



National Nail Competition

4th & 5th October 2009. RDS, Simmonscourt, Dublin



COMPETITION ENTRY DEADLINE – 11th September 2009

Rules and Regulations - NAIL ART

1. Contestants are given one and half hours (90 minutes) to complete a full set of nail art on both hands.
2. The theme for this category is **IRISH MYTHS AND LEGENDS**.
3. Points are awarded for originality so use your imagination.
4. Your model must be in costume with hair and make up to be done prior to the competition.
5. Props and accessories can be used to compliment your theme.
6. You will have 10 minutes at the end to retouch hair, make up and costume but nails cannot be touched.
7. Your model may wear previously applied nail extensions to any length, with any tip and overlay system in natural or clear only. This must be completed prior to the competition and not during set up or briefing.
8. Your model must NOT wear any polish (including base coat) before the competition starts.
9. Any nail tools may be used i.e. airbrushes, electric files, stencils, brushes, sponges and nail art tools.
10. Any nail products may be used i.e. coloured acrylic and gels, paint, nail varnish, glitters, rhinestones, polish secure, feathers, foils, lace, transfers and striping tape.
11. Higher points can be achieved if you use more than **three different** nail art products.
12. Base or top coats, oil and associated products, electric files and UV Lamps ARE allowed in this category.
13. Any techniques may be used i.e. sculpting, airbrushing, 3D, embedding and cut outs.
14. Higher points are achieved if you use sculpted acrylic or gel to create the items you wish to apply to the nails or if your design involves more detailed hand painted designs.
15. All items to be used on the nails MUST be created DURING the competition. No items are to be created in advance. Floor judges will be checking your desk prior to the competition to ensure that you have not brought any pre-done items with you.
16. Your design is not limited to the nail area. It can extend off the nail in any direction.
17. The back of the nails must be either decorated or clear of any debris.
18. You MUST provide your own extension lead for any electrical equipment, i.e. your UV or daylight lamp.
19. Contestants will be floor judged throughout the competition. All floor judging rules will apply. Many competitors lose points as they do not bring full eye protection, a completed client card and a metal bin with a metal lid and a plastic liner.
20. You must provide one copy of a clearly written step-by-step, which must include a full explanation of how you achieved your design and theme. This must be left visible on your desk for the judges to inspect. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
21. It is compulsory for all products, jars and bottles on the table to be labelled.
22. An official photographer from Expo Events may photograph your work and they reserve the right to use the photographs for promotional use.

Guidance - NAIL ART

- The theme for this category is **IRISH MYTHS AND LEGENDS**.
- Originality will win you higher points. Research your design idea to see if it has been done in other competitions. Judges will look for a “wow” factor with new ideas and score accordingly.
- The design does not have to be suitable for every day occasions.
- Look for inspiration on the internet, in magazines and picture books.
- Consider a story that carries through all 10 nails with a different design or picture on each nail.
- Does the whole photograph reflect the **IRISH MYTHS AND LEGENDS** theme? 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



- Plan your design in advance. Is it clear what your idea is and does it match your written step-by-step?
- Your choice of colours, hair style or wig, costume and make-up to create your theme is important.
- Ensure your costume is original even if you have not made it yourself. Points are awarded for the time and effort that you put into this. Most competitors go to the extreme!
- Practice on anyone who will let you use their nails, if not practice on tips!
- Competition standards are high. You must be able to complete all ten nails with confidence, in the time given.
- Think about timing each stage so that you can keep to the time limit. Your model can help you with this.
- Make sure your kit is clean and tidy and that all the products are clearly labelled. Preparation is vital to your performance on the day. Write a full list of everything you will need as you practice, so that nothing is forgotten. Take extra materials in case you make a mistake and need to start again.
- Make sure your models nails are suitable for your chosen design and they are pre-manicured prior to the day. A model should be calm and relaxed, keep you motivated and give you confidence before and during the competition.
- Contestants will be floor judged throughout the competition. All floor judging rules will apply. Many competitors lose points as they do not bring full eye protection, a completed client card and a metal bin with a metal lid and a plastic liner.
- Your step by step should be well presented; a small 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.