



Terms of Participation

for the title

Mister Leather Europe 2025



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1 General

The association *European Confederation of Motorcycle Clubs (ECMC)* grants the title of *Mister Leather Europe (Year)*. The association *Leathermen of Switzerland (LMS)* is organizing the election of *Mister Leather Europe 2025* on behalf of the *ECMC* in 2024.

The selection process and voting regulation is detailed in the document *Voting Regulation* and serves as the basis for the selection process and should be considered by the candidates for preparation.

2 Who is allowed to apply for candidacy?

Each association which has full or provisional *ECMC* membership status is allowed to present a candidate who must hold a European fetish title. The contestant does not need to have served a minimum time with that title before applying to enter the competition. It is possible to apply with a former title at the discretion of the sponsoring club.

Candidates must have reached the age of majority by the election day.

We invite titleholder candidates who identify and present as male. This includes cis men, trans men, as well as those with male- or androgynous-presenting non-binary identities.

3 Candidacy submission and contribution

To take part in the *Mister Leather Europe* selection, the applicant must submit the following documents:

- the completed (and signed!) application form
- photographs for publication wearing leather dress code (include pictures with clearly visible face!), including an official portrait with sash of the title used for application, an official portrait without sash, and one or more pictures during events or with friends
- a short bio and self-presentation, and a statement outlining their background and purpose in participating (max. 400 words)
- supporting letter of the *ECMC* member club sponsoring your application

The application documents must be received by the organizing association and the *ECMC Secretariat* by the specified deadline. Applications received after the deadline will be decided solely by the organizing association.

The candidate transfers all rights to the media assets (pictures and video footage) provided for the application, taken during the events, and during their potential tenure to the



organizing association and the *ECMC*. The aforementioned parties are entitled to publish these assets on their websites, in any press releases, newsletters, magazines, and social media along with their names (or nicknames) and they remain their property. This implies that all media assets and statements of the contestants will be used for free under the organizing association's and *ECMC*'s authorization. Contestants expressly waive their rights to such use.

The public part of the contest can include a brief interview and/or speech, and finalists are expected to participate in the entertainment program.

For the public part of the selection process, finalists will be engaged in a performance. In preparation for the show, the *Artistic Director* and *Master of Ceremony* will interview the participants to find out which of the tasks they feel comfortable with and are able to perform.

The public part of the election will focus on presence and personality. It is not obligatory to provide different outfits during the program. Participants might want to remove parts of their outfit to show their variety or different kinds of appreciated kinks. However, candidates are expected to respect the decorum: indecency or nudity are not allowed. Candidates will discuss their plans for public appearance with the *Artistic Director*. All costume changes and performances are subject to the approval of the *Artistic Director*.

4 Costs for participation

Participation in the contest is free of charge, but the contestant must purchase an event package, which must be paid for no later than 10 days before the start of the election weekend. Please ensure timely payment to avoid disqualification. Discounts for packages are granted at the sole discretion of the organizing association.

The contestant will bear the travel costs, accommodation costs, and the cost of participation in other events.

The contest will be presented and conducted in English. If a contestant needs an English-speaking interpreter or a sign language translator, it is their responsibility to organize these for the contest.

All necessary materials must be brought by the contestant. Any supporting actors will be required to purchase a ticket to access the event at the regular price.



5 Code of conduct

The organizing association is committed to creating a safe and inclusive environment for all participants. The association also recognizes the importance of upholding a positive image and reputation for their association, the *ECMC*, the title *Mister Leather Europe* and the other persons involved.

We expect all candidates to respect the boundaries and comfort levels of others, and to refrain from engaging in inappropriate or offensive behavior, language, or actions.

The organizing association, the *ECMC* and the title *Mister Leather Europe* must not be associated with any content that depicts or encourages drug use, or that is pornographic or discriminatory in nature.

Any violation of the code of conduct or event's guidelines will result in disqualification by the selection committee or by the organizing association on behalf of the *ECMC*.

6 Title and insignia

The winner of the selection will be awarded with the title *Mister Leather Europe 2025* and a sash. The top three contestants receive medals with the place achieved, the year and the location of the election. Sash and medals are provided by the organizing association and become the property of the contestants.

The contestant arriving at the second place will bear the title of 1st Runner-up.

The contestant arriving at the third place will bear the title of 2nd Runner-up.

7 Eligibility for supra- or international titles

The winner will be able to represent his title at the *International Mister Leather (IML)* contest held the following year in Chicago, USA. Whether a title holder can apply for any further supra- or international title depends on the applicable regulations of the organizers. This usually requires sponsorship by an associated group that feels represented by the title itself and the person holding the title.

8 The Role of *Mister Leather Europe*

As *Mister Leather Europe*, the title holder proudly represents the values of the *ECMC* in Europe and abroad. They should promote inclusivity, and equally importantly, address the unique needs of fetish communities, which may align with but are sometimes also specific to this subset within the larger queer community.



The role of *Mister Leather Europe* combines personal passion with a broader vision. The person represents not just their own interests but also stands as a supportive and unifying figure. *Mister Leather Europe* will need to navigate their own identity and preferences while championing inclusivity and understanding within and across the communities, ensuring every voice is heard, valued, and respected.

8.1 Passionate Advocate

Mister Leather Europe serves as a passionate advocate for their own fetish interests, demonstrating a deep understanding, enthusiasm, and commitment to their particular area of interest. This passion becomes a driving force behind their representation within the community.

8.2 Embracing Diversity

Beyond their personal passion, *Mister Leather Europe* embodies the ethos of inclusivity by embracing and celebrating the vast diversity of fetishes within the community. They recognize and respect the multitude of interests and preferences that individuals hold, regardless of whether they align with their personal preferences.

8.3 Understanding and Openness

Mister Leather Europe strives to understand various fetishes, even those that differ from their own, with an open mind and respectful curiosity. They engage in dialogue, listen attentively, and empathize with the experiences and perspectives of individuals across different fetish interests.

8.4 Bridging Communities

Mister Leather Europe's role extends to bridging gaps between different fetish communities, fostering connections, and encouraging mutual respect and understanding. They act as a unifying figure, advocating for a cohesive and supportive environment that transcends individual preferences.

8.5 Advocacy for Consent and Respect

Mister Leather Europe embodies and promotes the principles of consent, safety, and respect within the community. They actively advocate for these values, emphasizing their importance across all fetish interests, ensuring that boundaries and comfort levels are always respected.



8.6 Platform for Positive Representation

Using their platform, *Mister Leather Europe* strives to represent the community in a positive light, challenging stereotypes, and misconceptions. They showcase the richness, creativity, and individuality present within the diverse tapestry of the fetish community.

8.7 Support and Guidance

Mister Leather Europe provides support and guidance, especially to newcomers or individuals exploring their interests within the community. They offer a welcoming and non-judgmental space for discussions, education, and advice.

8.8 Commitment to Growth and Unity

Above all, *Mister Leather Europe* remains committed to the growth, unity, and well-being of the entire fetish community. They actively work towards creating an environment where everyone feels valued, accepted, and empowered to express themselves authentically.

9 The Duties of *Mister Leather Europe*

Important Note: *Mister Leather Europe* is a voluntary engagement and not a paid job. Health and well-being always come first. Candidates should think carefully about how the title will affect their lives before applying, to avoid any problems or regrets for themselves and the community.

The duties of *Mister Leather Europe* should reflect the values and goals of the community and promote positivity, inclusivity, and respect. The following list contains some key points and suggestions that should serve as a guideline of what can be done during the tenure of the title.

9.1 Representation

- Serve as an ambassador or representative of the event, community, or organization that conferred the title.
- Act as a positive and inclusive role model within the community.

9.2 Advocacy

- Advocate for inclusivity, diversity, and respect within the fetish community and beyond.
- Use the platform to address relevant social issues and promote understanding and acceptance.



9.3 Engagement

- Engage with the community through events, discussions, and social media platforms to foster connections and dialogue.
- Participate in community outreach efforts and support relevant causes.

9.4 Leadership

- Take a leadership role in promoting a safe and welcoming environment within the community.
- Encourage others to embrace their individuality and express themselves freely while respecting others.

9.5 Education

- Provide guidance and support to newcomers or those seeking information about the community.
- If possible: Offer educational sessions or workshops on topics related to the community's interests, focusing on consent, safety, and healthy practices.

9.6 Support

- Offer support and guidance to individuals within the community, especially those facing discrimination or struggling with self-acceptance.
- Collaborate with organizations or groups working towards the well-being of the community.

9.7 Integrity

- Uphold the values and principles of the community and the event, maintaining a high level of integrity and ethical conduct.
- Act as a mediator or advocate in case of disputes or issues within the community.

9.8 Growth and Innovation

- Encourage innovation and evolution within the community, fostering new ideas and approaches while respecting its traditions.
- Collaborate with others to create opportunities for growth and development within the community.



9.9 Continued Engagement

- Remain involved with the community even after the title tenure ends, contributing support and guidance as an esteemed member.

10 Schedule for application and selection process

The election takes place on a weekend (Friday to Sunday). Candidates must be present throughout the whole weekend according to the details in the event schedule, regardless of the outcome of the contest.

Mandatory events for all candidates:

When?	What?
Prior to application deadline	Hand in your complete application as per requirements
Prior to interview (personal preparation)	Prepare a little speech for the selection committee and election ceremony that shows your personality and/or motivation (max. 2 min.)
After application deadline until 1 week before the election weekend	Candidates might be invited for a jury interview held online and/or interviewed for presentation on social media. The <i>Artistic Director</i> will also conduct interviews with the respective candidates.
Friday, 18 October 2024	Attend the <i>Welcome Night</i> (Apéro, Dinner, Party) where you will be able to mingle with the audience and the selection committee. Your public appearance and interaction with the crowd will be part of the selection process!
Saturday, 19 October 2024	Participate in rehearsals with the <i>Artistic Director</i> and the <i>Master of Ceremony</i>
Saturday, 19 October 2024	Participate in the <i>Gala Night</i> (Red Carpet, Reception, Penny Arcade, Gala Dinner, Grand Final)
Saturday, 19 October 2024	Attend party
Sunday, 20 October 2024	Attend <i>Farewell Brunch + Bingo</i>



11 Costs and funding for the winner during their tenure

It is at the discretion of the *ECMC* member club or business supporting the winning contestant to bear any or all costs of travel and representation.

At the sole discretion of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the *ECMC*, a travel wallet will be determined for the new titleholder to help them visit *ECMC* member clubs during their respective *ECMC* events during the tenure. The amount of the travel wallet and the conditions will be approved at the AGM and announced during the contest. The titleholder will apply to the *ECMC* Secretariat for reimbursement.

12 End of term

The tenure of the title ends ordinarily or extraordinarily.

Ordinary:

- with the regular election of a new title holder
- at the discretion of the *ECMC delegate* meeting at any point in time after the regular tenure of one year if no subsequent election is scheduled. The decision is taken by a simple majority of the participating delegates.

Extraordinary:

- by resignation
- by revocation

If a person holding the title behaves in such a way that the reputation of the title itself or the reputation of the fetish community is damaged, the *ECMC* can revoke the title. An extraordinary online meeting of the *ECMC* delegates must be held no later than seven days before this step to explain the misconduct of the title holder. The title is revoked by a simple majority of the participating delegates. The circumstances leading to this step must be communicated in writing. The person holding the title is requested to explain the facts of the case within a reasonable period. A renewed nomination for the election of *Mister Leather Europe* is forfeited.

- on the death of the title holder

If the title year is terminated by one of the above-mentioned points, there will be no replacement by the second or third-placed person. The title is suspended until the next regular election.



13 Final provisions

The regulations are drawn up in consultation with the *ECMC* Secretariat and apply for the respective selection and tenure of the title.

This regulation was last modified on 15 August 2024.