



# National Nail Competition

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009. RDS, Simonscourt, Dublin



## COMPETITION ENTRY DEADLINE – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2009

### Rules and Regulations - BOXED NAIL ART

1. The theme for this category is **IRISH MYTHS AND LEGENDS**. Points are awarded for originality.
2. You can enter as many boxed nail art entries as you want to, providing that each box is paid for as a separate entry. Only one nail art box is allowed per paid entry. Do not submit more than one nail art box per paid entry. If you do so, your nail art boxes will not be judged and you will be disqualified.
3. Nail art boxes can be sent in to Expo Events by post prior to the competition. Expo Events are not responsible for the loss or damage of any nail art boxes sent in by post and any loose nails will not be replaced/re-arranged.
4. Boxes must be handed in at the Competition Registration Area by **1.00pm on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October** at the latest.
5. The box can be any practical size and decorated inside and out to match the theme. Judging will also be on the style and background decoration of the box BUT be careful to not distract from or obscure the actual nails.
6. A shoe or small cereal box is a good size. A lid is not recommended unless it is clear plastic.
7. For each entry, you must supply a display box/case with 10 pre-decorated nails to match the set theme.
8. All 10 nails **MUST** be clearly and securely displayed and must be visible to the judges.
9. You can use any nail tip sizes your design requires, although tip sizes 0-4 are the most popular.
10. Your design is not limited to the nail area. It can extend off the tip in any direction.
11. Any nail tools may be used i.e. airbrushes, electric files, stencils, brushes, sponges and nail art tools.
12. Any nail products may be used i.e. coloured acrylic and gels, paint, nail varnish, top and base coat, glitters, rhinestones, polish secure, feathers, foils, lace, transfers and striping tape.
13. Higher points can be achieved if you use **MORE** than three different nail art products.
14. Any techniques may be used i.e. sculpting, airbrushing, 3D, embedding and cut outs.
15. You must **NOT** enter any boxed nail art previously entered for competitions or used in other work / magazines etc.
16. All nail art boxes and step by steps **MUST** be clearly marked on the **BACK** only **ONCE**, with the competitor's name and address. These details are concealed by the organisers prior to judging. **DO NOT** write your name on the front or anywhere throughout the step by step except on the back.
17. You must provide a clearly written step-by-step of how you achieved your nail art box. This must include detailed explanations and photographs of each stage of the decoration process. Please also include photographs of the design process, props/accessories to confirm the authenticity of your boxed nail art. It must be handed to the judges at the 'Nail Competition Registration Area' with your nail art box. If you do not observe this rule you will be disqualified.
18. Nail art boxes can be collected from the judges after the awards ceremony. Organisers will retain any remaining nail art boxes and a postage charge may be made if you then wish to have it returned.
19. An official photographer from Expo Events may photograph your work and they reserve the right to use the nail art box for promotional use.

## Guidance - BOXED NAIL ART

- Follow the set theme and ensure that the judges can tell exactly what the nail designs are meant to be.
- Research your design idea to see if it has been done in other competitions. Judges will look for originality and new ideas.
- Look for inspiration on the internet, in travel brochures and in picture books.  
Some of the great Irish figures, myths and legends include;

- 🍀 Leprechauns and St Patrick
- 🍀 The Fairy Race
- 🍀 The Children of Lir
- 🍀 Kiss the Blarney Stone
- 🍀 Ireland's Magic Harp
- 🍀 The Bull of Cooley
- 🍀 The Gallic Celts
- 🍀 Cuchulain



- The design does not have to be suitable for every day occasions.
- Do not just “stick-on” lots of shop bought items as this will not show off any technical nail art skills.
- Does it have a “wow” factor?
- Higher points are achieved if:
  - you use sculpted acrylic or gel to create any “stuck-on” items
  - more detailed hand painted designs as this shows off your art skills
  - use more than 3 mediums to show variety
- Your box can be of any practical size but a standard shoebox is the most popular.
- Very small props and accessories can be used within your box to complement your theme.
- Although minimal points are awarded, do not decorate your box too elaborately, as it will distract the judges from your nails and you may lose valuable points.
- Plan your design in advance. Is it clear what your idea is and does it match your written step-by-step?
- Can you see the nails and design clearly? Points are lost if the judges cannot see each nail.
- Your step by step should be well presented; a folder is a good idea. It is recommended that it is 3-5 pages long and preferably in colour. It should include a detailed description of what gave you the inspiration for your idea and how each stage of the design was achieved. You can use photographs or hand drawn designs and samples of the products used. A step by step can be handwritten or produced on a computer. It is essential to confirm the authenticity of your boxed nail art.