

Lester Prairie Senior
Ambassador Program

*The mission of the Lester Prairie Ambassador Program is to provide young women with the opportunity to represent our community as ambassadors. Our goal is to provide these young women with skills that can be used in their future, such as public relation skills, community pride, and service towards others.*

**Lester Prairie Ambassador Coordinators:**

Lauren Trittabaugh and Taylor Bayerl
**2023-2024 Lester Prairie Ambassadors**
Senior Ambassadors:
***Allison Knoll and Averey Heimerl***
Junior Ambassadors:
***Alison Martinez and Audriana Dawson***

**Contact Info:**

Email: lesterprairieambassadors@gmail.com

Prairie Days Website: https://lpprairiedays.weebly.com/

Facebook: Lester Prairie Royalty

Instagram: @lesterprairieambassadors

\*Please Note: The best way to contact the coordinators is through email\*

**Special Notes:**

We are very excited that you are considering our program! We are looking forward to meeting you and working with you during this experience!

Please make note of the following:

The Lester Prairie Ambassador Program prides itself on creating wonderful opportunities for young women. This is a highly respected title that comes with responsibilities. Please note, we are strict because we wish to uphold a positive image of the community as well as the program.

During the candidate experience, the Coordinators will be a resource to candidates. Coordinators will provide judging tips, etiquette tips, and direction in various aspects of the candidate process. Candidates will be participating in public appearances, luncheons, dinners, the judging process, and a wide variety of community events. The Coordinators’ goal is to provide a safe, fun, and memorable experience to all the candidates.

Each candidate will have a binder that holds their candidate information, candidate contracts, as well as any information brought forth to the Coordinators. The Coordinators have the right to bring every candidate binder to the judges.

With this being said, the Coordinators of the program do not endorse any specific candidate for Lester Prairie Ambassador or Minneapolis Aquatennial Queen of the Lakes Candidate. Ambassadors are not chosen based on economic status, race, religion, or any disabilities or abilities. Each candidate will have an equal opportunity to represent Lester Prairie to the best of her ability.

The Coordinators will have sole discretion in all matters.

**Lester Prairie Senior Ambassador Candidate Program Regulations**

Rules denoted with an asterisk (\*) are aligned with Aquatennial regulations.

**A) Candidate**

1. Must be between the ages of 16-21. Candidate must be 16 by the time of Prairie Days, (July 13, 2024).
2. Must have a Lester Prairie address or attend Lester Prairie Schools.
3. Is eligible to compete within the Ambassador Program for a maximum of three times. No past royalty may compete for the title of Lester Prairie Ambassador again.
4. Must be present for the entirety of Prairie Days. If a candidate is not able to attend all of Prairie Days, she is not eligible to run as a candidate.
5. \*Must not have been married or have a marriage annulled. If selected for Lester Prairie Ambassador, she may not get married during her reign.
6. Must agree to no Public Display of Affection (PDA) while she is in crown and sash. (Hugs and handshakes are excluded)
7. \*Must not have children or be pregnant during candidacy or reign.
8. Must not have received a minor consumption or have any other incidents on her record.
9. Must keep ALL social media sites clean and appropriate.
10. Must be respectful to other crown sisters, community members, coordinators, and chaperones.
11. Must not have any offensive tattoos. If the candidate has tattoos, the covering of the tattoos will be left to the discretion of the coordinators.
12. Must have appropriate body piercings, such as stud nose piercings, stud cartilage piercing, and earlobe piercings. Hoops are not acceptable in nose or cartilage piercings. Earlobes are the only place where hoops can be worn.
13. Must complete candidate code of conduct contract and media release contract before deadline. (If not turned in, candidacy WILL NOT be accepted.)
14. Must complete candidate biography sheet before deadline.

**B) Ambassador Candidate Code of Conduct**

1. During all appearances, candidate must be with the group that is chaperoned by an APPROVED chaperone.
2. During all appearances, candidate needs to conduct herself with respect and treat all others with that same respect.
3. The candidate will not use tobacco, drugs, or consume alcohol during her candidacy or reign.
4. Sashes are to be removed when not with an approved chaperone. Candidate shirts cannot be worn unless approved.
5. The candidate **will not** use cell phones at any appearances or events. If there is a situation that arises requiring a phone, please speak with the chaperone.
6. There shall be no PDA during appearances. During appearances, significant others are not allowed to follow the candidates around.
7. The candidate is expected to be at all events and participate, UNLESS prior approval at the Coordinator’s discretion. Please be aware that attendance will be taken at events. This attendance will be given to the judges.
8. Unexcused absences and tardiness are not acceptable. Candidates must arrive at events ten minutes prior to it starting. Candidates must be at events from start to finish. Candidates will not be allowed to leave early from events. If there is an emergency and candidates must be late or leave early, the coordinators must be informed of this. This will still be reported to judges.
9. Candidates must help set up float for parades.
10. Any candidate may be dismissed from the candidacy by the discretion of the coordinators.

\*\*As a note, the Coordinators have the sole decision on how many ambassadors are crowned each year. Coordinators also have final say in any disputes, claims, or issues within the program.

**C) Social Media and Communications**

1. Social Media must be kept clean. Any post that is vulgar, shows illegal activity, or criticizing the program, coordinators, or other crown sisters/candidates will not be tolerated. Any screenshot reported to coordinators or seen by coordinators can result in removal of title and candidacy.
2. When using communications, such as texting, email, snapchat, messenger, and a variety of other platforms, the communications must be appropriate. The coordinators will not tolerate swearing and disrespect between crown sisters, candidates, coordinators, or chaperones. If an inappropriate screenshot is shown to coordinators, it can result in removal of the Ambassador title.
3. Posting on Social Media is a common practice. Please be aware of what is posted, what you are tagged in, and what is seen on stories. Any misconduct on any social media platform can result in the removal of the Ambassador title.

**D) Candidate Attire**

1. Candidates will need to provide the following items
	1. Dress shoes, jewelry, accessories
	2. Formal wear for Coronation. (Floor length dress, one piece, not white, and not revealing in front or back)
	3. Sundresses for various appearances (Must be below knees, not revealing front or back)
	4. Business Outfit (for judging)
	5. Black Capris
	6. Comfy black tennis shoes
2. Candidates will be provided with the following items:
	1. Candidate Shirt and Sash
	2. Prairie Days Ambassador Buttons
	3. Photo Shoot
	4. Etiquette Training
	5. Variety of experiences in parades and community service activities
	6. Polo and dresses (if selected as Ambassador)

**Judging Process**

The judges will be selected based on their experience with other royalty programs. The judging will be done through a panel of experienced judges. They will have no relation to the community of Lester Prairie, ensuring that there will be no biased selection of ambassadors.

Ambassadors are not chosen based on economic status, race, religion, or any disabilities or abilities. Each candidate will have an equal opportunity to represent Lester Prairie to the best of her ability.

Candidates will be judged in a variety of ways during Prairie Days. The judging will be:

1) Community Involvement

2) Poise, Appearance, and Personality

3) Formal Interview and Communication Skills

4) Fishbowl Questions and Speeches

5) Banquet Etiquette

6) Parade

7) Professionalism

As a Note: Candidates at any time can inform the judges or coordinators that they would like to decline the title of Lester Prairie Ambassador. If this choice is made by a candidate, she will still be required to participate in the banquet, parade, and coronation. If the candidate decides to decline the title, she will need to sign a contract confirming the removal of herself from the competition.

**Parent/Guardian Expectations:**

Parents/Guardians, due to the nature of this program, you are going to be heavily invested in the growth of your daughter through this program. There are certain requirements that will need to be done throughout your daughter’s reign, if she is to be selected as Ambassador.

\*Please note, parents will have the responsibility of chaperoning the royalty to the majority of events. If it is not possible, the coordinators may be available to take the position of the parents as chaperones.

A) Parents

1. Are responsible for pulling float in a variety of parades. If parents cannot pull float or do not have means to pull the float, please contact the coordinators in a timely manner. (At least one week in advance)
2. Are responsible for chaperoning events. This includes brunches, lunches, dinners, banquets, parades, events, etc. If you cannot make it, please inform the coordinators in a timely manner. (At least one week in advance)
3. Are responsible for the upkeep of the flowers for the float. Please note, your responsibility will be to keep the flowers alive during the summer months. If any issue arises, please contact the coordinators. During the winter months, the coordinators will instruct you when the flowers need to be returned to Holasek Flower Power Garden Center.
4. Are responsible for the security and storage of the float. (Parents do not have to pay for upkeep of the float, but we just ask that it is maintained and kept in the best shape possible during the reign. If anything is wrong or damaged, please contact the coordinators.)
5. Are responsible for the gas needed for the generator.
6. Are expected to arrive on time, stay through events, and travel with the royalty as a chaperone. Parents are expected to work with other parents for the wellbeing of the Ambassadors.
7. Are expected to follow the wishes of the Coordinators.
8. Are expected to keep positive relationships with other parents and royalty members. If there are any complaints or proof of misconduct, the parent(s) can be removed as approved chaperones.
9. When attending events, the coordinators cover the costs of tickets for Ambassadors and two chaperones. (One Senior Ambassador parent and one Junior Ambassador Parent) Any additional ticket fees will be the responsibility of the parents.
10. Conflicts and resolutions: Consequences will be determined by the committee on a case-by-case basis.
	1. Verbal Warning
	2. Verbal and Written Warning
	3. Verbal and Written removal of Chaperone Title

\*Please note, these points will be covered more in depth at the Chaperone Meeting.

**Candidate Form Deadlines**

\*Please note, all forms are due on **April 30th, 2024**. The forms that need to be turned in are the following:

* Candidate Code of Conduct Contract: This contract will need to be signed before candidacy can be accepted. Please turn this in as a paper copy.
* Biography Form: This form will need to be typed in a word document and electronically turned in to lesterprairieambassadors@gmail.com. A confirmation email will be sent when the coordinators have received it.
* Letter of Recommendation: Please submit your letter of recommendation as a paper copy.
* Photo Release: Your photo release form will need to be signed before candidacy can be accepted. Please turn this in as a paper copy.
* Ambassador Application

(All forms listed above are in the Ambassador application)

If you have any questions regarding these forms, please contact the coordinators.

**Lester Prairie Ambassador Program Royalty Rules and Regulations**

**A) Ambassador**

1. Shall show respect for other royalty members, parents, volunteers, community members, and coordinators. Please note that as an Ambassador you are representing Lester Prairie, make good choices about your private life.
2. Must follow the Candidate Rules and Regulations.
3. Must follow the wishes of the Coordinators.
4. Crowns may not be worn outside of prearranged events without approval from coordinators.
5. No alcoholic beverages, smoking, or drugs may be consumed during reign. If information is presented of it, it will result in the removal of the Ambassador title.
6. Chewing gum is not allowed at any event.
7. Dress Code during events: No denim (unless specified for Jesse James Days by coordinators), yoga pants, leggings, flip flops, or sunglasses.
8. Coordinators will have final say over what outfits are worn to events.
9. Formals must be worn at all coronations. During parades, casual dresses or pantsuits can be worn.
10. Ambassador is responsible for the upkeep of program items, such as capes and blankets. If any damage occurs, the Ambassador will be responsible for replacement costs.
11. Must not wear another crown for a different program, except for school functions, such as Homecoming Queen or SnoFest Queen. Ambassador is not allowed to compete for another crown until handing down her crown as Lester Prairie Ambassador. If you are currently a part of another royalty program and you are selected as a Lester Prairie Ambassador, you must give up the other title immediately.
12. Must agree to no Public Display of Affection (PDA) while she is in crown and sash. (Hugs and handshakes are excluded) This means that significant others are not to be with Ambassador while she is in crown and sash.
13. The Ambassador may not live with her significant other.
14. The Ambassador must not make drastic hair color changes during her reign.
15. All inappropriate tattoos must be covered at all times. Other tattoos will be covered at the discretion of the coordinators. Piercings must be kept appropriate.
16. Crown must be worn at all events. Sashes will be worn at all parades, but in the instance of wearing a polo shirt, the sashes will not be worn.
17. Appropriate makeup and hair must be worn at public events. General Rule with hair: hair does not have to match your crown sister entirely; we ask that you coordinate together whether you are going to wear it up or down.
18. While not at an event, crown and sash cannot be worn in public without prior approval from coordinators.
19. Always travel with an approved chaperone.
20. The coordinators will provide a budget for attire for the candidates.
21. It may be necessary for the Ambassadors to spend some of their own money during their year of reign.
22. Ambassadors are responsible for the cleaning, care, and upkeep of their wardrobe.
23. All clothing needs to be approved in advance of purchase by coordinators.

**B) Scheduling**

1. Ambassadors are expected to attend all events throughout her reign. If an Ambassador cannot attend an event, she must have a valid reason and notify the coordinators at least a week in advance. The coordinators realize each Ambassador has a busy schedule. The coordinators realize that attending a college may be a reason for missed events during the school year, those are excused. The coordinators will consider school functions such as games, play performances, band concerts, knowledge bowl meets, NHS, Student Council, and other school commitments (practices excluded). The coordinators also take into consideration family emergencies and events. If an Ambassador has three or more unexcused absences, it can result in loss of crown and/or scholarship.
2. Lester Prairie events or meetings will take precedence over any other event.
3. Requests for appearances must be referred to coordinators, who will make arrangements.
4. The Ambassadors must ask the coordinators themselves to add extra events not listed on the schedule that they want to attend.

**C) Scholarship**

1. A scholarship will be awarded to each Ambassador at the end of her reign. This scholarship will be awarded at the farewell coronation.
2. The amount of the scholarship varies year to year due to variation in contributions from community members.

**D) Parades**

1. Only Ambassadors, approved chaperones, and coordinators are allowed to be in parade vehicle and float.
2. An approved chaperone may walk along the side of the float for safety reasons. Parents who do so, must be dressed in parent shirts.
3. The float may not be altered in any way without the approval of the coordinators. Suggestions or concerns should be brought to the coordinators.
4. No candy or other items may be thrown from the float or vehicle during a parade.
5. No pop or food may be consumed during the parade. (Water excluded)
6. No sunglasses are allowed during the parade.
7. Any report of inappropriate behavior during a parade can result in the termination of one’s title.
8. NO ONE is allowed to sit on the back of the truck during a parade (unless okayed by the coordinators.)

**E) Aquatennial**

1. Aquatennial is a wonderful opportunity for one of our Ambassadors to represent the town of Lester Prairie.
2. Candidates for Aquatennial are selected by the judges at the time of the ambassador's initial crowning. This information will be given to the coordinators and kept in a binder. All Ambassadors will have their binders updated and attendance taken at events. This information will be given to the judges at the following coronation. The ambassadors will be judged again, and the final decision will be made on who is going to attend Minneapolis Aquatennial.

**F) Resolving Conflicts and Remediation**

1. There is always a possibility of conflict in a Royalty Program. Conflicts will be dealt with in a timely and respectful manner. Please note, the coordinators will have final say in the problem resolution. Should conflict arise, the following steps will be taken:
	1. Verbal and Written warning from coordinators. A parent meeting will be set and a plan for remediation will be put in place.
	2. Verbal and Written notice of removal of Scholarship.
	3. Verbal and Written notice of termination from the program.