



**OFFICIAL CONTEST  
HANDBOOK 2017**

# ***Women's International Leather Legacy 2017***

## **I. Basic Philosophy for the Women's International Leather Legacy Title and Contest**

The Owner and Producers of the Women's International Leather Legacy (WILL) Title Contest are committed to providing the Leather Community with an International titleholder that will represent the contest and the community with integrity and intelligence.

The duties, of the WILL title holder, are multifold and include but are not limited to:

- 1.) Being a spokesperson for the leather community in general and specifically the women's leather communities
- 2.) Being an historian/chronicler of persons, places, and events for the leather community in general and specifically the women's leather communities
- 3.) Working with other women and other women's groups to record/preserve both their individual and collective histories.

To those ends, one of the most important attributes this titleholder should possess is a deep appreciation, understanding, and respect for women's leather history, and the ability to clearly and effectively communicate that information to the leather/BDSM/fetish and vanilla communities in an intelligent and honorable manner.

As such it would also be expected that the holder of the Women's International Leather Legacy title will be expected to take every opportunity to educate others about women's leather history, and to actively seek out venues that will allow her to help expand that history via conducting interviews, speaking on relevant issues, delivering seminar presentations, participating in panel discussions, writing articles, etc.

It is paramount that the Women's International Leather Legacy title be independent of any particular "look," dress, body type, or sexual orientation.

The formal "platform" for the Women's International Leather Legacy title is the preservation and sharing of Women's Leather history.

## **II. Contestant Requirements**

1. Contestant must self-identify as female, defined as either a biological female or a transgender female that has been living as a woman 24/7 and at least 21 years of age by the date of the contest.
2. The contest is open to all contestants who meet the criteria in #1 above, regardless of geographic location or citizenship.

## **III. Fulfilling the Requirements for the Women's International Leather Legacy Title**

1. The titleholder must be willing, and able to travel to a minimum of eight (8) events or leather/BDSM group meetings to present on a topic relevant to women's leather history and/or to conduct an interview(s).
2. The titleholder is also strongly encouraged to attend more events than defined in #1 above, as well as to seek out every opportunity to speak to the importance of preserving leather women's leather history, rather than just appearing as a titleholder. The titleholder is strongly encouraged to attend at least one of the following events IMsL, South Plains or DESIRE.
3. During her title year, the titleholder may accept additional monetary support from groups, event sponsors or individuals to cover travel expenses, and may raise additional money to cover travel expenses through fundraising activities.
4. During her title year (from August 2017 – August 2018), the titleholder may not receive or accept any fees/payment or funds/funding beyond those necessary for actual travel expenses. The titleholder may not charge a fee for their personal use for participating in BDSM activity, whether sexual or non-sexual in nature. This does not prevent the titleholder from engaging in fundraising activities for charities or for the Women's International Leather Legacy title.
5. The titleholder will be required to submit a quarterly report of her activities in support of the title. In addition, a quarterly final financial report is to be submitted to the contest Owner and shall include any/all money received as the result of fundraising activities as well as how the travel fund was used to defray travel expenses. An expense report form will be provided that is to be used each quarter.

6. Should the current titleholder be unable to fulfill the requirements and/or obligations of the title, who and in what manner the title will be represented for the remainder of that year shall be at the sole discretion of the Owner and Producers of the WILL Title, and will be based on contestant ranking by the judges, at the time of the yearly contest.
7. If the titleholder is unable to carry out the requirements of the title, or for any reason be unable to fulfill her obligations for her title year, then any and all unspent travel funds will be returned, along with a financial accounting of funds that have been spent to date, to the Owner of the Women's International Leather Legacy title.
8. If, in the opinion of the Owner and Producers of the WILL Title, the titleholder fails to substantially comply with meeting and/or fulfilling the obligations of the title, then, as the sole Owner and Producers of the Women's International Leather Legacy title, the Owner of said title reserves the right to recall the title from the current titleholder.
9. All interviews conducted throughout the title year requires signed releases and are property of WILL. All interviews and releases are to be submitted quarterly. Additional quarterly travel funds will not be released until all interviews conducted the previous quarter have been submitted. Signed releases must be provided for each interview.
10. The WILL Sash is property of WILL and will be passed down each year to the successor. It is the responsibility of the titleholder throughout the year to maintain, care for and returned the sash in same condition as when received. The titleholder should wear their title vest, sash or medallion to represent WILL at all community functions.

#### **IV. Contestants will be judged in the following categories:**

- ***Personal Interview*** (150 points) – Each contestant will be assigned an individual to interview. The contestant will be responsible for crafting questions and conducting an interview and then developing a brief biography of the individual they interview and their contribution to Women's Leather History. The interview will be conducted privately; however, the biography and the presentation of the individual's contribution to leather history will be conducted onstage. Maximum time limit: six (6) minutes.
- ***Interview with Judges*** (125 points) – For evaluation in this category, each contestant will be judged based on the questions they are asked by

the judges. The judge's questions may be any question(s) that each individual judge believes will provide insight into the contestant and how she will be able to meet the expectations of the title.

- **On-stage Question** (50 points) –During the contest, while on stage, each contestant will draw and answer two “pop” questions.
- **Interpersonal Dynamic** (75 points) – Throughout the course of the contest, contestants will be observed by the judges and judged on how they interact with other contestants, contest staff, judges, and the public. No particular form of “protocol” or dress is expected, rather the judges will be observing whether or not the contestants are comfortable and at ease in a public venue.
- **Historical Presentation** (100 points) -- Each contestant will be required to provide a brief oral presentation on any issue relating to leather history. Each contestant will be allowed no more than six (6) minutes for the entire presentation. Contestants are permitted to use handouts, props, any form of electronic media or other visual aids in their presentations, but are not required to do so. It is the contestant's responsibility to secure and return any items used during the presentation.

This category is open to the public, (public being defined as those purchasing tickets for the contest).

## V. **Scoring system:**

An Olympic scoring system will be used. This system requires a minimum of seven judges. The judges will score the contestants by individual category. The highest and lowest scores for each category will be dropped, and the remaining five scores will be totaled to get the final score for each category.

The final tally will be the cumulative scores for each individual category.

A contestant must receive a final overall score equal to 70% of the total possible points in all categories. A perfect overall score would be 2500; in order to win the title, a contestant would need to garner a total of 1875 points or higher.

During the Contest, if a judge is unable to carry out his or her duties and is unable to score all contestants in all categories, that judge's score will be omitted and the Olympic scoring system (again, omitting the highest and lowest scores) will be used to calculate the scores from the six remaining judges.

## About the Contest and Weekend

Competing for any leather contest is an exciting and demanding experience. A contestant may choose to bring their own handler/supporter to assist them during the weekend without being required to purchase a ticket for the contest or the event. A handler/supporter that is assisting a contestant may be present in the following areas without registering for the event:

- Accompany the contestant to the contestants' meeting.
- May accompany contestant to the location of the interview room but will not be permitted to enter the interview room during the contestants' interview.
- Assist a contestant before and during the contest. However, any individual assisting a contestant who also wishes to attend any workshops, panels, brunch, etc., **must** register for Women's International Leather Legacy Weekend.

## WILL Travel Fund

- Each contestant will provide a basket to be auctioned off during the Meet & Greet Friday evening. The items included in basket do not have to be expensive but should be something that represents the spirit of the contest. A detailed list of items (description and estimated values) contained in the contestants' basket should be submitted to the contest Owner and Producers no later than July 27, 2017. The auctioning of the baskets will provide the judges with an opportunity for first impression interactions with the contestants. The proceeds from the basket auctions will go to the WILL travel fund.
- WILL Travel Fund will consist of all money raised from the basket auctions and any other funds donated by groups or individuals to the WILL Travel Fund.

## WILL Winners' Packet

The winner of Women's International Leather Legacy Contest will receive the following:

- WILL Titleholder back patch, lanyard and medallion
- WILL Titleholder sash that is passed down to each WILL Titleholder
- WILL Travel Fund
- Weekend package for WILL Weekend 2018

## Contest Schedule

Contestants must be available for all of the following:

- **Contestant Briefing:** 11:30 am, Friday, August 4, 2017 (Handlers welcome)
- **Appearance at Contest Opening Festivities/Meet & Greet:** Friday, August 4, 2017 – Meet & Greet starts at 8 pm in the ballroom. Contestants will need to have their auction items with them.
- **Introductions and basket auction at Opening Festivities/Meet & Greet:** Friday, August 4, 2017 – Contestants will be introduced on stage. This is your first formal introduction. The sixty (60) second video you created about the importance of Women's Leather history will be shown when you are introduced.

Baskets or auction items will be auctioned off during the Meet & Greet. You have the choice of pimping your basket and having the emcee handle the auctioning, or you may auction the item yourself.

- **Interviews:** Saturday, August 5, 2017 – 9:00 am – Noon
- **Historical Presentation:** Saturday, August 5, 2017 2:45 pm – 4:15 pm
- **Contest:** Saturday, August 5, 2017 – 8:00 pm
- **Winners meeting with the WILL Owner/Producers:** Winners must be available to meet with the Owner and Producers of WILL Contest on Sunday, August 6, 2017 at 9:00 am.



# WILL 2017 CONTESTANT CHECKLIST

BEFORE ARRIVING FOR THE WEEKEND	
Deadline	Description
July 1, 2017	<b>Submit Application</b> - All applications must be received by midnite – applications can be emailed to <a href="mailto:internationalleatherlegacy@gmail.com">internationalleatherlegacy@gmail.com</a>
July 7, 2017	<b>Photo</b> - Submit a photo that can be used on web site and run book. Email photos to <a href="mailto:internationalleatherlegacy@gmail.com">internationalleatherlegacy@gmail.com</a>
July 27, 2017	<b>Introduction Video</b> - Prepare a 60 second introduction video that explains the importance of Women's Leather History. This video will be shown Friday night during the Meet & Greet when you are introduced for the first time. You can create the videos using your cell phone or using other video equipment. Videos can be uploaded and sent via DropBox or Google Drive.
July 27, 2017	<b>Basket/Auction Items</b> - Provide an inventory list of all basket items to <a href="mailto:internationalleatherlegacy@gmail.com">internationalleatherlegacy@gmail.com</a>
FRIDAY AUGUST 4, 2017	
11:30am	<b>Contestant Briefing</b> - Handlers are welcome to attend – Contestants will select the name of the person to interview during the weekend and pick up contestant numbers.
7:45 pm	<b>Meet &amp; Greet/Weekend Opening Festivities</b> - have your basket or auction item in the ballroom for the Meet & Greet. During the Meet & Greet you will do a short introduction and auction your basket.
SATURDAY AUGUST 5, 2017	
9:00am - Noon	<b>Contestant Interviews</b> - Saturday morning interviews will be from 9:00 am until noon. Each interview will be approximately 30 minutes. You are responsible for making sure that you are at the interview on time. Arriving late for Your interview will result in a reduced score from the judges. Contestants who arrive more than 10 minutes late will not be interviewed and will receive a 0 for the interview category.
2:45 – 4:15PM	<b>Historical Presentations</b> – Six (6) minute presentations that are prepared ahead of time. If multimedia content is used then that needs to be provided to the tech crew in the ballroom prior to the presentations.
8:00PM	<b>WILL 2017 Contest</b> – if you are using multimedia for your interview presentation make sure the tech crew has your presentation so it can be projected.

If you have any questions or concerns about deadlines please email [internationalleatherlegacy@gmail.com](mailto:internationalleatherlegacy@gmail.com)