



2012 Miss Nebraska Czech-Slovak Queen Pageant Rules and Regulations

(As amended and approved during the state meetings of April 15, 1989, February 15, 1991, March 16, 1997, April 20, 1997, March 28, 2004, March 17, 2007, April 24, 2008, February 15, 2009, March 15, 2009, March 21, 2010, February 20, 2011, November 20, 2011).

1. Candidate must currently be a resident of the *state of Nebraska*. However, a candidate *whose actual residence* is in a border state and who has been selected as a Czech-Slovak Queen by a chapter of the Nebraska Czechs, Inc., *is* eligible to participate in the Miss Nebraska Czech-Slovak Queen Pageant.
2. Candidate must be a single female and must not be pregnant nor become pregnant during her reign.
3. Any queen serving under a chartered chapter of the Nebraska Czechs, Inc. is not permitted to compete in another ethnic pageant until she has fulfilled her duties as the reigning queen of the chapter she represents.
4. Candidate must be a high school graduate, have achieved a GED certificate or be attending high school at the time of competition.
5. Candidate must be between the ages of 16 and 25 prior to August 1st of the current year.
6. Candidate or adoptive parents must be of partial Czech or Slovak descent.
7. Candidate must appear in an authentic or Americanized kroj of her own or local creation. Imported kroje are ***not acceptable***.

The candidate may use one heirloom piece from each of the following two categories:

- 1) Main Garment - this includes the vest, blouse, skirt, or apron
- 2) Accessory Garment - this includes a scarf, shawl, handkerchief, petticoat, headpiece, cap or stockings, etc.

Exclusions to this rule are garnets, jewelry, imported trims, fabrics, or laces. The kroj must not be imported. To import is to bring goods from a foreign country into one's own country in commerce. An heirloom is any valuable or interesting piece of personal property, which has belonged to a family for a long period of time. **Candidates will be penalized ten (10) points if found in violation of this rule.**

Candidate must be in her kroj while wearing her sash and crown. She is *not* to wear her crown and sash in street clothes.

8. In recognition of the state queen tiara being 4” in height, chapter queen tiaras should not be taller than 3” in height.
9. *Talent act is limited to not more than three (3) minutes. Candidates will be penalized five (5) points for any time over three (3) minutes.* The candidate must display in that period of time, a talent presentation which must be live. This talent may be singing, dancing, playing a musical instrument, giving a dramatic reading, gymnastics, art display, dress designing, creative poetry, or she may give a three minute oral presentation on a subject of her choosing. Partners are not permitted. However, accompanists, tapes and CD’s are acceptable. Candidates will be allowed to restart their entire talent presentation in the event of an act of God or due to technical/mechanical difficulties. The Miss Nebraska Czech-Slovak Queen Pageant Committee reserves the right to refuse an inappropriate talent.

Please note; it is not acceptable to sing any of the following national anthems as a talent: Star Spangled Banner, USA; Kde domov můj?, Czech Republic; Nad Tatrou sa blýska, Republic of Slovakia.

10. *Kroj descriptions are limited to not more than three (3) minutes. Candidates will be penalized five (5) points for any time over three (3) minutes.* Kroj descriptions should be written in the third person. The reigning Miss Nebraska Czech-Slovak queen will read the description as the candidate models her kroj on stage. The description should state if the kroj was made by the candidate, relatives or friends. Additional details should include if any pieces of the kroj are from ancestor’s garments or brought from Czechoslovakia, the Czech Republic or the Republic of Slovakia.
11. Two photos must accompany the entry form and will be used for publicity purposes. It is ***strongly*** preferred that the photo be of the candidate in full kroj.
12. The entry form, kroj description, authorization form, talent form, Heritage Award essay (optional) and 2 photos must be mailed to Mary Cinfel PO Box 33, Clarkson, NE 68629, and dated (postmarked) no later than April 30th. Electronic versions of completed entry documents will ***not*** be accepted.

Candidate’s \$25 entry fee must be paid by each chapter, directly to the Nebraska Czechs, Inc. treasurer, by April 30th.

13. If the candidate wants to submit a ***final copy*** of the kroj description or talent form, they must be dated (postmarked) no later than May 14th and mailed to Mary Cinfel PO Box 33, Clarkson, NE 68629. Electronic versions of revised entry documents will ***not*** be accepted. ***After May 14th, new kroj descriptions and/or talent forms, will not be accepted and the original form(s) will be used.***
14. The Nebraska Czechs, Inc. will provide the following awards and gifts.

The winner will be crowned Miss Nebraska Czech-Slovak Queen and will receive a tiara, sash and a check in the amount of \$150.00. She will participate in the Miss Czech-Slovak U.S. Pageant after she has reigned a full year as the Miss Nebraska Czech-Slovak Queen. She will

also be eligible to receive an additional \$175.00 upon the completion of her reign. To qualify for this additional award, the queen is expected to make at least 10 appearances in kroj, at an event such as a festival, parade or heritage event and must provide and orally present a written summary to the Nebraska Czechs, Inc. at a monthly board meeting, no later than November 1st following the completion of her reign.

If the queen is unable to personally present at a Nebraska Czechs, Inc. monthly board meeting, a written summary must be submitted to the queen pageant committee chairperson by November 1st following the completion of her reign.

This summary should include the Czech-Slovak festivals, parades and other activities she attended and how she promoted her Czech-Slovak heritage during her reign.

Runner-up will receive a sash and a check in the amount of \$100.00

Additional Cash awards include:

- Best Talent winner will receive a check in the amount of \$50.00
- Best Authentic Kroj winner will receive a check in the amount of \$50.00
- Best Americanized Kroj winner will receive a check in the amount of \$50.00
- Best Private Interview winner will receive a check in the amount of \$50.00
- Oratory Award winner will receive a check in the amount of \$50.00
- Miss Congeniality award winner will be chosen by the candidates and will receive a check in the amount of \$25.00. The award will be based on the candidate who most displays a spirit of warmth and camaraderie to her fellow candidates. This award does not count towards the state title.
- The winner of the Heritage Award will be awarded a check in the amount of \$50.00. If a candidate wants to participate in this award, they must submit a 300 word or less, typed essay pertaining to their heritage as it means to them. This essay must be included with the candidate's official entry documents and will be judged by an outside source appointed by the queen pageant committee. This award does not count towards the state title.

All candidates will be presented with trophies, flowers and a Czech-Slovak gift.

15. In the event that the crowned queen chooses not to fulfill her obligations, including but not limited to, participating in the Miss Czech-Slovak U.S. pageant, she forfeits her title, crown and sash. The runner-up then assumes the Miss Nebraska Czech-Slovak Queen title and responsibilities from that time until a new queen is crowned, or the Miss Czech-Slovak U.S. pageant is completed.
16. After the reign of a state queen is completed, she is allowed to continue to attend events, wearing her kroj, sash and tiara. As a past state queen, she is not to wear her tiara and sash in street clothes.