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Rules & Regulations

1. Contestants for Mr. Gulf Coast USofA must be males. Contestants must be 21 years old by the National Pageant to enter Mr Gulf Coast USofA..
2. All contestants for Mr. Gulf Coast USofA at Large must weigh 200 pounds at both their preliminary contest and the State Pageant
3. Judging will be on a total point accumulated system. Score sheets will be provided by USofA Pageants. Ties will be broken by the contestant with the higher score in the talent category.
4. Contestants will be judged in the following categories: Personal Interview, Talent, and Club Wear for Mr. Gulf Coast USofA and Mr. Gulf Coast USofA at Large.
5. Talent presentation will be limited to seven (7) minutes. Prop setup and teardown will be limited to five (5) minutes total. Talent presentations will be timed at rehearsals. Presentations over seven (7) minutes will have administrative points deducted
6. Any type of talent presentation is acceptable except those that cause injury to the audience or any other person, No excessive glitter, fire or water may be used in any talent presentation
7. The use or dispensing of illegal drugs or marijuana will not be tolerated while a contestant is participating in a USofA Pageant event. Immediate disqualification will result for those who break this rule.
8. Any contestant that is not at the appointed place at the appointed time will lose administrative points.
9. Any contestant, contestant's dancer(s), helper(s), etc. who is caught in the act of stealing or tampering with another person's property will be disqualified and removed from the location of the Pageant.
10. USofA Pageants does not discriminate against entertainers with silicone and/or hormones. The use of silicone and/or hormones *will not be considered* by any judge scoring the contestants.
11. Once a contestant has placed 1st Runner-up in a Preliminary Pageant they may not continue to compete in that system. They must go to the State Contest with that placement.
12. Any contestant that qualifies for the National Contest and fails to attend will be barred from competing in, entertaining, judging or attending any USofA Pageants event until they have paid back their promoter and paid a \$125 fine to the National Promoter.
13. Once a person has won a USofA National Title (Mr. or Miss Gay USofA, Mr. or Miss Gay USofA at Large, Mr. or Miss Black USofA, Mister USofA MI or Miss Gay USofA Classic) they may not compete in any USofA Pageant system until the end of their reign.
14. USofA Pageants reserves the right to make any decision concerning any matter not covered by these Rules and Regulations.

Accommodations

The Day's Inn Coliseum San Antonio will be the host hotel for the Mr. Gulf Coast USofA 2008 Contest.

Address:

**Days Inn Coliseum
3443 Interstate Highway 35 North, Exit 160 Coliseum Rd.
San Antonio, TX 78219
(210) 225-4040 * Fax (832) 778-5052**

(Please Call Stephanie at the Hotel Directly for Reservations at 210-424-0115)

If you desire a reservation, all reservations must be made by calling the hotel directly. All rooms must be guaranteed on a credit card or prepaid. These reservations must be made by August 1, 2008. Identify yourself as a member of the **Miss Texas Group** to receive the discounted rate. If you do not have reservations at the host hotel, you will lose administrative points.

**All Reservations must be guaranteed on a major
Credit Card**

Admissions

Contestants do not have to pay for admission to The Heat on the night of competition. All dressing room assistants, dancers, prop personnel, managers, lovers, etc. must pay admission to all events. The Heat will be an 18 and over club during the pageant. All person's entering the venue must have a valid ID.

- The cover is **\$5.00** per person at the door .**Everyone in your group including dressers, dancers and other helpers must pay cover to enter the venue.**

Applications

This year, you should submit your applications via the internet. You may go to the website GufCoast.USofA.Org and select Online Application from the Home Page. There is a link on that page to submit your application. Follow the instructions and your application will be submitted. You will receive an electronic confirmation while the information is transmitting. If you have any questions about this procedure, please contact the Texas USofA webmaster, Scott Ross, at 417-887-0765, 417-894-3617 or Scott@USofA.org.

Cash prizes

Mr. Gulf Coast USofA

- 2nd Runner Up \$100.00
- 1st Runner Up \$200.00*
- Mr. Gulf Coast USofA \$300.00***

Mr. Gulf Coast USofA at Large Finalists

- 1st Runner Up Sponsorship to Nationals
- Mr. Gulf Coast USofA All Entry Fees**

All winners must be prepared to present ID and social security number when receiving prize money. All prize money will be distributed following the crowning of the winner.

Mr. Gulf Coast USofA 2008 will receive \$200.00 upon winning and the balance of the prize money at Mr. Gay USofA. Mr. Gulf Coast USofA at Large will get ½ of the entry fees collected upon winning and the balance at Mr. Gay USofA at Large. First Runner Up will receive sponsorship to Nationals!

Entry Fees

The entry fee for Mr. Gulf Coast USofA and Mr. Gulf Coast USofA at Large is \$75.00. This entry fee must be paid in cash only. If your entry fee is not paid before registration, you will not be allowed to compete.

Fashion Competition

Contestants should dress as they would for an exciting night out on the town. You should wear clothing that you would expect to see in a large club in one of the USofA's major cities.

Your Club Wear choice should match your personality, look, and lifestyle. Clubwear should not be a costume for stage, but rather what you would wear into the club..

Clubwear Description Cards

Each contestant will be required to submit fashion description card which looks like the following:

US ofA Pageant	
Name	_____
Contest Designation	_____
Accessories	_____
Hair Style	_____
Makeup Artist	_____
Additional Sponsor	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

You must fill this out and no other information may be placed on this card. We **do not** read cards for any other category.

For Additional Information

To obtain information regarding the Contest, contestants should check the Mr. Gulf Coast USofA pageant website at GulfCoast.USofA.org or call the Pageant Promoters, Craig Henderson at 713-947-9170 or Scott Ross at 417-894-3617.

You may also find it helpful to visit the Mr. Gay USofA website online at www.MrGayUSofA.org. It features more information on the categories and the Contest System.

General Information

It is very important to remember to bring plenty of towels from home to remove your make-up. Any contestant that uses the hotel towels to remove make-up will be fined \$10.00 **per towel** and lose 5 administrative points **per towel**, so bring your own.

Remember to print this handbook out and bring it with you to the Contest. It has all of the information that you will need.

I would like to state that no damage to the Host Bar or Host Hotel will be tolerated. I want everyone to understand that I will help the Host Bar or the Host Hotel prosecute any person or persons causing damage to either place. Let's have a good, safe time!

Each contestant is responsible for ensuring that each person in his/her party has proper identification. The Heat will be a 18 and over club all week. **Everyone must have an ID for entrance into the Host Bar.** Please do not come asking for special help. Each bar owner is responsible to his state liquor board to follow the law which includes each person having the proper identification. **You must have a valid state issued ID for entry to the club.** All persons, including contestants, will be required to be stamped at the door.

Meetings and Rehearsals

The Mr. Gulf Coast USofA and USofA at Large contestant meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 12, 2008 at 9:00 p.m. at The Heat. At this meeting, all contestants will draw a contestant number for preliminary competition.

You will be given one backstage pass for a dressing room assistant. The backstage pass does not give entry into the club. It will, however, allow one person to enter the dressing room with you to assist. No extra helpers will be allowed in the dressing area. If you have more than one assistant, only one may enter at a time and must use the same backstage pass for dressing room admission.

Personal Interview

Each contestant will be interviewed individually by the judging panel following the registration meeting. The purpose of the Personal Interview in the USofA system is to allow the judges some insight into the character of each contestant. During the interview, the judges are also afforded the opportunity to evaluate each contestant's basic qualities, such as intelligence, ability to communicate, attitude, composure, etc. The judges may also gather information about a contestant's professional or personal life.

The basic nature of the interview is intended to be casual and relaxed. The suggested attire for the interview is casual day wear, each contestant should select clothing in which he feels at ease. You should dress as you would for a **professional** job interview.

Presentation of Contestants

All contestants are required to appear on stage in in the Presentation of Contestants. The Presentation of Contestants is not a scored category of competition.

Contestants for Mr. Gulf Coast USofA and USofA at Large will be presented at the beginning of the contest. The theme for Mr. Gulf Coast USofA is Summer Beach Fun. All contestants for Mr. Gulf Coast USofA should wear swimwear. Contestants for Mr. Gulf Coast USofA at Large should wear summer resort wear for presentation.

Scoring

All contestants be scored comparatively among the contestants in their division only, as follows:

Personal Interview	1 to 12 points
Fashion	1 to 12 points
Talent	2 to 24 points
Maximum possible points	48 points
	X 5 judges
Subtotal	240 points

All Contestants will receive their judges comment sheets and a copy of the master score sheet when leaving the stage at crowning. The winners will receive their prize money from a predetermined location announced at registration

Schedule

Registration

All contestants must attend registration at the HEAT at 9:00 pm. Interview will immediately follow this brief orientation. If you would like to run through your number once, you may do that following the interviews.

Competition

All contestants must check in for the contest at 11:30 p.m. The contest will begin promptly at Midnight. You will do presentation, compete in club wear and then compete in talent.

Talent

Talent may be any type of entertainment presentation as long as it does not create any danger or injury to either the contestant or anyone else. No animals or reptiles may be used in your talent presentation. You may not use fire, water or glitter in your talent presentation Talent presentation is limited to seven (7) minutes in length. Prop setup and tear down time is limited to 5 minutes total. There is no restriction on the number of people who may be involved in the presentation. Due to problems in the past, at the registration meeting, dancer passes must be purchased for all dancers in the talent presentation. If they do not have a pass, they may not appear in your talent number.

Music for the talent must be recorded on a CD (**track 1**) and clearly marked with the contestants name only. No cassettes will be accepted. Contestants are advised to make a backup copy of

their talent music and bring it to the pageant as a safety precaution. All talent music will be turned in at registration. Make sure to bring a spare copy.

Your music should be recorded on CD-R, track 1. You should have a crown number placed on track 2. Please do not use commercial CD's where there are additional tracks on your disk. Please make sure the disk is labeled with your contestant name only.

We have allowed a limited time in the schedule for individual contestant rehearsal. This will allow time for sound checks, blocking and lighting cues. Be sure you are well organized for this rehearsal as time is limited. You may rehearse once immediately following your interview

Back-up entertainers will be assigned a separate dressing area, not the main dressing room. You should be prepared at the contestant meeting to tell the stage manager the exact number of back-up entertainers and prop personnel you will require.

All competition will be held on the main stage and dance floor of The Heat. Please use your rehearsal time to block out the stage area. Because of limited space at the nightclub, USofA Pageants is urging all contestants to minimize the number of large props used. All props must be free standing and must be able to enter through a standard sized doorway.

Remember that USofA Pageants does not provide contestants with backstage staff for prop set-up and tear down, although we will assist with your props as much as possible. The backstage staff will not, under any circumstance, be responsible for any damage to props while helping a contestant. Props may only be stored at The Heat on the day of the competition. Each contestant must secure his own storage of props at all times.