



Mr. GayDayS® Leather 2019
Official Contest Handbook
Updated 3/1/19

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Welcome!

Dear Contestant,

Welcome to the exciting world of GayDayS®, the world's #1 Gay & Lesbian Vacation Destination Event! The Mr. GayDayS® Leather contest will take place alongside an exciting weekend of events, expos, and parties. We are excited that the 29th Annual GayDayS® Orlando and the Mr. GayDayS® Leather contest will take place at the Wyndham Resort Orlando, August 15th-18th, 2019.

Mr. GayDayS® Leather candidates must submit their application online by Sunday, August 4th, 2019. Official GayDayS Leather events begin Thursday night with the Leather Contestant Meeting and end on Sunday afternoon with the Mr. GayDayS Leather contest. Between these two events contestants will make appearances at various events such as guest registration, pool parties and the Miss GayDayS® Pageant on Friday night.

This handbook will contain all the information that you need for the contest. If you have any questions not answered within the following pages or if you need additional information please e-mail Leather@GayDayS.com and reference the 2019 Mr. GayDayS® Leather Contest.

Best of Luck!

James A. Rode
Mr. GayDayS® Contest Manager

Overview

GayDayS® reserves the right to make amendments to the Contest Handbook at any time. All contestants will be notified where the amended Contest Handbook may be accessed and the date they will take effect within 48 hours of amendment. Any matter not covered by this Contest Handbook shall be addressed immediately and any necessary decisions will be decided by the President & Owner, Creative Director of Entertainment, or another designated representative of Gay Days, Inc.

Rules & Regulations

Contestant Eligibility

Mr. GayDayS® Leather contestants must:

1. Identify as male,
2. Identify as gay,
3. Be at least 21 years of age as of August 4, 2019,
4. Be a resident of North America,
5. Possess a valid government issued ID, such as a Driver's License or passport, issued in their own name, which shall be presented at time of on-site registration to show proof of age.

Contestant Expectations

The winner of Mr. GayDayS® Leather is expected to represent the GayDayS® brand to the best of his ability. That would include:

1. Representing GayDayS® at various events throughout his title year,
2. Competing at IML 2020 in Chicago, IL,
3. Maintaining regular social media postings to your followers,
4. Providing education about kink/leather to the general community, and
5. Supporting a non-profit of your choice.

Contestant Assistant Eligibility

Each contestant is allowed one assistant, which can be in the form of a performer, dresser, employee, and/or other helper. This person must:

1. Be at least 18 years of age as of August 4th, 2019,
2. Possess a valid government issued ID, such as a Driver's License or passport, issued in their own name which shall be presented at time of on-site registration to show proof of age.

Contestant Etiquette

1. Complete honesty and full disclosure are expected from all contestants. Any affiliations, issues, or concerns that could reflect poorly on the individual candidates and GayDayS® must be divulged to GayDayS® immediately. GayDayS® reserves the right to investigate any claims regarding any contestant that could be potentially damaging to the reputation of both the contestant and Gay Days, Inc. GayDayS® also reserves the right to make any determinations and decisions on how to proceed pending the results of their investigations.
2. Any contestant causing damage to any GayDayS® venue, inclusive of decorations and equipment, or any portion of the Wyndham Orlando Resort will be immediately disqualified, and may be subject to legal action. If legal action is pursued, GayDayS® will assist the venue and any owner of damaged property with any prosecution. ^[L]_[SEP]
3. Any contestant who is caught in the act of stealing or tampering with another person's gear, props, or other possessions will be immediately disqualified, removed from the location of the contest and denied access to the event.
4. GayDayS® and the Wyndham Orlando Resort have a strict policy against public nudity. Contestants may not expose their genitalia on stage, in public places or in any part of the weekend.

Contestant Assistant Etiquette

1. Any contestant assistant who is caught in the act of stealing or tampering with another person's costumes, props, or other possessions will be removed from the location of the contests and denied access to the event. The contestant whose assistant is found in violation of this rule will be immediately disqualified.
2. Any contestant assistant who is caught causing damage to any GayDayS® venue, including decorations, equipment, or any portion of the Wyndham Orlando Resort will be removed from the location of the contest and denied access to the event. The contestant whose assistant is found in violation of this rule will be immediately disqualified. If legal action is pursued, GayDayS® will assist the venue and any owner of damaged property with any prosecution.

Policy on Drugs

1. GayDayS® does not tolerate the use, distribution, or possession of illegal drugs and/or marijuana by any Mr. GayDayS® Leather contestant during the contest. Any contestants found in violation of this rule will be immediately disqualified. Likewise, GayDayS® will not tolerate the use, distribution, or possession of illegal drugs by any Mr. GayDayS® Leather contestant assistant. The contestant whose assistant is found in violation of this rule will be immediately disqualified. Legal action may be taken at the discretion of Gay Days, Inc.
2. This policy will remain in effect for the winner of Mr. GayDayS® Leather 2019 during his title year. If he is found in violation of this policy, the Mr. GayDayS® Leather title will be stripped from the winner and passed to the first runner up.
3. Legal action may be taken at the discretion of Gay Days, Inc.

Policy on Alcohol

1. Any contestant who is found to be grossly intoxicated at any Gay Days, Inc. event will be immediately disqualified, removed from the location and denied access to the event. Contestants are welcomed to enjoy social drinking and should be responsible with beverage consumption.
2. Any contestant assistant who is found to be grossly intoxicated at any GayDayS® event will be immediately removed from the location and from the Contest and denied access to the event. The contestant whose assistant is found to be intoxicated at any Mr. GayDayS® Leather Contest event may be subject to scoring penalization at the discretion of the President & Owner or Creative Director of Entertainment of GayDayS®, Inc., or the Mr. GayDayS® Contest Manager.

Contest Policies & Information

Contest Manager

GayDayS® will provide a Leather Contest Manager as your primary point of contact for the Mr. GayDayS® Leather Contest from time of registration until the end of contest. Any questions, concerns, ideas or requests should be directed to the James A. Rode, Contest Manager via email: Leather@GayDays.com.

Contestant Application

Candidates must submit the following for the application to be considered complete:

1. Completed Application (available <https://www.gaydays.com/mr-gay-days-leather>)
2. List of sponsors.
3. (1) 5"x7" headshot photo in full leather formal attire If digitally submitted must be a minimum resolution of 300dpi
4. Non-refundable entry Entrance fee of \$100.00 submitted online at www.GayDays.com. Cash and checks will not be accepted for the entrance fee.

Applications must be submitted by email to Leather@GayDayS.com in one single email.

1. Subject of email must include Contestant Stage Name and 2019 Mr. GayDayS® Contest Application.
2. Body of email must include date payment was made and the following attachments:
3. Application as one (1) multi-page PDF document
4. Required photo as individual files

5. Proof of on-line payment as one (1) single page PDF document

Applications and entrance fees are due by 10:00 pm EST on Sunday, August 4th, 2019. Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. By signing and submitting an application, candidates attest that they have read, understand, and agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Mr. GayDayS® Leather Contest.

Accommodations

The Wyndham Orlando Resort is the official host hotel for GayDayS® Orlando 2019. Reservations can only be made online at www.GayDayS.com. Note that the host hotel sells out extremely fast.

It is not required, but highly encouraged all Mr. GayDayS® Leather contestants secure accommodations at the Wyndham Orlando Resort for the duration of the Contest. Contestants are responsible for the payment for their lodging accommodations.

1. Those not staying at the host hotel are required to be present for check-in, Contest meetings, events and contests.
2. Contestants not staying at the host hotel will also receive one parking pass for parking at the host hotel (based on availability of parking spaces).
3. GayDayS® will not provide travel accommodations for the Mr. GayDayS® Leather Contest. Contestants are responsible for scheduling and payment for their own airfare or other transportation to the Mr. GayDayS® Leather Contest. They are also responsible for any and all transportation expenses before, during, and after the Mr. GayDayS® Contest.

Schedule

A finalized schedule will be made available to contestants at least one week prior to the start of GayDayS. Below is a tentative schedule as of now.

Thursday, August 15th

6:00PM: Taste of GayDayS (Optional)

10:00PM: Mr. GayDayS® Leather Staff & Contestant Meeting (Required)

Friday, August 16th

10:00AM-1:00PM: Registration Lobby Greeter (Required 30 minute set)

1:00PM: GayDays Leathermen Meetup (Required)

2:00pm: Mr. GayDayS® Leather Rehearsal (You will be scheduled a time)

7:00PM Miss GayDayS® Pageant (Required)

Saturday, August 17th

9:00AM-12:00PM Contestant Interviews (Required, you will get a scheduled appointment)

Sunday, August 18th

12:00PM-2:30PM: GayDayS Leather Events (Required)

-Leather/Kink Fair, Puppy Mosh, Fetish Workshops

2:30PM: Mr. GayDayS® Leather Contest

*All times are subject to change. If unavailable to attend a required event, the Mr GayDayS® Contest Manager must be notified in advance. Administration points can be deducted if agreed upon by GayDayS® Leather Contest Manager, Producer, or GayDayS® Management.

Judging

There will be an odd number of judges on the panel, who are active members of the leather and LGBTQ community. The Mr. GayDayS® Leather contest utilizes the Olympic Scoring System. In this system, the highest and lowest scores in each event are dropped and the remaining scores are added to make a Contestant's total score for that category. The scores for each category are added together to make your total score.

In the event of a tie of the total Olympic scores, those scores that were dropped from the Olympic total (the high and low scores) will be added back to the Olympic total and the Contestant with the highest score will become Mr. GayDayS® Leather 2019.

Following the end of the Contest, a Contestant's scores will be provided to him upon request. On the scoring sheets provided, Judges will be identified by numbers (which will not be revealed to you and will be randomized between categories), not their names.

Score allocation will be as follows:

A. Personal Interview, 30%

Each contestant will be interviewed by our panel of judges prior to the contest. Questions may range from your personal history, occupation, life experience and social affiliations, to personal and political opinions about current events topics, etc. Judges' questions often cover knowledge of the leather community; its leaders and history; and the Contestant's contributions and/or leadership in the leather community.

1. Judges will be looking at the character, charisma, personality, and lives of each contestant. It will also provide them the opportunity to evaluate basic skills and qualities such as intellect, communication capabilities, attitude, and composure.
2. Contestants should feel free to attend the interview in comfortable bar wear. Contestants should remember that this is a professional, yet casual, interview. Attire should reflect personality while remaining relaxed, and professional.
3. The interview schedule and room location will be provided at the Mandatory Contest Participant Meeting.
4. Personal Interviews will be scheduled for a maximum of 15 minutes.
5. Interviews may be audio/video recorded or livestreamed. Upon conclusion of all interviews, the judges will be provided with a recording of each contestant's interview as they finalize their comments and category scores.

B. Bar Wear, 15%

Bar wear is a chance for you to show the judges and the crowd who you are with your leather gear. This should be what you would normally wear to the bar and should represent your leather esthetic or persona.

1. Contestants will be brought on stage one by one and introduced with a basic bio to include age, where they are from, occupation, etc.
2. Contestants will then be given 10-15 seconds to introduce themselves to the crowd.

3. Judges will look for how well your gear fits you, your attitude and your overall appeal in leather. They will also be looking to see how you composed you are and how well you can articulate your thoughts in front of a crowd.
4. Timing of a complete run through of the Bar Wear Presentation must be done during the rehearsal period. Contestants will be penalized for exceeding time limit or for failure to provide for timing of presentation.
5. Set-up time is not provided; no set or props may be used.
6. No items may be left on the stage upon exiting.

C. Pecs & Personality, 15%

This is time to show off a little skin while still maintaining the image of a leather man. This is not a “body contest” but rather how comfortable and confident you appear in your own skin. Wear your favorite jock and have fun!

1. Contestants will be brought on stage one by one and introduced with a more fun and personal bio to include sexual interests, position, hanky codes, etc.
2. Contestants will be asked to answer a pop question, this can be a question about leather, pop culture, gay culture, etc. Contestants will be allowed up to 90 seconds to answer the question.
3. Judging will be looking for how confident you are on stage in your jock. They will also judge your response to the question. They will not be about how correct the answer is, but how you choose to answer. Judges would prefer a correct answer; however, this is your chance to win over the crowd with your personality.
4. Set-up time is not provided; no set props may be used.
5. No items may be left on the stage upon exiting.

D. Formal Leather/Platform Speech, 20%

Impress the judges with your formal leather attire and present a platform speech on how you will use the Mr. GayDays® Leather title to serve the community.

1. Contestants will be brought on stage one by one and introduced with their contributions to the leather and LGBT communities.
2. Contestants will have up to 90 seconds to articulate why they would like to be Mr. GayDays® Leather title.
3. Judges will be looking for the overall appearance of each contestant in full leather including how well it fits, the contestant’s attitude and overall appeal in leather. They will also judge the charity statement in its sincerity and personalization.
4. Set-up time is not provided; no set props may be used.
5. No items may be left on the stage upon exiting.

E. Administrative Score, 20%

This portion of the score is based upon your ability to attend all required events and interact professionally with guests and Gay Days personnel.

1. All contestants will begin the contest with ten (10) Administrative points. Points may be gained for a maximum of twenty (20) points by attending and interacting at Official GayDays® Orlando events throughout the weekend, or removed to a minimum of zero (0) points at the discretion of GayDays® President & Owner or Creative Director of Entertainment.
2. It is recommended that contestants arrive at all scheduled appointments and events at least fifteen (15) minutes early. Any contestant that arrives late to any scheduled appointment or

event may be subject to scoring penalization at the discretion of the President or Creative Director of Entertainment of GayDays®, Inc., or the Mr. GayDays® Leather Contest Manager.

The Contest Manager will maintain documentation of all penalties or gained administrative points. All penalties are required to be consistent and transparent throughout the contest. The following documentation will be provided to each contestant by email within 30 days of the winning of Mr. GayDays® 2019.

- Master Score Sheet
- Judges' comments for the individual contestant
- Documentation of administrative points earned and penalties received

Required Meetings and Events

1. Mandatory events include: Mr. GayDays® Leather Contestant Meeting, Registration Promos, Formal Interviews, GayDays® Leather Meetup Social, Ms. GayDays® Pageant, and your rehearsal period on stage.
2. The Leather Contestant Meeting is of extreme importance. All contestants and their assistants are required to attend; this meeting will be run by the Mr. GayDays® Leather Contest Manager.
 - a. At this meeting rules and regulations will be reviewed (inclusive of scoring and possible score penalties), and the following items will be distributed: contestant badges, assistant passes, updated contest information, and contestant schedules with times and locations.
 - b. All contestant information will be reviewed at this time including scripted introductions, music choices and any specific technical requests for the competition. Music must be submitted on USB Thumb Drive by this meeting or emailed to James A. Rode at Leather@GayDayS.com .
3. All contestants will work in 30 minute shifts on Friday morning to promote the GayDays® Leather events happening on Friday afternoon and Sunday. Contestants will be assigned time slots at the Leather Contestant Meeting the night before.
4. All contestants are required to attend the Miss GayDays® Pageant. Contestants are required to attend in leather attire of your choice, however you will be introduced onstage.
5. All contestant assistants must pay for full-price admission to all events except the Mr. GayDays® Leather Contest. This pass will be distributed at the Leather Contestant Meeting. All persons entering any Official GayDays® events must have a valid government issued ID issued to that person.
6. GayDays® reserves the right to require other event attendance requirements and will provide those at time of the Leather Contestant Meeting.
7. Each contestant will be provided one backstage pass their assistant which will allow backstage access to one (1) individual for the purpose of assisting the contestant with dressing; hair, props or other needed assistance. If a contestant has more than one (1) person providing assistance, multiple persons may utilize the assistant pass but only one (1) individual will be granted backstage access at any given time. No extra assistants will be allowed in the dressing area. Any exceptions to this rule must be requested in writing prior to the opening of on-site registration. All requests will be reviewed by the Creative Director of Entertainment and contest manager and granted or denied at their sole discretion. ^[1]_[SEP]

Rehearsal

1. Rehearsal time will be provided to contestants on Friday afternoon after the Leathermen's Social. Rehearsal will begin with a general overview of the contest space, dressing area, etc.

Time will then be taken to coordinate the opening introduction performance. Then each contestant will be allotted twenty (20) minutes for individual rehearsal. Rehearsals should be utilized for sound checks, blocking and lighting cues, familiarization with the performance space, and ensuring time restrictions can be met. Contestants should be well organized to best utilize the limited time provided and allow for the timing of required performances.

2. Each contestant and their performers must attend rehearsals. Only those in attendance at the rehearsal will be allowed on-stage during the Contest.
3. Contestants must arrive on time for rehearsals. If you are late you will have reduced rehearsal time and administrative points removed.
4. Contestants must bring all props to rehearsal that will be used during the contest performance. No props will be allowed during the presentations that were not present during the rehearsal.
5. Contestants should bring a copy of their music USB thumb drive to rehearsal.

Mr. GayDays® Leather Contest

1. The Mr. GayDays® Leather 2019 contest will be held at the Wyndham Orlando Resort. The contest begins promptly at 2:30pm, contest audience will be open to ages 18+. Call-Time for Sunday's contest event is 1:30pm (*subject to change*). All contestants, performers, and other helpers must check-in with the contest Manager by 1:30 pm, or may be subject to penalization.
2. Mr. GayDays® Leather Contest tickets are available for \$20.00 per person in advance, or \$30.00 per person at the door.
3. Contestants will not be required to wear an event wristband during the contest. All other participants will be required to wear an event wristband during the entirety of the Contest. Judges will be aware of this requirement and it will not affect scoring.
4. Glitter, confetti, fire, liquids, and live animals are strictly prohibited. Any contestant attempting to utilize any of the aforementioned will be immediately disqualified, removed from the contest area, and required to pay for cleaning required and/or repair of any damage caused.
5. There may or may not be set pieces that may require restrictions on the dimensions of clothing and/or props. Contestants will be provided with any restrictions and/or changes within 48 hours of determination and setting of those restrictions and/or changes.
6. A single dressing area will be provided for all contestants and one (1) assistant per contestant. The dressing area will be sectioned off and contestants will be provided with their own dressing space. If a contestant has multiple helpers or assistant, only one (1) will be allowed backstage at a time. GayDays® will provide power, two (2) chairs and one (1) 2x6 table (*contestant will be required to bring power strip if needed*).
7. Contestants are responsible for storing, loading, and removing their leather. The performance room and the dressing space will be open prior to call time to allow contestants to prepare for their performances. Props, clothing and any other items needed for the contest at this time, but note GayDays® and any of its representatives will not be responsible for any lost or damaged property left unattended. Following the contest, all props and personal belongings must be removed from the venue.

Awards & Expectations

- I. Contest Winner
 - a. Cash Prize: \$1,000.00 (*distributed in two installments, see below*)
 - b. Mr. GayDays® Leather 2018 Sash and Patch
 - c. Official Mr. GayDays® Leather Medal
 - d. Flights and Accommodations to International Mr Leather (IML) 2020

II. Runner Up

- a. Cash prize: \$200.00

GayDays®, Inc. requires the Mr. GayDays® Leather titleholder to sign a contract with GayDays®, Inc. prior to the disbursement of any prize money. Refusal or failure to sign contract will result in forfeiture of title and all prize money. All contestants are expected to be familiar with the content, requirements, and obligations of the Mr. GayDays® Leather title contained the title year.

Cash prizes will be disbursed in two installments. \$500 will be distributed upon winning the contest and signing of the contract with GayDays®, Inc. The remaining balance of \$500 will be distributed upon completion of the contractual obligations of the Mr. GayDays® Leather title year, which include attendance at all booked GayDays® ® travel events with potential performances, and attendance at the 2020 Mr. GayDays® Leather Contest.

The Mr. GayDays® Leather titleholder must control and maintain a cellular phone with active phone number and service, and an active email address for the entirety of their title year. If the titleholder does not already control a mobile phone with active phone number and an active email address at time of winning, they must obtain one within seven (7) days of winning the contest.

Contestants will forfeit their title and prize money if they do not remain on stage for the entire ceremony and photography session.

The Mr. GayDays® Leather titleholder must abide by all requirements of Titleholder Agreement including the donation of time and/or assistance with raising of funds for a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization of titleholder's choice upon approval of GayDays®, Inc.

The winner of Mr. GayDays® will represent the leather community of GayDays® for one year, compete in International Mister Leather, participate in a minimum of three charitable events and represent GayDays® as a sponsor during IML.

International Mister Leather 2020

Winning Mr. GayDays® Leather gives you the opportunity to represent GayDays® for a year. GayDays® Inc. sponsors the winner to compete in the official International Mr. Leather contest in Chicago 2020.

Everyone who enters the IML contest, not only represents their home bar, city, state, region or country, but also who they are as a Leatherman.

You are responsible for following all Mr. International Leather Rules and guidelines including: Compete contestant application and profile, sponsor information, Registration fee of \$75 will be paid by GayDays® Inc.

GayDays® Inc. will provide Travel arrangements of flight and hotel in a GayDays® approved hotel to attend IML. Hotel might not be the Official Host hotel of the International Mr. Leather Contest.