave are not required to speak on the same topic.

Interview with Judges: (150 points available)

Each contestant pair will participate in an approximately 20-minute interview. Numbers will be drawn to establish the order of interviews. The head judge will establish the order of questions and will moderate the session. Each judge should be allowed to ask whatever types of questions they deem necessary to learn what they need to know about each contestant pair. Based on the number of contestants to interview, and the time allowed, the head judge will set limits on how many questions the judging panel will ask. Contestants should make an effort to meet each judge before the interview portion of the contest.

On-Stage question: (75 points available)

Each Master and slave will draw and answer a “pop” question while on stage. Questions will focus on Master/slave relationships or more generally, on BDSM topics.

Master/slave dynamic: (75 points available)

Contestants will be observed by the judges throughout the weekend and will be judged on how they interact and present themselves as Master and slave to the public. No particular form of “protocol” or dress is considered to be correct. The judges will be looking for contestants that are comfortable in their Master/slave dynamic.

Presentation: (100 points available)

Each contestant pair will be required to present a brief presentation on any issue relating to Master/slave relationships. Each contestant pair will be allowed no more than 10 minutes total for the presentation. Contestant pairs are permitted to use handouts, props or other visual aids in their presentations, but are not required to do so. If a contestant pair chooses to use handouts, it is the responsibility of the contestant pair to bring enough copies for at least the judges of the Contest. If a contestant pair chooses to use props or other visual aids, the contestant pair is responsible for obtaining those items, including any equipment necessary to present a visual aid such as a projector, screen, etc. The cost of all handouts, props and other visual aids will be the responsibility of the contestant pairs. Both the Master and slave must speak during the presentation. The Presentation category will be open to all attendees of Bluegrass Leather Pride. At the conclusion of the contestant pair’s presentation, if time permits, the contestant pair will answer questions from the audience about the presentation. The judges will not ask questions of the contestant pairs in this judging category unless there are no questions from the audience. This question and answer time will not exceed 5 minutes for any contestant pair.