



National Nail Competition

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



COMPETITION ENTRY DEADLINE – 11th September 2009

Rules and Regulations - TIP & OVERLAY – NOVICE

1. The Novice category is only open to competitors who have been doing nails for less than **TWO** years and have **NEVER** entered any national nail competition before. You **MUST** send in your nail extension beginner's course certificate or a letter from your course tutor with your completed entry form to prove you have been doing nails for less than two years. Failure to do this may result in disqualification or being moved to another category.
2. Contestants are given two and a half hours (150 minutes) to complete a set of competition nails.
3. You can use liquid and powder, UV gel or a wraps system to complete your set. Most competitors use liquid and powder or UV gel as points are given for French smile lines.
4. This category is **NOT** for nail art, manicure, pedicure or free form sculpture.
5. Oil and associated products (such as some cuticle removers) must **NOT** be used in this category.
6. Electric files, sculpting forms, white tips, base coats and tip blenders must **NOT** be used in this category.
7. If any products that are not allowed are found on your table, you will be disqualified.
8. All tips must be in a tip box, on your table, with not less than 50 tips in a box and must **NOT** be pre-blended or pre-sized in any way.
9. All models must have 10 tips applied. Tips must be blended (if required) to the natural nail.
10. Only natural or clear tips may be used.
11. It is compulsory for the models right hand to be polished with two coats of matt red polish.
12. The back of the nails must **NOT** be painted and must be clear of any dust/debris.
13. 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.
14. You **MUST** provide your own extension lead for any electrical equipment, i.e. your UV or daylight lamp.
15. It is compulsory for all products, jars and bottles on the table to be labelled.
16. An official photographer from Expo Events may photograph your work and they reserve the right to use the photographs for promotional use.

UV Gel - Specific Rules & Regulations

- ❖ It is compulsory for pink/clear and white gel to be used to create a French smile line on the models left hand.
- ❖ UV top coats may be only be used on the models left hand. No UV top coat is allowed over the red polish.

Liquid and Powder - Specific Rules & Regulations

- ❖ It is compulsory for pink/clear and white powder to be used to create a French smile line on the models left hand.
- ❖ It is compulsory for the models left hand to be buffed with files and buffers to a high gloss shine.
- ❖ UV Gel products must **NOT** be used as top coats or finishers on either hand.

Wraps - Specific rules and regulations

- ❖ Silk/nylon/fabric may be used. It must be an industry recognized product.
- ❖ The wrap fabric must cover at least 2/3 of the nail.
- ❖ Resins and activators applied with a spray, brush or nozzle are acceptable.
- ❖ It is compulsory for the models left hand to be buffed with files and buffers to a high gloss shine.
- ❖ UV Gel products must **NOT** be used as top coats or finishers on either hand.

Guidance - TIP & OVERLAY NOVICE

- Remember that all your fellow competitors in this category have also never entered a nail competition before. If you have any questions, please ask a member of the competition staff.
- Your model should have long, healthy, pink nail beds and good cuticles and skin. Preferably someone who looks after their nails. Show them how to use cuticle oil daily in the lead up to the competition. Give them a manicure a few days before the competition to ensure their cuticles and hands are in good condition.
- Plan your timing in advance. Allow plenty of time for your polish application.
- Ensure that all tips are blended to the natural nail and do not show through the finished product.
- Try to achieve a perfect shaped free edge with a good apex and deep C Curve.
- The apex arch must be in the same place on each nail and consistent.
- Smile lines should be consistent whether they are deep or soft.
- Use clear powder/gel in zone 2 behind the white to avoid clouding / shadowing of the smile line.
- Blot the acrylic liquid out of the back of your brush to intensify the colour.
- Red polish must be matt and not a pearl or shimmer. Ensure the polished hand is buffed to a shine prior to the application of polish as this will make the varnish look glossier.
- Polish ought to be close to the cuticle but not touch it. Push back the cuticles, paint the nail and then pull the skin back to look like a tight fit.
- Ensure you have enough products to hand. You may want a new buffer for every finger of the unpainted hand or soak off / remover and a bowl in case you need to start again.
- Use a water spray and tissue / towel to remove debris and dust. Remember the use of oil is NOT permitted.
- Take spare nozzles and resin bottles in case they become blocked.
- Confirm that UV bulbs and lamps are working correctly. You could consider using a timer.
- Take an extension lead with you for your lamp.
- Follow all floor judging rules to achieve higher marks.
- Look at magazines and pictures of past winners and compare their results with your own.