



Miss America's Outstanding Teen - Mechanics of Judging for Local Pageants

Local Miss America's Outstanding Teen Pageants

All competitions are scored on a scale of 1 through 10 using whole numbers only for Local Miss America's Outstanding Teen Pageants. There is no Scholastic Achievement competition category for Local Miss America's Outstanding Teen Pageants.

Private Interview - 25%

Talent - 35%

Evening Wear/On-Stage Question - 25%

Lifestyle & Fitness - 15%

The results of the above competitions will determine the Top Five. The Top Five will then be ranked by each judge based upon the following "Top Five Final Ballot Explanation".

Local Miss America's Outstanding Teen Pageants are **not** allowed to separately call out and announce a Top Five, and therefore there is no Top Five discussion. At Local Miss America's Outstanding Teen Pageants the auditor simply hands the Final Ballot back to the judges with all names crossed out except for the Top Five contestants and has each judge rank the contestants with the pre-set scores on the "Final Ballot" form. This scoring typically takes place during the final production number, farewell, etc.

Note: If the pageant is announcing fewer than Four Runners-up, the judges will still go through the process of ranking **five** contestants (or only three or four if the total number of contestants in the pageant is three or four) on the Final Ballot, but only the specified number of Runners-up will be announced. For example, if you only have (for example) 4, 5, or 6 contestants in the pageant, the Top Five (or only four if the total number of contestants in the pageant is four) must be identified on the Final Ballot, **even if you are only naming a Winner and a First Runner-up**. Any of the Top Five contestants may have the opportunity to win the pageant. You cannot mark through all of the names and only leave the contestants with the two highest total points remaining to be chosen.

Top Five Final Ballot Explanation for Local Miss America's Outstanding Teen Pageants

Judges should be instructed well ahead of time that after the Private Interviews and all On-Stage competitions are completed - Talent, Lifestyle & Fitness, and Evening Wear/On-Stage Question - the auditors will identify the Top Five contestants. At this point, all previous points will be discarded and each of the Top Five contestants will have zero points.

Toward the end of the actual pageant, each judge will then be provided a Final Ballot. Each judge should then list the contestants in the order in which the judge believes the contestants should finish. A 1st place vote will be worth 10 points, a 2nd place vote worth 5 points, a 3rd place vote worth 3 points, a 4th place vote worth 2 points and a 5th place vote worth 1 point. These points will be totaled and these points alone will determine the outcome of the pageant.

Remind judges to vote their conscience and to accurately place the contestants in the order in which they individually believe the contestants should finish without any consideration to any other factors. Typically, any attempts to manipulate the outcome of the pageant can and do result in an outcome unsatisfactory to all parties.

Tie Breaking Procedures for MAOTeen Local Pageants



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Below is a simple guide on how to break a tie within a Local pageant. Merely look for the type of pageant you are directing, auditing or judging, then find the category of the tie you need to split. Below that category heading will be a progressive list of the phases of competition used to split the tie. You look at the first tie breaking phase and, if one of the contestants has a higher score in that phase, she receives the higher placement. If a tie still exists, you move to the second tie breaking phase listed. If a tie exists in all phases of competition, the names are placed on a Tie Breaker Selection Sheet and handed to the judges and each judge circles his/her choice for the placement. The slip of paper should have a heading which describes the tie (i.e.: tie for Talent or tie for the Top Five). All tie breaker sheets become a permanent record and are to be kept with the score sheets and the tally sheets in accordance with the "DO NOT DESTROY SCORE SHEETS OR TALLY SHEETS" section below.

Ties for Preliminary Awards **

- This is a tie for an award for the contestant scoring the highest total number of points in a specific phase of competition (Talent, Lifestyle & Fitness, etc.)
- Head-to-Head Competition - Prepare a slip a paper for each judge with the names of the contestants who are tied for the award. Please make sure the slips of paper are clearly identified as to phase in which the tie exists. Ask each judge to circle his/her choice for the winner of the award.
- If there is an even number of judges and a tie still exists after each judge has circled his/her choice for the winner of the award, multiple winners should be announced or no winner should be announced.**
- Do NOT use any other phase of competition to split a tie within another area of competition.

** It is not required to announce such winners, nor is it required to split ties for these awards. However, if due to a lack of funding the pageant organization needs to split any scholarship monies associated with these awards, it should be announced from stage that the scholarship money will be split among the tied winners as to avoid confusion following the pageant.



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Ties Into or Within the Top Five of a Local Pageant

- Highest Points going into the Top Five Competition - Even though the points received from the Private Interview, Talent, Lifestyle & Fitness, and Evening Wear/On-Stage Question competitions are discarded after the Top Five contestants are announced, if a tie exists for determining who should be in the Top Five, the tied contestant with the highest point total from these phases of competition receives the higher placement. If a tie still exists, refer to the points of the tied contestants in this progressive order:
 - Talent
 - Private Interview
 - Evening Wear/On-Stage Question
 - Lifestyle & Fitness
 - Head-to-Head Competition (If contestants are still tied after exhausting the previous judging categories for breaking the ties, the names are placed on a Tie Breaker Selection Sheet and handed to the judges and each judge circles his/her choice for placement. Please make sure the slips of paper are clearly identified as to the reason for the tie breaker.)

DO NOT DESTROY SCORE SHEETS OR TALLY SHEETS

IMMEDIATELY at the conclusion of your pageant, the auditors should place all score sheets and the tally sheet(s) in a sealed, dated, and identified envelope for safe keeping at a predetermined location established by the STATE Organization for a minimum of one year. Auditors and/or pageant officials may not disclose to anyone any actual scores, whether total or individual scores, unless such time arises in which the outcome of the pageant is in dispute and an independent auditor has to review the results.



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Sick Judge Procedures for MAOTeen Local Pageants

The "Sick Judge Procedures or Rules" refer to the procedures to take when one of the judges is not able to complete his or her duties throughout all of the competitions. The rules for Miss America's Outstanding Teen Local Pageants follow the guidelines that have been created by the Miss America Organization for "Miss" competition Sick Judge Procedures. The Miss America Organization's Sick Judge Procedures have been modified slightly to accommodate the subtle differences of the Miss America's Outstanding Teen Local Programs.

Case #1 - No Change in number of judges throughout all of the competitions

- In this case, all judges complete all phases of competitions.
- Judges score each phase of competition, with each contestant's high and low score in each phase of competition dropped by the auditors.
- The remaining scores are added together and multiplied by the weight of the competition as applicable (a phase of competition worth 35% of the score is multiplied by 3.5; 30% by 3.0; 25% by 2.5; 20% by 2; 15% by 1.5; 10% by 1.0; 5% by 0.5).
- The judging process determines the Top Five contestants. For the details of this process, refer to MAOTeen Local Mechanics of Judging (for Local Pageants).
- After the Top Five contestants have been determined, each judge will rank the contestants on a Final Ballot. Each judge will take all phases of competition into consideration and rank the Top Five contestants in the order the judge believes the top five contestants should place. Each contestant's high and low score ARE NOT DROPPED on the Final Ballot and the points for each placement have been predetermined.
- Only the points from the Final Ballot will determine the outcome of the pageant.

Case #2 - A Judge does not complete the first phase of competition

- The auditors must discard the scores of the judge who had to leave during the first phase of competition and could not complete the first phase. The first phase of competition is typically the Private Interviews, but not always.
 - If the original panel had only five judges, the high and low scores **ARE NOT** dropped and the pageant proceeds with four judges. If the original panel had either six or seven judges, the high and low scores ARE dropped.
 - The remaining scores are added together and multiplied by the weight of the competition as applicable (a phase of competition worth 35% of the score is multiplied by 3.5; 30% by 3.0; 25% by 2.5; 20% by 2; 15% by 1.5; 10% by 1.0; 5% by 0.5).
 - Follow the last three bullets in Case #1 above regarding the Final Ballot.
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Case #3 - A judge completes at least one competition phase but does not complete all of the others

- The scores of the “sick judge” are NOT discarded for those COMPLETED phases of competition. However, if the judge had to leave in the middle of a competition, all scores for that particular competition would be discarded.
 - All remaining competitions are adjusted to represent the original number of judges. Please see the three scenarios below to learn how to properly adjust the scores for the particular number of judges of the panel in question.
 - **Scenario #1: If the Original Panel had Five Judges** - In the remaining phases of competition, the high and low scores **are NOT dropped**. All scores given by the remaining four judges for each of the remaining competitions are added together and multiplied by 0.75 and then multiplied by the weight of competition (a phase of competition worth 35% of the score is multiplied by 3.5; 30% by 3.0; 25% by 2.5; 20% by 2; 15% by 1.5; 10% by 1.0; 5% by 0.5). The reason for this is because, in a normal situation with 5 judges, the high and low score for each contestant would be discarded and that would leave three scores. In this case, the high and low have not been dropped and all four scores have counted. The auditor must multiply the score by 0.75 to adjust those points to equate those four scores to the three judges' scores that are necessary to duplicate the results of a five-judge panel.
 - **Scenario #2: If the Original Panel had Six Judges** - In the remaining phases of competition, the high and low scores **ARE dropped**. All scores given by the remaining five judges for each of the remaining competitions are added together and multiplied by 1.33 and then multiplied by the weight of competition (a phase of competition worth 35% of the score is multiplied by 3.5; 30% by 3.0; 25% by 2.5; 20% by 2; 15% by 1.5; 10% by 1.0; 5% by 0.5). In a normal situation, the high and low scores for each contestant would be dropped and the auditors would add together the four remaining scores. When a judge leaves after completing at least one phase of competition, each contestant's high and low score in each phase of competition are dropped, leaving three scores for the auditors to add together. After these three scores are added together, the auditors will then multiply that total by 1.33 to equate those three scores to the four scores that are necessary to duplicate the results of a six-judge panel.
 - **Scenario #3: If the Original Panel had Seven Judges** - In the remaining phases of competition, the high and low scores **ARE dropped**. All scores given by the remaining six judges for each of the remaining competitions are added together and multiplied by 1.25 and then multiplied by the weight of competition (a phase of competition worth 35% of the score is multiplied by 3.5; 30% by 3.0; 25% by 2.5; 20% by 2; 15% by 1.5; 10% by 1.0; 5% by 0.5). In a normal situation, the high and low scores for each contestant would be dropped and the auditors would add together the five remaining scores. When a judge leaves after completing at least one phase of competition, each contestant's high and low score in each phase of competition are dropped, leaving three scores for the auditors to add together. Once these four scores are added together, the auditors will then multiply that total by 1.25 to equate those four scores to the five scores that are necessary to duplicate the results of a seven-judge panel.
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- Follow the last three bullets in Case #1 above regarding the Final Ballot.

Rules Regarding the Final Ballot

- **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES** are the point totals of the Final Ballot affected by the Sick Judge Rule. Regardless of the number of judges the pageant originally started with, the final outcome of the pageant is determined by adding together the points from the Final Ballot. The highs and lows on the Final Ballot are never dropped and never multiplied by any weighted factor.
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