



# Illinois Master/slave Contest Application



Welcome to the Illinois Leather Alliance contests! We're very excited that you're considering competing in the Master/slave contest. We hope that the experience you have in competing for the Illinois title is fulfilling and exciting. It's our mission to provide you with the opportunity to be as successful as you want to be.

The Illinois Master/slave title and titleholders are part of the Great Lakes and International Master/slave family. They will represent the Master/slave community and lifestyle with integrity and competence. As such, one of the most important jobs for the titleholders will be to clearly and effectively communicate what it means to them to live and identify as Master or slave.

It is expected that the holders of the titles will take every opportunity to educate the leather/BDSM community on the Master/slave lifestyle, and will actively seek out venues that will allow them to speak on Master/slave issues. The Master and slave titles are not about a particular "look," dress, body type, gender or sexual orientation. There is no required set of protocols that Master and slave are expected to follow.

The Illinois Master/slave contest is a feeder contest into the Great Lakes regional Master/slave contest, which takes place in Indianapolis, Indiana. The winner of the Great Lakes contest goes on to compete at the International Master/slave contest in Dallas, TX.

Do you feel the call to stand up and represent Illinois and be counted as a Master/slave pair? Does educating and representing your flavor of M/s interest you? We hope so!

The following pages contain the official application for the Illinois Master/slave contest. Please take a look at the application, fill it out completely and send it back to us via email. If you cannot submit it via email, please contact us at [info@illinoisleatheralliance.com](mailto:info@illinoisleatheralliance.com) and we will provide a mailing address to you.

For the March 17th/18th 2017 competition, **applications are due by March 3rd, 2017.**

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at [info@illinoisleatheralliance.com](mailto:info@illinoisleatheralliance.com). Thank you for your interest and we can't wait to see you compete!

Sincerely,

*Michael and Angie Shorten*

Executive Producers, Illinois Leather Alliance  
International Master/slave 2014



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## Illinois Master/slave Contest Information

1. Each individual contestant must read and sign the “Contestant Qualifications” sheet. If you don’t meet the qualifications, you may not enter the contest.
2. Each individual contestant must read and sign the “What Is Expected Of the Winners” sheet. Should you win, this is your agreement of what you will do as an Illinois Master/slave titleholders. In return, we will provide you with a travel fund to go towards your Great Lakes contest weekend hotel/registration/travel expenses, with any extra funds going towards your other title year expenses. There is no guarantee that we will be able to raise enough funds to fully pay for all your travel expenses, but that is our goal and part of our mission.
3. Each individual contestant must fill out the Contestant Application/Agreement fully and sign it, as well as sign the “Photographic Release.” You will also provide a photocopy (or electronic scan) of your drivers license to prove your age.
4. Each individual contestant shall donate a gift basket for auction during the Illinois Leather contest event to raise funds for the Illinois titleholders travel fund. The basket should have items that say something about you personally (for example, if you are an artist, you might donate an artwork, if you’re into cigars, you might get some cigars and cutters, etc.)
5. Each individual contestant will provide a 100 word bio and a head shot picture (no more than 3” x 3”, 300dpi minimum) in electronic format upon acceptance of their application. This bio/picture will be used on the Illinois Leather Alliance website and any promotional materials/contest programs created for your contest year.
6. All Contestants must arrive in the contest location no later than 8 pm on Friday before the start of the event and appear in person and on time for all the scheduled events during the Illinois Leather contest weekend.



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7. Contestants are scored by a panel of judges in the categories and points outlined below:
- a) **Speech (100 points)** – The Master and the slave will each make a speech during the Saturday evening contest on the topic of their choice. The Master will have 2 minutes for his or her speech and the slave will also have 2 minutes for his or her speech. The Master and the slave are not required to speak on the same topic.
  - b) **Interview with Judges (150 points)** – During the Interview category, the judges will direct questions at both the Master and the slave. The questions may address, among other topics, any aspect of Master/slave relationships in general, BDSM, leather history, and the contestants' specific Master/slave relationship. The Interview category is open to all attendees of the Illinois Leather Contest.
  - c) **On-stage question (75 points)** – During the contest, each Master and slave will draw and answer a “pop” question while on stage. The questions will generally focus on Master/slave relationships or more generally, on BDSM topics.
  - d) **Master/slave dynamic (75 points)** – Contestants will be observed by the judges throughout the weekend and will be judged on how they interact and present themselves as Master and slave to the public. No particular form of “protocol” or dress is considered to be correct. The judges will be looking for contestants that are comfortable in their particular Master/slave dynamic. Judging on the Master/slave Dynamic will begin on Friday night when the contestant pairs are introduced at the Meet & Greet.
  - e) **Presentation (100 points)** -- Each contestant pair will be required to present a brief presentation on any issue relating to Master/slave relationships. Each contestant pair will be allowed no more than 10 minutes total for the presentation. Contestant pairs are permitted to use hand outs, props or other visual aids in their presentations, but are not required to do so. If a contestant pair chooses to use hand outs, it is the responsibility of the contestant pair to bring enough copies for at least the judges of the Contest. If a contestant pair chooses to use props or other visual aids, the contestant pair is responsible for obtaining those items, including any equipment necessary to present a visual aid such as a projector, screen, etc. The cost of all hand outs, props and other visual aids will be the responsibility of the contestant pairs. Both the Master and slave must speak during the presentation. The Presentation category will be open to all attendees of the Illinois Leather Contest. At the conclusion of the contestant pair's presentation, if time permits, the contestant pair will answer questions from the audience about the presentation. The judges will not ask questions of the contestant pairs in this judging category unless there are no questions from the audience. This question and answer time will not exceed 5 minutes for any contestant pair.

**The time restrictions shall be strictly enforced for each of these categories. The time restrictions and allocation of points may be modified with prior notice to the**



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## **contestants and judges.**

Scoring will be done on an aggregate basis. The contestant whose aggregate score is highest will be declared as the winner. The contestant whose score is second highest will be declared as the runner-up. In the event of a tie in aggregate scores, the highest score in a specific category, such as Interview, will determine the winner. The judges will determine which category to use as the tie breaker. Contestants must score 70% or better of the overall points to win, whether or not they are competing on their own or against others.

8. All contestants are prohibited from having private meetings or engaging in sexual activity or leather scene play with the judges prior to the announcement of the results. Any behavior that might create even the appearance of bias will be brought to the attention of the head judge, who will decide if the disqualification of the judge and/or contestant is warranted. To avoid accidental violation of this policy, contestants and judges will be introduced to each other prior to the contest event beginning.
9. Winners will receive a patch and medallion denoting their title and year, an equal portion of the travel fund to be paid after Great Lakes Leather Alliance Weekend (divided up by the number of current titleholders in the same title class) and any donated sponsorship gifts for the winners. Winners get to wear a sash for their title for their title year, but must return the sash to the Producers at the end of their year.



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## Illinois Master/slave Contestant Qualifications

Each contestant in the *Illinois Master/slave* contest:

- a) must be at least twenty-one years old;
- b) must self-identify as Master or slave and must have been in a self-identified Master/slave relationship with each other for at least 1 year prior to running for the title.
- c) must be a resident of the state of Illinois;
- d) must not hold a current leather or fetish title;
- e) must agree to represent their title, if they wins, throughout their title year and refrain from competing in any other leather title contest, except Great Lakes Master/slave, until the conclusion of their title year;
- f) must agree to return to the Illinois Leather Contest event next year, if they win, to step aside from their title;
- g) must sign the photographic release; and
- h) read and agree to the terms of the statement of "What is Expected of the Winners."

**PRINTED NAMES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURES:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_



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## Illinois Master/slave - What Is Expected of the Winners

- The foremost duty of the Winners is to promote the goals of the Illinois Master/slave title, the Illinois Leather Alliance and its local sponsors in a positive light throughout the year.
- One of the foremost expectations that we have of our Winners is that during their title year, they will conduct themselves as positive role models. Flagrant violation of this expectation may result in forfeiture of their title.
- The Winners may not compete in any other “leather” or “fetish” contests during their Illinois title year, except for Great Lakes Master/slave.
- The Winners are strongly encouraged to attend and compete at the Great Lakes Master/slave contest at Great Lakes Leather Alliance Weekend, for which their travel and hotel expenses will be deducted from the Travel Fund (if funds are available). Winners MUST compete and win at GLLA in order to move on to the International Master/slave contest.
- The Winners are expected to march in the Chicago Pride Parade (end of June) with the Chicago Leather Pride float - usually organized by Touché.
- The Winners are expected to select at least 2 venues and/or events within the state of Illinois that offer them the opportunity to speak on Master/slave relationships, rather than to simply appear as titleholders. We highly recommend that the pair seek out the MAsT (Masters And slaves Together) chapters within the state of Illinois to visit them and present at them.
- The Winners are expected to participate in at least one fundraising event to benefit the Illinois Leather titleholders’ travel fund. In addition, the Winners are encouraged to help with fundraising for other worthy causes.
- The Winners are encouraged to attend as many other state, regional or major leather/BDSM/fetish/Power Dynamic events and contests as they may see fit.
- The contestants run for and win the Illinois Master and slave titles as a pair. Should one (or both) members of the winning pair become unable to carry out the requirements of the title, Illinois Leather Alliance, as the Owner of the Illinois Master/slave title, will determine in what manner the title will be represented for the remainder of the year in question.



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- If funds are available for travel expenses above and beyond traveling to Great Lakes Leather Alliance Weekend for the Great Lakes contests, Winners will need to submit receipts for expenses to be reimbursed. There is no guarantee that funds will be available. The Master/slave couple will be reimbursed as a pair, not individually.

**PRINTED NAMES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURES:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_



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## Illinois Master/slave - Photographic Release

We, the undersigned, hereby grant to Illinois Leather Alliance (“ILA”) and its licensees, agents, successors and assigns, the exclusive right and permission to own, print, reprint, broadcast, reproduce, and publish any and all photographs, negatives, video and audio recordings, and other electronic media and mechanical images of me, which are taken during any ILA related contest, rehearsal, photographic modeling session, reception or other related event. All photographs and images of me during such events shall be the property of ILA, who shall have the exclusive right to use the photographs and images for any purpose whatsoever in any media or context.

I agree to participate, if asked to do so, in a photographic modeling session arranged by Illinois Leather Alliance during the Illinois Leather contest weekend at a location within the United States. I understand that the photographs may be used exclusively by ILA in its advertisements, website and promotional activities, and for no other purpose unless I grant written permission. I shall receive no compensation for modeling other than the prizes that are awarded to me, if any, as a contest winner.

I hereby release, discharge and agree to hold harmless ILA, its officers and agents, photographers, licensees, agents, successors and assigns, including all publishers, distributors and webmasters who may publish, distribute, broadcast, or otherwise use photographs and images of me, from any liability or claim arising from the publication, distribution, broadcast, or other use of any photographs and images of me, including any distortion, blurring, alteration, optical illusion, or use in composite form, either intentionally or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in the taking, processing, or reproduction of the photographs and images of me, their publication, distribution or broadcast.

I certify that I am twenty one years of age or older, and have read this Release before signing it. I have attached a photocopy of my driver’s license or passport, which shall be used for identification purposes only and shall not be published.

**PRINTED NAMES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURES:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_



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## Illinois Master/slave - Contestant Registration Form

1. Read entire Contestant Qualifications Statement, sign the form.
2. Read "What Is Expected of Winners", sign the form.
3. Complete and sign the Photographic Release.
4. Complete and sign this Registration Form.
5. Attach photocopies of your driver's licenses or passports showing your age.
6. Return all signed forms (or scans of signed forms) to [contest@illinoisleatheralliance.com](mailto:contest@illinoisleatheralliance.com).
7. Remember to submit your bios (max. 100 words each) and HEAD SHOT picture of each of you (or together) for the program (max. 3" x 3", 300 dpi, jpg or tif).
8. For the March 17th/18th 2017 competition, **applications are due by March 3rd, 2017.**

**Legal Names:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Scene Names:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Club or group affiliations:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Medical or Other Needs:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ages:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birth dates:** \_\_\_\_\_



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**Have either of you been arrested, indicted or convicted of a crime? If so, please share the nature of the conviction:**

**Two (2) community references** -- Please provide email contact information; these references will be contacted by the Owners/Producers:

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**Sponsor (not required):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Time in current Master/slave relationship:** \_\_\_\_\_

**BDSM/Leather events attended in the past year:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other titles held and dates:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why have you decided to run for the Illinois Master and slave title?** (Attach additional pages if needed)

**If you win the Illinois Master and slave title, what would be your goal(s) for your title year?** (Attach additional pages if needed.)

**Any additional information you would like the judges to know?** (Attach additional pages if needed.)



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I, the undersigned, agree to comply with all the rules and regulations set by Illinois Leather Alliance, my local sponsors, and the management of the facilities where the events are held.

I certify that all information I have provided on this form is accurate.

I certify that I am 21 years of age or older and meet all of the qualifications specified in the attached CONTESTANT QUALIFICATIONS statement.

I agree to comply with all of the requirements described in the attached statement of WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THE WINNERS.

PRINTED NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURES: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_