



PRESS RELEASE

NEW SELECTION PROCESS FOR KNUTSFORD ROYAL MAY QUEEN AND LADIES OF THE COURT.

Knutsford Royal May Day Committee is changing the way it selects the town's May Queen and has announced a number of new rules for 2024.

The changes are designed to make it a more gentle, informal and inclusive process and will help the Committee move forward while still upholding the traditions which make this wonderful festival so unique.

The new rules are as follows:

- Applications are invited from girls who are 11,12 or 13 on 1 February 2024 .
- Applicants must live in the area covered by Knutsford Town Council (which includes Tabley).
- No applicants will be eligible if her sister has been a May Queen in the previous two years.
- Applicants must have been in the May Day procession at least twice previously. Applicants do not need to have been a candidate for Maids of Honour previously.
- Eleven randomly selected female voters will vote. The voters will be made up of committee members and independent guests (up to a maximum of three).
- If any of the chosen voters have a relationship with any of the applicants, they must declare this to avoid a conflict of interest.
- The remaining female court characters will be picked out of a hat.
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- **Candidates for Maids of Honour** are invited from girls who are 8 or 9 on 1 February 2024 and must live in the area covered by Knutsford Town Council.
- Applicants will be eligible to enter as a Maid of Honour even if their sister has been a May Queen. They will be sized into three groups and picked out of a hat.

The selection for the 2024 May Queen and Maids will take place at St John's Church in Knutsford on Saturday 27 January at 4pm. Girls wishing to apply for the role of May Queen

must complete an application form, which can be found on Knutsford Royal May Day's Facebook page and send it to Alison Moonan, 34 Carrwood, Knutsford, WA16 8NE or email to the Secretary ee.podmore@ntlworld.com by **5pm on Thursday 18 January**. Unfortunately, applications will not be accepted after this time. Girls wishing to enter as Maids of Honour should just turn up on the day.

For more information please contact the Secretary