

# **ULTIMATE PAGEANTS**

Inspiring women to be their Ultimate Selves OFFICAL Policies & Procedures

## **Ultimate Pageants Code of Conduct**

## Effective Date: 1st April 2025

These Terms & Conditions apply to all participants (contestants, parents, and guardians) in Ultimate Pageants competitions and events, both in-person and online. By entering or participating in any Ultimate Pageants event, you agree to adhere to the following Terms & Conditions.

## 1. Application Scope

This Code of Conduct applies to all Ultimate Pageants competitions, related events (including other pageants, dance competitions, and social gatherings), and online interactions. It ensures a positive, safe, and respectful environment for all participants, parents/guardians, staff, and volunteers.

All National Finalists, contestants, and their parents/guardians are required to adhere to the Ultimate Pageants Code of Conduct during Ultimate Events, online engagements, and affiliated events.

## 2. Purpose

The goal of this Code is to maintain a welcoming, respectful, and professional environment in every aspect of the pageant experience. It is essential to uphold the integrity of Ultimate Pageants and promote a community based on respect, fairness, and support.

## 3. Disqualification and Refund Policy

Contestants who violate this Code of Conduct will be disqualified from the competition. **Note:** There will be **no refund** issued for disqualified contestants. All contestants agree to this policy upon their application.

## 4. Disqualification and Future Participation

Ultimate Pageants reserves the right to refuse participation or disqualify any contestant if they

or their guardians breach the Code of Conduct at any Ultimate Event, online, or at any affiliated events.

This includes, but is not limited to, incidents of bullying, inappropriate behavior, harassment, discrimination, or failure to comply with competition rules. Contestants disqualified for breaching the Code of Conduct may be barred from future events, including but not limited to online and in-person competitions.

## 5. Denial of Entry

Ultimate Pageants reserves the right to deny entry to any contestant with a documented history of breaching the Code of Conduct or Terms and Conditions at Ultimate events, similar events, or online interactions.

This includes instances of bullying, inappropriate behavior, discrimination, or any conduct deemed unacceptable by Ultimate Pageants. The decision to deny entry is made to maintain the safety, integrity, and positive atmosphere of the community for all participants.

### 6. Official Code of Conduct

#### **Minor Offenses**

- Language and Behavior: All participants must use appropriate language and display respectful behavior at all Ultimate events, online platforms, and in public interactions. Rude, disrespectful, or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated.
- **Communication:** Participants are expected to maintain clear and consistent communication with the Ultimate Pageants team, adhering to deadlines and providing necessary information as requested.
- **Payment of Fees:** All event fees and associated costs must be paid promptly, as per the Terms and Conditions agreed upon at the time of application. Failure to meet financial obligations may result in disqualification.
- **Contacting Judges:** Contestants or their guardians are prohibited from directly contacting or attempting to influence judges before, during, or after the competition. Any attempt to communicate with judges outside of official channels may result in disqualification.

#### **Major Offenses**

- **Anti-Bullying Policy:** Bullying, harassment, intimidation, or any form of mistreatment towards others, whether verbal, physical, or online, is strictly prohibited. This includes cyberbullying and harassment on social media platforms.
- **Non-Discrimination:** Discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, or any other characteristic will not be tolerated. Ultimate Pageants fosters an inclusive environment and is committed to supporting diversity in all its forms.

- **Compliance and Respect for Ultimate Pageants Team:** All participants must follow the instructions and guidance of the Ultimate Pageants team. Respect all decisions related to the competition, results, and event proceedings, even if there is disagreement.
- **Privacy and Confidentiality:** Contestants should respect the privacy of others. Taking photos or videos of other contestants without prior consent is prohibited. Sharing private or personal information about other participants or staff without consent is strictly forbidden.

## 7. Breach of Code of Conduct

#### **Consequences for Minor Breaches**

- First Offense: A formal warning will be issued to the contestant and their guardian.
- **Second Offense:** A second breach will result in immediate disqualification from the competition, and the contestant may be banned from future events.

#### **Consequences for Major Breaches**

• Immediate Disqualification: Any major breach of the Code of Conduct will result in immediate disqualification from the competition, without warning or further notice. Contestants found in breach of major offenses may be permanently excluded from future Ultimate Pageants events.

#### 8. Reporting and Proof

- Internal Reports: If the Ultimate Pageants team witnesses a breach, the following procedures will apply:
  - **Minor Breaches:** A formal warning will be issued, and a second breach will result in disqualification.
  - **Major Breaches:** Immediate disqualification from the competition will occur.
- **External Reports:** If a breach is reported by someone other than a member of the Ultimate Pageants team:
  - **Without Proof or Additional Witnesses:** The contestant and their guardian will receive a formal warning. A second report will lead to disqualification.
  - With Proof or Additional Witnesses: A minor breach will result in a warning, with disqualification occurring upon a second breach. A major breach will result in immediate disqualification from the event and potential future events.

## 9. Amendments to Terms & Conditions

Ultimate Pageants reserves the right to modify or amend these Terms and Conditions as necessary. Any changes will be communicated promptly to all participants, and the updated Code of Conduct will take effect immediately. It is the responsibility of all participants to remain informed of any changes.

## 10. Mental Health and Well-Being Support

Ultimate Pageants is committed to fostering a safe space where mental health and well-being are prioritized. All participants should feel encouraged to reach out for support if they are experiencing stress, anxiety, or any form of distress related to the competition. Support services will be made available upon request. We encourage contestants to take care of their emotional health during their pageant journey and seek assistance whenever needed.

## 11. Positive Sportsmanship and Community Building

Ultimate Pageants promotes an atmosphere of mutual respect, kindness, and camaraderie. Contestants should strive to demonstrate positive sportsmanship by supporting and uplifting fellow contestants. A collaborative spirit helps everyone to grow and shine.

### 12. Social Media Expectations

All participants must refrain from posting negative, harmful, or inflammatory content on social media platforms about other contestants, Ultimate Pageants, or event staff. Any posts that incite hostility or disrupt the harmony of the competition will be considered a breach of the Code of Conduct. Participants are expected to maintain a respectful online presence.

## 13. Guardians and Support Team Responsibility

Parents, guardians, and any additional support members attending events must also adhere to this Code of Conduct. Any violation by a guardian or support person will result in the disqualification of the contestant they are supporting. It is essential that all members of the support team contribute to creating a positive environment for everyone.

#### 14. Appreciation of Diversity

Ultimate Pageants values and celebrates the diversity of our participants. We embrace contestants from all walks of life, ensuring an inclusive space for everyone, regardless of cultural background, ability, or personal journey. All contestants are encouraged to express their individuality and unique story while respecting the experiences and identities of others.

#### **15. Contact Information and Reporting Channels**

If you witness or experience a breach of this Code of Conduct, please contact the Ultimate Pageants team immediately at [email address] or via our online reporting form at [link]. All reports will be kept confidential, and appropriate actions will be taken to address the situation.