

HOMECOMING COURT 2019

OFFICIAL RULES

DESCRIPTION

The Homecoming Court and the positions on Court are a part of the annual Homecoming festivities at KSU. The purpose of the court is to recognize members of the student body who make invaluable contributions to the KSU community and represent the core ideals of Kennesaw State University as student leaders. These individuals are identified by their peers, faculty, and staff. Throughout the week of Homecoming, they are expected to be present at various Homecoming activities and serve as ambassadors of school spirit and pride as a Kennesaw State Owl. The opportunity to serve on Homecoming Court is available to all KSU students enrolled in the fall semester during Homecoming. Membership on Homecoming Court, as well as the specific positions on court, is not bound to any specific sex, gender identity, or sexual preference of any student, and all students who meet the qualifications outlined in this packet are eligible for consideration. The true purpose of the Homecoming Court is to bring students together as one student body.

COURT STRUCTURE

The Homecoming Court consists of 22 KSU students and is comprised of specific positions for seniors (king/queen), juniors (prince/princess), and sophomores (duke/duchess). For the court, there are 5 king/queen candidates (10 total), 3 prince/princess candidates (6 total), and 3 duke/duchess candidates (6 total).

SCHEDULE

Event	Date(s)	Time	Location(s)
Registration Open	08/19/19	8:00am	Online, Owl Life
Registration Deadline	09/06/19	5:00pm	Online, Owl Life
Interview Cut	09/15/19	8:00pm	Email Notification
Interviews	09/22/19	Various	Burress Building
Court Selection	09/22/19	9:00pm	Email Notification
Photo Shoot	09/23/19	6:00pm-7:00pm	Stadium
Court Meeting	09/24/19	7:00pm	Student Center RM369
Campaigning	09/30-10/11	12:00am-12:00pm	Various
Voting	10/6-10/11	Closes at 12:00pm	Online, Owl Life
Trivia Night	10/08/19	6:00pm	Kennesaw/Marietta Campus
Service Project	10/09/19	12:00pm	Kennesaw/Marietta Campus
Lip Sync and Pep Rally	10/11/19	6:00pm	Howell and Norton Hall (Marietta)
Homecoming Parade	10/12/19	TBD	Fifth Third Bank Stadium
Homecoming Game	10/12/19	3:00pm	Fifth Third Bank Stadium
HC Reunion Brunch	10/13/19	11:00am-1:00pm	TBD

SELECTION PROCESS

General Overview

The selection process for Homecoming court is a three-step process, which includes an application, in-person interviews, and open voting among the student body. Each step in the process has detailed rules, guidelines, and/or procedures, so applicants are encouraged to read this packet in its entirety before submitting their materials. The process, rules, and logistics for Homecoming Court are all coordinated through the Department of Student Activities. All questions or concerns regarding Homecoming Court may be addressed to Jancarla Hernandez, Coordinator of Student Activities, at Jhern115@Kennesaw.edu.

Applicant Qualifications

- Credit hour requirement
 - o Applicants for King and Queen must have completed 90 credit hours or more, 12 of which must be KSU hours.
 - o Applicants for Prince and Princess must have completed 60-89 credit hours, 12 of which must be KSU hours.
 - o Applicants for Duke and Duchess must have completed 30-59 credit hours, 12 of which must be KSU hours.
- Applicants must hold a 2.5 adjusted GPA or higher.
- Applicants must be registered for at least six credit hours during the fall 2018 semester.
- Applicants must be in good academic and disciplinary standing with the University.
- Applicants cannot be a King or Queen from a previous year at KSU.

Application

The individual court candidate must fill out the Homecoming Court Application online prior to 5pm on September 6, 2019. The application can be found on the homecoming website, <http://homecoming.kennesaw.edu/>. In addition to contact info, a short bio, and resume, the application contains three questions that candidates will be expected to answer (answers will be limited to 500 words or less):

- What one piece of advice that you would tell yourself when you were a freshman that you now know could benefit you?
- Which experience at KSU has had the greatest impact on you, and why?
- What do you consider to be the greatest challenge facing college students today?

Interviews

After all applications have been received, an initial round of cuts will be made to limit the candidates to 10 each for King and Queen, 6 each for Prince and Princess, and 6 each for Duke and Duchess (there may be less depending on the number of applications for each position). The initial cut will be made by judges based on the strength of each candidate's application materials in addition to their Adjusted GPA. Candidates will be notified via email on 09/15/19 as to the status of their application. Candidates who make it past the initial cut will be interviewed in person by judges in interviews scheduled to take place on Sunday 09/22/19 in the afternoon. More info about scheduling interviews will be contained in the email sent on 09/15/19, but all applicants should keep Sunday 09/22/19 open. If a candidate fails to register for a time slot before the day of interviews, they may be disqualified. Interviews will be 10 minutes long with a panel of judges. Candidates are encouraged to dress in professional attire and arrive at least 10 minutes before their scheduled time. For the interviews, judges will be using the interview scoring sheet (Appendix A).

Campaigning/Voting

After all interviews have been completed, another round of cuts will be made by the judges to select the final Homecoming Court, which will consist of 5 candidates for Homecoming King, 5 candidates

for Homecoming Queen, 3 candidates for Prince, 3 candidates for Princess, 3 candidates for Duke, and 3 candidates for Duchess. All candidates will be notified on 09/22/19 of their status. Members of the Homecoming Court are required to attend an informational meeting on 09/24/18 at 7:00pm in Student Center RM 369 (Kennesaw) to go over rules and expectations for campaigning and Homecoming events. Campaigning starts on 09/30/19 at 12:00am and goes to 10/11/19 at 12:00pm. Voting will be conducted via Owl Life from 10/06/19-10/11/19. All currently enrolled KSU students will be able to vote for one candidate for each position. Each position on the Homecoming Court will be determined by the popular vote results (the candidate with the most votes wins).

Campaigning Rules:

- Campaigning will not be allowed prior to Friday 09/30/19 at 12:00am.
- Campaigning must end by Friday 10/11/19 at 12:00pm.
- All policies concerning reservation of space must be followed. If campaigning is going to be done in a specific location on campus, you or your sponsoring organization must have an approved reservation for that space. If you have any questions concerning this policy please contact Jancarla Hernandez at Jhern115@kennesaw.edu.
- All posted campaign material must follow all KSU and Student Activities posting policies (found on the Student Activities website, studentactivities.kennesaw.edu under "Solicitations and Postings"). It will be the candidate's responsibility to request approval from the appropriate building authorities should he/she/they wish to post campaigning materials outside of the Student Center in academic or administrative buildings.
- Displaying of campaign flyers and/or posters on campus is permitted only on approved bulletin boards. No campaign material can exceed eleven inches by seventeen inches (11" X 17"). Each candidate may not be represented more than twice on any bulletin board or posting area. Remember: candidates are not guaranteed space on campus bulletin boards.
- Displacing, altering, or removing another candidate's flyer(s) is strictly prohibited and grounds for disqualification of represented candidate(s) if proven to be responsible. This extends to anyone acting on behalf of a candidate.
- Campaigning inside University buildings is allowed as long as it does not disrupt routine University activity or classroom instruction and follows all reservation policies. Complaints from instructors or campus employees will be taken seriously and may result in disqualification.
- The Director of Residence Life or their designee must approve any and all campaigning in Residence Halls without exception.
- No campaign material may be taped to the ground, windows, doors or walls of any office, building or KSU Property.
- Chalking is NOT permitted anywhere for the HC Court campaign.
- One-to-one e-mail communication and e-mailing across list-serves that students have voluntarily joined is permitted.
- Electronic campaigning is permitted through means of social media outlets (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.). Student Activities will not monitor these forms of campaigning; however, proof of willful intent to hurt, harm, or damage the character of any candidate in the process may result in disqualification.
- Personal computers and laptops may not be set up as polling stations by any individual or organization during the election window. Any candidate found guilty will be automatically disqualified.
- All grievances for campaign violations must be submitted via email to Jancarla Hernandez at Jhern115@kennesaw.edu within twenty-four (24) hours of the alleged violation. The grievance must include the following: your name, phone number, the name of the alleged violator (if available), time and date of the violation, and a detailed description of the violation. Strong, physical evidence is highly recommended when submitting a grievance. The Department of

Student Activities will make decisions concerning violations and decisions will be final. Grievances will not be accepted after 5:00pm on Friday, October 06.

- Please include supporting documentation (e.g., screen shots, pictures, emails, etc.) with your grievance.
- Any violation of the above stated rules or failure to comply with the regulations may result in disqualification or other penalties.

Homecoming Week Events

Photo Shoot- TBD. All members of the Homecoming Court will be invited to participate in a photo shoot to capture pictures to be used in Homecoming marketing materials and the Court announcement in the Student Media publications. Attire for this event is professional or formal, but all members of the court are expected to wear black and gold ONLY.

Trivia Night- Each year the Department of Student Activities hosts a trivia night as a part of the Homecoming Spirit Competitions. This year the trivia night is being hosted on both the Kennesaw and Marietta campuses on Tuesday 10/08/19 from 6:00-8:00pm in the Student Centers. The Homecoming Court is expected to participate and will compete in the trivia night as a team (campus will be determined at Court Meeting on 09/25/19). Attire for this event is casual.

Service Project- The annual service project in the week of Homecoming is going to be held on Wednesday 10/09/19 from 12:00-2:00 in both Kennesaw and Marietta Campus. Court members are expected to participate in the service project as they are able. There is no preferred attire for this event.

Lip Sync- The annual Lip Sync competition will be held on Friday 10/11/19 from 6:00-11:00pm. Homecoming Court members are expected to attend this event and wear their sashes. Homecoming Court members will be making individual presentations at the event after the last group performs and the before the results of the competition results are announced. Each candidate will be introduced and be given 2 minutes to address the attendees of the Lip Sync event. There is no preferred attire for this event.

Parade- The annual Homecoming Parade will take place on the Kennesaw campus on Saturday 10/12/19 from TBD. All Homecoming Court members are required to attend this event and wear their sashes. Attire for this event is formal. The staging area for parade is the parking lot at the Perch, and all Homecoming Court members are expected to arrive at the Perch Lot no later than 3:00pm. There will be limited parking available in the Perch Lot, so all Homecoming Court members will need to make arrangements accordingly.

Homecoming Football Game- The Homecoming football game against Gardner Webb will be Saturday 10/12/19. At the game, all Homecoming Court members are expected to be present and wear their sashes. Attire is formal. There will be a halftime presentation of the court where the winners will be announced. All Homecoming Court members will be required to meet the Student Activities representatives behind the student section in 5/3 Bank Stadium before the game clock reached 5:00 in the second quarter. After the halftime presentation, all court members are free to enjoy the rest of the Homecoming game at their leisure.

Homecoming Court Reunion Brunch- The winners of the Homecoming Court will be invited to participate in a Homecoming Court Reunion to celebrate with past Homecoming Court winners since 1970. Attire for this event is professional or formal. The event will be at TBD in Kennesaw.

APPENDICES

Appendix A

Homecoming Court Interview

Judge Score Sheet

Judge Name: _____

Candidate Name: _____

Interview Date: _____ Time: _____

Please rate the candidate's performance in the following categories from 1-5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent

CATEGORY	SCORE	COMMENTS (optional)
Professionalism: - Does the candidate show professionalism in their appearance and interaction?		
Leadership: - Does the candidate demonstrate strong leadership skills?		
School Spirit: - Does the candidate demonstrate strong KSU spirit and knowledge of the University?		
Civic Engagement: - Does the candidate demonstrate a commitment to community service and/or social change?		
TOTAL SCORE		

Kennesaw State University Homecoming Activities Waiver and Release

Event: Homecoming Court

Date(s): 10/7/2019 – 10/13/2019

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING:

LIABILITY WAIVER, RELEASE, INDEMNITY AND PROMISE NOT TO SUE:

I, the undersigned below, in consideration of my participation in the Event(s) referenced above and any related activities thereto including training, preparation, and travel (separately and collectively, the "Event"), wherever the/these Event(s) may occur, acknowledge that I am aware that as a result of my participation in the Event, there exists the potential for injuries including but not limited to scrapes, bruises, broken bones, various injuries to the body, and possible loss of life and I freely assume on my behalf all risks incidental to such participation.

In consideration of my participation in the Event and on my behalf, and on behalf of my heirs, executors, administrators and next of kin, I hereby release, covenant not to sue, and forever discharge the Released Parties (as defined below) of and from all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs and expenses of any nature arising out of, related to, or in any way connected with my participation in the Event and/or any such related and associated activities, and further agree to indemnify and hold each of the Released Parties harmless from and against any and all such liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs and expenses including by way of example, but not limited to, all attorneys' fees, costs of court, and the costs and expenses of other professionals and disbursements up through and including any appeal. I, understand that this Release and indemnity includes any claims based on the negligence, action or inaction of any of the Released Parties and covers bodily injury (including, without limitation, death), property damage, and loss by theft or otherwise, whether suffered before, during or after such participation. I declare that I am physically fit and have the skill level required to participate in the Event and/or any such related and associated activities. I further authorize medical treatment for myself, at my cost, if the need arises. For the purposes hereof, the "Released Parties" are: Kennesaw State University, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, all Event sponsors, and each of their respective parent, subsidiary, affiliated or related companies; and the officers, directors, employees, agents, representatives, successors, assigns and volunteers of each of the foregoing entities.

I also acknowledge that persons employed by Kennesaw State University may take photographs and/or videos of my participation and allow the use of these materials on behalf of the University without limitation or compensation including the release of my name. I also agree that during the time I am involved with the Event, I will be bound by all rules, regulations, policies, procedures and guidelines of Kennesaw State University and the Board of Regents.

This Waiver and Release Form shall be governed by the laws of the State of Georgia, and any legal action related to or arising out of this Waiver and Release Form shall be commenced exclusively in the Superior Court in and for Cobb County, Georgia. I understand that the acceptance of this liability waiver, release, indemnity and promise not to sue Kennesaw State University or the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia or any agent or employees thereof, shall not constitute a waiver, in whole or in part, of sovereign or official immunity by said Board, its members, officers, agents and employees.

I certify I am eighteen (18) years of age or older, I am executing this Waiver and Permission Form on my behalf and the information set forth above is true and complete.

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND ACCEPT THE CONDITIONS OF THIS LIABILITY RELEASE, INDEMNITY, AND PROMISE NOT TO SUE.

Participant Information: (Please PRINT)

Name: _____

Emergency Contact Name and Phone Number: _____

Signature of Participant: _____

Date: _____