**NAIL CARE COMPETITION STANDARDS**

**PURPOSE**

To evaluate each contestant’s preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the field of nail care.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Open to active SkillsUSA members enrolled in programs with cosmetology as the occupational objective.

**CLOTHING**

**CONTESTANTS -** White Polo shirt, Black Dress Slacks (no jeggings or leggings, no spandex, no yoga pants, no skin-tight pants, no denim), Black belt with no ornamentation (if slacks have belt loops), Black dress socks or black or skin-tone hose is allowed under slacks, Black leather work shoes (closed toe).

No jewelry or watches (excluding wedding bands)

*If students show up in attire that is unprofessional, they are not allowed to compete.*

**MODELS -** Solid Black Round neck (crew) shell/shirt, Black Dress Slacks (no jeggings or leggings, no spandex, no yoga pants, no skin-tight pants, no denim), Black belt with no ornamentation (if slacks have belt loops), Black dress socks or black or skin-tone hose is allowed under slacks, Black leather work shoes (closed toe).

No jewelry or watches (excluding wedding bands)

**EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS**

**Supplied by the Technical Committee**

* Tables
* Timer / time-keeper
* Electrical outlet
* First Aid Kit and Blood Spill Kit
* Contestant's diagram/picture of haircuts
* Solution for foot basin
* All necessary information for the judges and tally committee.

**Supplied by the Contestant**

* Female model for nail applications
* Heavy Duty Extension Cord (at least 6-foot)
* 6-Outlet Power strip with Surge Protector
* Pen / Pencil
* Note Pad (for Oral Communications Segment)
* 1 Trash Bag for soiled items and such
* Sanitation / Disinfectant for work area and implements
* Resume
* Optional Suggested Items: Oil and lotion, Sealer to finish nail art, Brush Cleaners, Manicure table lamp, Cushion for chair
* **NAIL CARE KIT –**
* Towels or Wubbies - enough for both manicure and pedicure tasks
* Water bottle filled with water
* Safety glasses for contestant **AND** model
* **Acrylic Nail Kit** – all items needed to complete 5 sculptured acrylic nails
  + ***Monomer, Polymer and Primer*** *MUST have manufacturer’s original label and be SEALED and from the same manufacturer.*
  + **You will need to use pink and white** to complete the 2-tone **French Manicure** for sculptured nails.
* **Gel Nail Kit** – all items needed to complete 5 tips and 5 gel nails
* Odorless / low-odor Product
* Dark Red lacquer/polish required
* Base coat / top coat
* **Full Well** Nail Tips
* Gel light
* Finger Bowls
* Brushes
* Buffers
* Polish remover
* Gloves
* Cotton
* Dappen Dishes with covers
* All items needed to complete flat paint nail art application
* Portable kit organizer
* **Pedicure Supplies Kit** – All items needed to complete the Pedicure technical procedure
* Plastic Foot Basin (non-electric)
* Pedicure Slippers

**GENERAL CONTEST INFORMATION**

* **Contestant Folder –** Contestants are to prepare a folder to present to the Chairperson at orientation. Contents of the folder should include:
* **Written description for the Nail Art Theme -** a 3x5 notecard with a specific theme to be carried out on all 5 fingers
* **Resume –** All contestants will turn in a typed, 1 page, professional resume.
* **Items Not Allowed –**
* Free edge or ½ well tips
* Tip benders
* Electric files or drills
* Displays of any kind for nail art
* Gel polish, temporary or no-light gels may not be used
* **Talking –** No talking to other contestants, instructors, or audience members during the competition is allowed. Doing so may result in disqualification. If you have a question, raise your hand and a sage or the competition chairperson will see to your needs.
* **Once you are seated** in the competition area, you are NOT permitted to touch the model’s hands.
* **Breaks –** Breaks will be given during competition. Contestants are not allowed to leave the area except with a chaperone for restroom visits or emergencies. If contestant gets sick during the competition and need to leave the contest area, no extra time will be allotted.
* **Work Time** **–** You can begin the contest when the chairperson signals so and you must stop when time is called. Continuing to work will result in point deductions. All contestants must participate in all phases of the competition, including written (if applicable) and Oral Communications.
* **Model –** A live model must be used for the competition. The contestant CANNOT be their own model – a separate person as the model must be used.
* **Safety glasses** are to be worn by contestant and model during appropriate times.
* **Sanitation** – Contestant must disinfect and clean-up their work station/area, which includes a total breakdown of their work station/area. 1 Trash Bag is required, no labeling needed. ***THIS IS NOT STATE BOARD SANITATION*** *– Just what we are requiring for this competition.* Sanitation for this contest includes –
* Sanitizing the workspace at the beginning,
* Sanitizing the workspace at the end,
* Items are not thrown on the floor throughout the competition, and
* All used items go in the trash bag*.*
* Secondary contestants will compete against secondary and postsecondary will only compete against postsecondary.
* JUDGES DECISIONS ARE FINAL

**SCOPE OF THE CONTEST**

**Orientation –**

* Contestants will be assigned a station and a number. No school names should be visible during the contest.

**Set-Up and Sanitation –**

* Table set-up can consist of only items needed for the specific contest application in progress.
* Time will be allowed in between each contest application to re-set the table.
* All products and solutions must be properly identified with the manufacturer’s original packaging and labeling and cannot be defaced.
* Required tools must be professionally organized.
* Jewelry is NOT to be worn on the hands of the model for any application.
* Pre-written Theme Card.

**Professional and Organizational Skills –**

* The following will be evaluated –
* Cleanliness and organization of the working environment
* Safety and sanitation should be followed throughout the competition
* Communication skills
* Appropriate conduct and sportsmanship (contestant/instructor)
* Pre-written Theme Card and Sketch/Picture for Nail Art

**RIGHT HAND: Acrylic / Dark Red Lacquer / Polish Application –**

* 60 minutes
* 2 coats of red lacquer/polish are to be applied to the model’s RIGHT hand and all 5 fingers.
* Judges will look for smoothness of the acrylic, a correct and natural smile line, neatness, coverage, evenness, and no cuticle involvement.
* Judges will score polish application while contestant is performing Nail Art Application to the LEFT hand.

**LEFT HAND: Gel Nail & Tip Application with Nail Art**

* 120 minutes
* Nail Art: A specific theme to be carried out throughout on all 5 fingers.
* Prepare a 3x5 notecard with a specific theme to be carried out on all 5 fingers, and present to judges at the beginning of the contest. Include a written description and a picture/sketch of the work to be done.
* All Nail Art must be carried out using polishes, lacquers or paint ONLY. (Red base color is optional on this hand.)
* Top coat or sealer is allowed for Nail Art application ONLY.
* Judges will look for smoothness of gel, a correct and natural smile line, neatness, coverage, evenness, no cuticle involvement, creativity, theme, artistic expression, color coordination, level of difficulty, complexity of design, precision, neatness, and clarity of lines.
* Judges will score Flat Nail Art while contestants clean up their work area and storage of all personal items.
* Nail models will remain at work stations until judges have completed scoring.

**PEDICURE:**

* 30 minutes
* Put on a clean pair of gloves. Soak foot for 5 minutes to soften and cleanse the foot before beginning the procedure.
* Thoroughly dry the foot.
* Remove polish, beginning with little toe and moving across foot.
* Carefully clip the toenails straight across and even with the ends of the toes.
* Carefully file the nails, rounding slightly at the corners.
* Apply cuticle remover and push back the cuticle.
* Dip foot into foot bath and brush the toenails with a nail brush to remove debris.
* Thoroughly dry foot.
* Apply lotion and massage foot.
* Remove traces of lotion with polish remover.
* Polish nails with Red polish.
* Judges will look for nails neatly shaped and filed, cuticle unbroken and neatly maintained, polish is applied evenly and smooth, no cuticle involvement, and final appearance.

**SCORING INFORMATION**

* Initial Preparation – 50 points
* Oral Communications / Professional Development Assessment – 100 points
* Acrylic Application – 150 points
* Tip and Gel Application – 150 points
* Lacquer / Polish Application – 150 points
* Flat Nail Art Application – 150 points
* Pedicure – 200 points
* Professionalism & Organizational Skills – 50 points
* Point Penalty Categories:
* Late Arrival penalty – 200 point deduction
* Sanitation / Clean-up – up to 100 point deduction.
* Kit Check – up to 30 point deduction
* Clothing penalty – up to 10 point deduction
* Resume penalty – 10 point deduction

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS SCENARIO:**

**“BOOKING AN APPOINTMENT BY PHONE”**

*\*\* All Cosmetology-related competitors will perform an oral interview.*

1. Mock telephone conversation scenario: Booking an appointment with a first-time client. The client is new to the area. The client will be booking the appointment in the cosmetology/contest discipline area that the students is competing in.
2. Competitors may bring note pad and pencil to write down information.
3. Judge will be seated across from the competitor acting as the client.
4. Judging Criteria:

* 10 pts - Pleasant voice
* 10 pts - Identified salon
* 10 pts - Identified stylist
* 10 pts - Asked for client’s first and last name
* 10 pts - Asked for client’s phone number
* 10 pts - Asked for type of service client is requesting
* 10 pts - Used client’s name at least once in the conversation
* 10 pts - Confirmed service to be done, time and date
* 10 pts - Suggested additional services
* 10 pts - Outstanding presentation
* **100 points total**