



Bringing Dairy to Life!

Dear County Coordinators and County Chairs,

Unfortunately, due to COVID 19, the hotel location for the May Leadership and Promotion Event is now closed through the month of May. The Princess Committee and staff have decided to continue with the judging portion of the event virtually using ZOOM technology. I am going to outline all the changes below, please take the time to read through all of the important announcements. Also, please share with all your princesses and leaders in your county. A general press release will be going to ag media.

### **Leadership Sessions**

All of the leadership seminars that were planned during the event have been cancelled.

### **Judging**

Given the complexity of doing all the judging virtually, judging is only available to those who wish to compete for Princess Kay of the Milky Way. The virtual judging will take place on the same day as it was previously scheduled, May 16. Depending on the number of ladies, we may do some judging on Friday like we have done in the past for those that are available. Ladies who are planning to compete, please hold May 16<sup>th</sup> on your calendar.

The candidates will be judged on the same three events that they would have done in person: mock media, personal interview and speech. They will have three different time slots assigned to them for each of those areas. The girls will be asked to connect to three different meetings throughout the day as there will be three different sets of judges.

To ease the concerns and fears, we will have a hotline set up during the judging that girls can call into with any troubles they are experiencing.

### **Number of Princess Competing**

Due to some counties not being able to hold their local contests, we are suspending the limit on the number of girls a county can send to compete. We recognize not all counties will be able to hold a contest prior to the date the forms are due and we don't want that to hold anyone back. This means that if you have already had your contest, you are welcome to have all eligible girls compete if they would like. A reminder that only the girls interested in competing for Princess Kay of the Milky Way will be judged. We will not have the option to just go through the judging process this year.

### **Forms**

Forms will be still be due May 1, 2020. Please have your candidates fill out those forms as soon as they are able, please do not wait until the last minute if you don't have to. We will not need forms from any princess that is not wishing to compete for Princess Kay of the Milky Way.



On May 4, 2020, applications for the application judging portion of the contest will be sent out electronically to all princesses that have signed up to compete. They will have until May 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m. to submit that application. Speech topics will also be sent at that time.

Judging schedules will be sent out the week following the May 1 deadline. We will also be sending out a tip sheet and best practices for doing the judging virtually along with instructions on how to connect to the meeting.

### **Announcement of Finalists**

Since we won't be able to have a banquet to announce the finalists, Princess Kay of the Milky Way will announce the finalists via video on her Facebook page at 2 p.m. on Sunday May 17. Please be prepared to tune in and support our young ladies.

These are unprecedented times and it is sad that we won't all be able to gather but we are working to make the best of this situation and still celebrate all the great dairy advocates that we have. We appreciate all of your support as we work to adjust our plans.

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out,

Theresa Reps  
Agricultural Affairs Manager

