

Santa Clara County Leather Contest

CONTESTANT INFORMATION & APPLICATION

The Santa Clara County Leather Contest is open to all men and women regardless of race, religion, political affiliation or sexual orientation. The goal of this contest is to find those who will best represent Santa Clara County and the general leather community as a whole. The man and woman chosen to carry these titles must promote a positive leather image, foster unity within the leather culture and raise the consciousness of the general public about alternative lifestyles and cultures. Overall judging will be based on Attitude, Personality, Leather Image, Stage presence, Ability to do the "Job," Public Speaking and Community Awareness. Each contestant will be interviewed individually by the panel of judges (pre-judging) and make several stage appearances in the course of the contest.

The winners (Mr. and Ms Santa Clara County Leather) will each receive a prize package including:

- A travel allowance to be applied towards a portion of the cost of transportation to and expenses as a contestant at one international or national leather contests. Any entry fees for said contest will be paid by Santa Clara County Leather
- A leather patch bearing their title and year, suitable for application to a vest or jacket.
- A medallion bearing their title and year.
- Custody of the Mr. or Ms. Santa Clara County Leather sash for the year of their title. The sash remains the property of Santa Clara County Leather and must be returned when the title is passed on or should the winner otherwise relinquish the title.
- Other prizes to be determined.

Rules and Requirements : Rules

To compete for the title of Mr. Santa Clara County Leather or Ms Santa Clara County Leather, you:

- 1 must be at least 21 years of age.
- 2 must be a resident of Santa Clara County, Santa Cruz County, Alameda County north to Fremont, or San Mateo County north to San Mateo. Note: residency is less important than the attitude that the South Bay Area is the center of your personal Leather community.
- 3 must participate in all levels of the judging and pre-judging for the contest and to appear on time at all related events during the contest weekend. Required events have in the past included contestant meetings, "Meet 'n' Greet" parties, and "Contestants' Night Out" in addition to the contest prejudging, stage rehearsal, and Contest Show. *A full schedule of deadlines and events will be published well in advance of the weekend.*
4. must own the leathers and costuming you plan to wear in the contest.
5. must sign a release allowing your photos and images to appear in the media and any video which may be produced from a SCCL event.
6. must sign a pledge agreeing to abide by the "SCCL Guidelines" (the Requirements following below) should you win the title.
7. **All appearances must comply with federal, state and local decency and nudity laws or you will be disqualified. Similarly, actual sex acts (penetration) violate obscenity codes and may not be performed in public.**



Santa Clara County Leather

Rules and Requirements:

Requirements (The SCCL Guidelines)

The Santa Clara County Leather Association expects a certain level of commitment from its titleholders. These guidelines spell out those expectations in terms of behavior, activity, and accountability.

Behavior: During their title year, the winners (Mr. & Ms Santa Clara County Leather) are expected to:

- Maintain a positive attitude
- Be active in the Santa Clara County Leather Community
- Demonstrate the desire and willingness to bring/keep the diverse membership of our Leather Communities closer/together
- Maintain an openness, respect, and willingness to work with all aspects of the Community (Lesbian, Gay, Straight, Bi, Drag, and others)
- Have the commitment and support of your personal communities to help you achieve success in your role of SCCL titleholder during your title year.
- Be willing to represent SCCL at a national or international Leather Title contest.

Activity: during their title year, Mr. & Ms Santa Clara County Leather are expected to:

- Host (facilitate) the monthly Leather community gathering (*Leatherschmooze*), normally held the first Thursday of each month at the Billy DeFrank Center.
On those occasions when neither of the titleholders is available to host, make arrangements to have another community member facilitate the meeting
- Participate in the local gay pride celebration.
- Initiate and execute a minimum of six local BDSM/Leather related events as a team, with at least two of the six events being fundraisers for a local charity.
- Appear and participate at the next Santa Clara County Leather Contest to pass on the title and sash
- In addition, each is expected (but not required) to compete in one international or national Leather title contest

Accountability: Titleholders are placed in a position of peculiar trust and responsibility, and so must remain accountable for their actions as titleholders to the community.

- All Titleholders must exercise a standard of care. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - Not appearing in public intoxicated, or under the influence of drugs, while acting in an official capacity,
 - Treating all persons with reasonable courtesy and respect,
 - Being responsible and accountable for all commitments to appear and schedules to be met, and
 - Refraining from slander or ridicule regarding individuals, organizations, or the Leather community as a whole.
 - Mr. & Ms SCCL must follow the "SCCL Money Handling Guidelines" for all events they produce, and see that those or equivalent procedures are followed for any events to which they lend their name and/or title.
 - Never use the title for personal gain without the written permission of Santa Clara County Leather or its agents.
 - If for any reason one of the titleholders is unable/unwilling to complete their title year, he/she will surrender
 - the duties of the title
 - the SCCL title sash
 - the SCCL titleholders guideline book
 - any prizes won at the contest
 - any outstanding travel fund moneyto the first runner up. In the case that there was no first runner up, and should the previous year's titleholder abstain from assuming the duties, that title shall become inactive for the remainder of the title year.

Remember that what we are looking for is NOT necessarily the prettiest face, best body or the most expensive outfits, but rather someone whose self-assurance, demeanor and whose very presence is imbued with that special quality we recognize as Leather.

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Judging Criteria:

These will be the categories you will be judged under: 100 points possible from each judge.**

- PERSONAL INTERVIEW: Dress Casual Leather/Levi/Fetish - Any type of leather outfit or combination of leather, levi, or fetish wear you choose that best expresses your personal style and tastes. This will be the first look the judges will get at you. The interview with the judges will last approx. 20 min. (25 points possible). This can also be the outfit that you will be introduced in during the opening of the contest.
- SPEECH: Dress to be Formal / Dressy - 2 minute prepared speech on any subject you feel is appropriate. (20 points possible).
- EROTIC IMAGE AND FANTASY: (35 points total possible)
 - FANTASY: Short performance (5 min. MAX.) Depict a leather, s/m, or other fetish fantasy. It can be erotic, political or funny. You may use music, dance, spoken word, movement and mime as well as costumes and manageable props. Your fantasy does not have to be sexual. Any imaginative scenario with a leather or leather/fetish lifestyle theme is appropriate. If your fantasy is sexual/erotic, please exercise good judgment and remember nudity and decency laws must be obeyed at all times. Creativity and originality really count in this category. Provide your own music, props, etc. Music on cassette and cued up to start (2 tapes needed).
 - EROTIC IMAGE: A separate stage appearance may be included in the contest for you to present yourself in a more intimate, erotic look. In some contests this is referred to as the physique appearance, but the judges are more interested in seeing a positive erotic image rather than the most skin or the best body. Again, please exercise good judgment and remember that nudity and decency laws must be obeyed at all times.***
 - ATTITUDE: Judged for the entire contest (10 points possible)
 - IMAGE: Judged for the entire contest (10 points possible)

****Should there be only one contestant for a title, that contestant must score a minimum of 75% of the possible maximum total points from the panel of judges.**

*****Note that many of the leather "jocks" or "g-strings" on sale may not meet these legal requirements. If you have any questions regarding these matters, ask the producers well in advance. The producers encourage you to be imaginative in creating your "erotic image" and fantasy while staying within the legal guidelines... remember that "most sexy/erotic" is not the same as "most naked"!**

Application Deadline: see the published official schedule of events and deadlines.

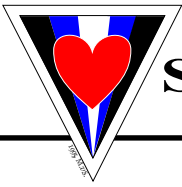
If you have obtained this application without such a schedule, please contact SCCLA to ensure you receive one in a timely manner.

Note: Because of the legal requirement for a signature, official entries cannot be made electronically. Contestants are welcome to submit their information by email to SCCLA@SCCLLeather.org, but we must have a printed, signed copy of the application by the deadline. Contestants who make arrangements *before* the published deadline may bring their signed forms to the first required contestants' meeting on that schedule. The sooner an application is submitted, the sooner we can send out full schedules, rehearsal forms, etc.

Applications may be mailed to :

Santa Clara County Leather Contest
c/o Santa Clara County Leather
938 The Alameda
San Jose, CA 95126

For further info, [email](#) or write to the above address



Santa Clara County Leather

Contestant Application Form

Name: _____

Legal Name : _____

Address : _____

Phone : _____

Hobbies : _____

Community Activities : _____

Clubs/Organizations: _____

How long in Leather? _____

First memory of Leather: _____

Any Body Modifications (Tattoos, Piercings, Brandings, etc.) you would like to tell us about?

How many? Where? _____

Favorite Fetish (to participate in or watch): _____

Are you in a relationship? What kind? _____

Why do you want to be Mr. or Ms Santa Clara County Leather? _____

Do you have any special needs we should know about (mobility problems, etc.)? _____

I hereby certify that I am over 21 years of age and agree to abide by the **Judging Criteria, Rules and Requirements** for the Santa Clara County Leather contest. Should I win or assume the duties of the title ("Mr. Santa Clara County Leather" or "Ms Santa Clara County Leather"), I agree to abide by the above **SCCL Guidelines** during the duration of my title year.

I also give my permission for use and release of my name and image in association with the Santa Clara County Leather contest and title.

Your signature : _____ Date: _____

Print your name: _____

Witnessed by: _____ Date: _____

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*Revision history:
21 January 1999 based on SCCL committee meeting of 14 January 1999;
Updated 8 December 1999 for the SCCL 2000 contest*

Updated 3 August 2000 for SCCL 2001 and future contests (specific dates removed to a separate schedule document)