

# Rules, Judges Instruction & Criteria

### Rules

- 1. Total time allowed3 hours (180 minutes)
- These are traditional square style competition nails.
- The nails must be applied with Tips and Gel overlay
- The competitor must apply pink and White gel over the tips
- 5. Cover Pink is allowed
- The competitors must polish one hand of the model with 2 coats of red cream GEL polish or color gel only. No frost or shimmers allowed
- 7. The product may be any brand, as long as the color is red cream, not frosted.
- 8. Oil is allowed.
- 9. Gel sealer is allowed
- 10. Water and soap may be used in finishing.
- 11. Competitors may not blend, shape or cut out the tips prior to the start of the competition.
- 12. Tips must come in a full box of tips.
- 13. Only natural and clear tips are allowed. NO white tips
- 14. One hand may be applied completely with Clear or Pink gel (red gel polish must be applied on this hand), the other hand with Pink and White hard gel. Color gel and gel polish is allowed.





- 15. Gel competitors must bring their own UV/LED Gel lamp.
- 16. Electric files are allowed
- 17. Pinching tools, c-curve sticks and all types of tools used to create a proper structure are allowed
- 18. All general rules apply in this competition.
- 19. Total score is 150.



# Rules, Judges Instruction & Criteria

### **Judges Instruction for Nail Structure Categories**

- 10 point total on all categories.
- 1 point a nail.
- 1/2 points may be given

#### Convex

- The exterior contour of the nail form should be completely symmetric
- The surface of the nail should have no inconsistencies or appear to be uneven on the outer surface.
- The judge will examine the nail by looking at nail from a head on and check zone 3 from the back side perspectives check zone 2.
- The convex or surface of the nail should contour symmetrically throughout the entire nail until it reaches zone 1
- The nail can earn a 1/2 point for each correct zone.

### Concave

- The interior contour or tunnel of the free edge must be completely symmetric and concentric.
- The nail's concave should have the appearance of the inside of a tunnel throughout the entire free edge that is apparent to the eye or until the c-curve stick touches the finger's tip from the underside.
- The nail can earn a 1/2 point for each that is correct

#### **Arch and Apex**

• The high point (apex) of the arch should not appear overly apparent.



- It should have a subtle and gradual incline that is located consistently in the second zone (see example) of each nail.
- The entire arch including the apex, should be not be overly apparent or appear too flat in the second zone.
- The arch should not be located too far forward or back in the second zone when looking at the entire nail from a profile perspective.
- The nail can earn a 1/2 point for each of these two criteria that are required



## Rules, Judges Instruction & Criteria

### **Tip Application**

- The tip application must be applied to fit the nail properly.
- There should be not exposed sidewalls
- The tip must have proper placement and not be to far down on the nail plate or too far up, exposing the natural nail line.
- The should not be any gaps between the tip and the natural nail
- 1 point is earned for every nail

### **Judges Instruction for Shape and Refining Categories**

- 10 point total for all of these categories
- 1 point for each nail.
- 1/2 points may be given

### Free Edge Thickness

- The entire Free edge should be no thicker than 2mm
- The nail must be consistently thin throughout the nails free edge and measure the same on the sidewalls and center.
- The free edge should not be any thicker than 2mm until it reaches the top of the finger tip from the underside of the nail.
- The nail can earn a 1/2 point for each of these two criteria that are required
- See example of measuring tools

#### **Sidewalls**

The Free edge must extend straight out from the lateral folds.



- The nail should not flare out or taper in when looking at the hand from a front perspective.
- The nail should be uniform on each side.
- There can not be any ridges on the free edge extension.
- The sides of the free edges should feel smooth and appear to be filed clean.
- There is a 1/2 point earned for each side of every nail being scored.
- There is only one score earned in a one handed competition and both sides must be perfect to earn one point.



## Rules, Judges Instruction & Criteria

#### **Lateral Side Extension**

- To find the lateral side extension you must look at the extension from the nails profile.
- the free edge must extend straight out from the natural nails lateral fold.
- The nail should not drop down or appear to be tapered upward from the profile perspective.
- The nail should appear to have symmetry so the side extensions are consistently located
- There should be no exposure of the natural nail's lateral fold.
- There is a 1/2 point earned for each side of every nail being scored when the competition is two hands.
- There is only one score earned in a one handed competition and both sides must be perfect to earn one point.

### **Judges Instruction for Shape and Refining Categories Continued**

- 10 point total for all of these categories
- 1 point for each nail.
- 1/2 points may be given

### **C-Curve**

- The C-Curves must be a minimum 30% 40% of a circle and no more than 50%
- Each c-curve should appear symmetric
- 1/2 point is given for each criteria

#### **Judges Instruction for Shape and Refining**



- 10 point total on all categories.
- 1 point a nail.
- If 1 hand competition point total is reduced to 5 points.
- Each nail is judged on its own merit.
- The nail must meet all of the criteria for the category being judged to earn 1 point.



### Rules, Judges Instruction & Criteria

### Nail Shape

- The shape of the nails must look consistent and uniform.
- The top of the Free-edge must not appear to be filed unevenly. If it is filed straight, it earns a 1/2 point
- The Free edge must look straight as it extends from the nail plate.
- It should not look as if the nail was applied crooked or that the nail is off in a tilted direction.
- The extension should be applied true to the natural nail.
- The nail should be straight to the nail. Not straight to the finger.
- The hand will be turned around so the nail is examined from the front perspective.
- If the nail has been applied properly and the shape appears to look straight, the nails earns a 1/2 point

#### **Surface Smoothness**

- The nail should not have any file lines of demarcations on the surface.
- The finished product application should look and feel smooth
- All production application should be filed and buffed completely smooth
- If gel sealer is applied, it must be applied on the entire nail.
- There must not be any portion of the surface of the nail exposed and left unsealed.
- The nail must feel smooth on the entire surface.
- The gel sealer must not have any bubbles.
- If there is only a small and hard to see line of demarcation on the surface of the nail or portion of the nail left without gel sealer that can't be felt, it is possible to earn a 1/2 point.



# Rules, Judges Instruction & Criteria

### **Judges Instruction for Length**

- 10 point total for this category.
- The points on the score sheet that represents the polished hand are the points earned for each matching finger's length accuracy.
- The points on the score sheet that represents the French hand are the points earned for each nails accuracy with the French application ratios.
- If it is a 1 hand competition, each nail earns 1 point for the accuracy of the French extension.
- The matching nail length is NOT considered in a 1 hand competition



## Rules, Judges Instruction & Criteria

### Length

- Points are given for two different criteria.
- The first point is earned with each nail being measured individually and then scored.
- The nail is measured from the Cuticle to center of the smile-line to match the length of the top of the Free edge to the tips of the smile-line. See example of diagram
- If the smile points are not matching from side to side and one tip appears to be higher, measuring the length is considered to the higher (longest) smile tip.
- The second point is earned with both hands being measured together. The nails
  must also match hand to hand from cuticle to free edge to earn 1 point for
  matching fingers.

#### **Judges Instruction for Application and Finishing**

- 5 point total on all categories.
- 1 point a nail.
- There will be 10 points for this category if the competition has French application exposed on both hands with no red polish covering either hand.
- Each nail is judged on its own merit.
- The nail must meet all of the criteria for the category being judged to earn its point.
- 1/2 points can be earned

### **High Shine Finish**

- The French hand should have a high gloss shine that has a glass finish appearance throughout the entire surface of the nail.
- The shine on the French hand should have a reflective appearance to earn a 1/2 point
- The sides, edges and cuticle area must be considered to earn a 1/2 point



- Lines of demarcation are NOT considered as long as the shine is apparent.
- If gel sealer is applied the point is earned if: the sealer is completely cured; the sealer doesn't feel or appear to be tacky or dull on the surface of the nail.
- all of the tacky residue (inhibition layer) is completely removed off of the nail.



### Rules, Judges Instruction & Criteria

#### **Product Control**

- The application of the product should look evenly applied with a sharp division of color at the smile-line.
- There should not be a noticeable pink hue or shadow pulled over the white gel.
- The White gel should have a solid appearance throughout the entire nail.
- If cover pink gel is used to create a nail plate extension, it should not be applied over the white gel at the smile-line or be seen from the top view of the nail.
- There should not be any shadows or transparencies in the white or cover powder pink gel.
- If you are using cover pink gel to extend the nail plate, the natural nail must not show or shadow in the extended nail.
- There must not be any air bubbles and or pitting in the product.
- 1/2 point is earned for the white application and a 1/2 point is earned for the pink application.

### **Gel Polish Application**

- The red gel polish hand should be completely cured and have gel top seal applied perfectly with no inconsistencies in the application
- Top coat and two coats of red gel polish should be applied
- The gel polish should be applied close, consistently even at the cuticle.
- The application of the gel polish should not appear to have streaks.
- The sides and tip of the nails edges must be covered.
- There must not be any red or clear gel polish on skin or back side of nails.
- All edges surrounding the free edge must be completely polished.
- If the nail has a minimum of 2 of the 2 criteria, nail can earn additional ½ a point.



# Rules, Judges Instruction & Criteria

### **Judges Instruction for Application and Finishing**

- 10 point total on all categories.
- 1 point a nail.
- If it is a one hand competition, the point total is reduced to 5 points.
- Each nail is judged on its own merit.
- The nail must meet all of the criteria for the category being judged to earn its point.
- It is possible to earn a 1/2 point.



## Rules, Judges Instruction & Criteria

#### **Cuticles Area**

- The cuticle and surrounding skin on the nail folds must not have any new cuts or irritation around the nail.
- There should not be any noticeable and apparent ledge of product that can be felt or seen near the proximal folds.
- The application of product must be apparent and cover the entire cuticle area near the proximal folds without leaving a large margin between the cuticle line.
- The product must not be overly filed and must be apparent.
- Each nail must have all criteria to earn 1 point and 2 of the criteria to earn a 1/2 point.

#### **Underside**

- There should be no visible dust, debris, water, glue or excessive oil on the back of the nail.
- The nail will earn a 1/2 point for a clean appearance
- The product application must appear smooth behind the nail with no excess product AND
- When cover pink gel is applied, the back of the nail must appear to have a clean line of separation and the white must appear clean and opaque in shade to earn a 1/2 point for each nail
- Please note: If polish is present on the underside of the nail's free edge the point deduction will be given by the judge for the polish criteria.

### **Judges Instruction for Smilelines**

- Total points is 5.
- 1 point possible for each nail
- 1/2 points may be given

### **Smileline**



- The smile-line must be consistently shaped from nail to nail and have a sharp division on all exposed nails.
- The consistency of the smile line shape will be determined by the majority of the nails that appear to have the most similar appearance in style.
- If the smile line has a clean line To earn 1/2 point
- The smile line represents uniformity with the other nails smile lines in earns 1/2 point.