
COMPETITION RULES

Belgian Nail Art Championships 2022

The Belgian Nail Art Championships will be held on March 20th 2022. This competition is organized by Beauty Publishing Group and Nail Design Magazine, in co-operation with BESKO and IJV-IFAS in Brussels Expo during Estetika Spring.

This competition is for everyone who lives in Belgium. Competitors with a foreign passport, who work in Belgium and have a residential address in Belgium, can participate as well. During registration, these competitors must show, next to their ID, also a Belgian VAT number or proof of their employer. In addition you have to show a proof of your actual residential address showing that the competitor lives in Belgium. The additional documents must be no older than a month.

In addition, international competitors from outside Belgium can join the competition. They have no chance of winning one of the trophy's. At a minimum of 5 international competitors there will be a separate trophy for the best international competitor.

Registration

Participants can register via www.naildesign-magazine.nl, registration closes 3 weeks before the start of the competition. After registration, the participant receives a confirmation and an invoice for the competition fee. The competition fees must be paid no later than 2 weeks before the start of the match. Cancellation within the period of 3 weeks before the start of the contest, does not release the participant from the payment obligation of the competition fee. There is also no right to return the deposit of already paid competition fees during this period.

Theme

The Belgian Nail Art Championships competition has no theme. Participants must think up their own theme and submit it when they enter the competition. However, there are some conditions:

- the theme must have a name
- the theme must be mentioned in a typed description that must be submitted to the competition management during registration.
- the elaboration of the theme must be its own design and may not be copied from existing paintings, prints, drawings, etc. If during or after the judging it is concluded that it is a copy, irrevocable disqualification will follow.
- the description must state which materials have been used in the design, and how the theme has been worked out.
- Participants may not include their names and/or company names in either part of the description.

Assignment

Participants have 2.5 hours to create their designs. During this time they must observe the following rules:

- The model can be provided with 9 artificial nails in a solid colour gel or acrylic, so no glitters, shimmers, etc.
- The nails must be **unpolished** (without nailpolish or gelpolish) when the competition starts.
- Participants are free in their choice of nail shapes; nails can be round, square or for example stiletto/facet. Please note, however, that 1 nail must be placed during the competition and that it must have the same shape as the 9 nails previously made. This nail will also be assessed on a technically correct nail. The nail that has to be placed during the competition is the ring finger of the right hand of the model.

- At least 6 of the 10 nails must be worked with at least 2 of the following techniques:
 - Acrylic paint handpainting
 - Watercolor handpainting
 - 2d acrylic
 - 2d gel
 - Gelpainting
 - Gellak painting
- Let your imagination run free, make daring combinations using all Nail Art has to offer! Make sure the nail surface stays flat.
- Participants may use rhinestones, glitter and 2D acrylic applications that are no higher than a rhinestone of size ss8. Rhinestones may be used as an extra/embellishment, but may not be predominant.
- Participants may not use floral themes/floral designs. Flowers may be used, but only as an embellishment. They must not be predominant and must take up less than 10% of the design.
- Stamping techniques are not allowed.
- Participants are not allowed to create any parts/features applied to the nails at home before the competition starts. The entire design must be made during the competition itself.
- The nails may not have protruding parts (that protrude from the nail edges).
- Participants are not allowed to use stickers or decals; all parts must be created and applied during the competition itself.
- Participants are not allowed to use any logos or images of well-known brands or manufacturers (Louis Vuitton, D&G, Walt Disney, Warner Bros., etc.) with regard to copyright.
- Air brush designs are **excluded from participation**.
- The competition area is only accessible for participants and their models. Other persons may not assist in any way.
- Participants are allowed to use cuticle oil and/or hand lotion, but if the models' hands have excessive oil or lotion on them, the participant risks losing points.
- Participants must make a typed description that states what the theme is and how it has been worked out. Also think of possible sources of inspiration. It should also be described which techniques have been used. No name of the nail stylist (s) or brand names may be mentioned in this description. No points can be obtained for a description, the description serves to support the assessment criteria as described later in these competition rules. In connection with a possible international jury, the description must be submitted in English. In addition, the description may also be submitted in its own language. When not submitting a correct description, 5 points will be deducted from the total score.

Categories

Participants can enter the competition in one of the following 2 categories:

- **Beginners**
You have never participated in a contest where Nail Art techniques are used or you have previously participated in a competition where Nail Art techniques are used but never achieved a podium position.
- **Professionals**
You have previously participated in a competition where Nail Art techniques are used and a podium place achieved (1, 2 or 3) or you have never participated in a competition where Nail Art techniques are used but would like to participate with the advanced division because you think you belong there.

If there are fewer than 5 participants in 1 of the divisions, the divisions will be merged.
All national and international trade competitions include Nail Art techniques, which are held especially for nail stylists.

There are no different divisions for international participants.

Judging criteria

To be able to make a good preparation, it is important to know what the jury is paying attention to during the assessment:

Originality: 10 points

- Is the design original? Is it a custom design or is it a copy of an existing design?
- Have you seen the design before? Is it a unique design (totally different from all the other designs)?

Theme interpretation: 10 points

- Does the theme clearly show from the design?
- Can the theme be clearly seen on all nails and do all nails combined form a logical whole?
- The theme must be clearly visible and complete.

Visual attraction: 10 points

- The design grabs your attention. The design holds your attention.

Colour combination: 10 points

- Has the participant used colours wisely to ensure the design forms a whole?
- Do the colours fit/add to the design?

Balance: 10 points

- Are all design elements balanced? Is the design too loud, boring, or well-balanced?

Details: 10 points

- Are the details accurate and do they add to the design?
- Do these details give the design an extra dimension?

General impression: 10 points

- Does the design form a whole? Are any improvements required?
- Does the design make a great overall impression?
- Is the design complete or does it need to be improved?

Level of difficulty: 10 points

- Has this design presented the participant with a challenge? Do skills and hard work show from the design?
- Has the participant used various techniques to create the design?

General skills: 10 points

- Does the design show the participants' artistic skills?
- Is the design accurate, neat and precise?
- Does it have a wow factor?

Finish: 10 points

- Does the model have any small cuticle wounds? Can you see any remnants of materials used (oil, paint, polish, etc.)? Is the final design free from dust and/or dirt?

Technical aspect: 10 points

- Has the underlying nail been applied skilfully and carefully, i.e. are the nails technically perfect? Do the nails fit the model?

Points

10 Perfect	7 Good	4 Below average	1 Unacceptable
9 Almost perfect	6 Above average	3 Bad	

8 Very good

5 Average

2 Very bad

Competition team of the year

This competition counts for the Benelux Competition Team of the year. This means that the points obtained by a team member of a competition team during this competition count towards the total score of the relevant competition team.

Model

The choice of model is very important. Models with spot free hands and beautiful long nail beds are your best choice. Please note that points are deducted wounds on the hands and cuticles and injuries suffered during the competition!

The models' hands may not be recognizable. The model is not allowed to wear any rings, bracelets, watches or other jewellery. Tattoos and/or henna decorations are not allowed. Tattoos which can be fully camouflaged are allowed, this for assessment to the competition management. Long sleeves must be rolled up to the elbow for the judges. Tattoos on the arms are allowed. The limit is that the tattoo should not come under, where the watch is normally.

All models must be over 18 years old.

Procedure

All nail stylists who enter this competition receive the competition rules in advance to ensure that all participants have enough time to prepare themselves for the competition in the best possible way. Participants are also sent the judging form used by the panel of judges during the competition. This form indicates how many points can be earned for the various categories. Be sure to carefully read the competition rules and judging form to ensure you get the most out of your participation!

Participants must check in at the competition secretariat at least half an hour before the start of the competition. Work tables are assigned by lot to the participants and models. The model is judged by the assigned participation number.

After the competition participants must leave the competition area as soon as possible. The models are then accompanied to the judging booths in groups.

They may only leave the booth if they have received permission from the competition management, under certain conditions and if necessary under guidance. Models who do not observe these rules and conditions are disqualified. Models must try to speak as little as possible when they are judged, to ensure the judges can concentrate on the design.

When the judges have finished, the models are tapped on their hands twice. They must then move to the next booth. This procedure is repeated until all judges have seen the models' hands.

Participants who start working before the competition starts or keep on working after the competition has ended, are disqualified. Participants who use unauthorized materials or equipment are disqualified.

Before, during and after the competition, the participants, their models, trainers, coaches, etc. must treat the competition management with respect. If not, this means disqualification from the relevant participant. This for assessment by the competition organization.

If a participant wins a prize (first, second or third place) and the participant is not present at the prize-giving ceremony, this place and the accompanying prize will lapse for that participant. The next participant in the ranking will then take this place.

The panel of judges

The panel of judges consists of at least 3 people. One of them serves as an independent chairman or chairwoman and sees to it that all procedures are observed. He or she also supervises the expert judges from the industry. The panel of judges is not present in the competition area during the competition itself, but follows a special 'judging training'.

In the event of a tie, the chairman or chairwoman has the final vote.

Participants are not judged by the way they work. Only the end result counts.

Judging

Participants are judged on the basis of the participation number which is assigned to each participant before the competition. The panel of judges does not get to know any of the names of participants or models. The models are judged blindly, which means that the judges only get to see the hands of the models and not the models themselves.

Practical information

- Participants must show their ID before the start of the competition.
- Models must stay in the judging area until all judges have completed their assessment. Models are recommended to bring something to read with them to pass the time.
- The organisation of this competition only gives out admission tickets to the participant and model.
- The models must be 18 years or older. In case of doubt about the age, an ID proof can be requested.
- Bags, suitcases and lights must be cleared away from the area immediately after the model has been prepared for the assessment. Personal items may not be left behind in the competition area.
- Participants and/or models who show up late are disqualified.

Prizes

All participants receive a personalized certificate and a souvenir. The winners also receive a beautiful cup and a cash prize. The cash prizes will be transferred one month after the end of the competition to an account number of the winner's choice.

Other information

Any cases not covered by these rules and conditions are decided upon by the competition management and chairman of the panel of judges, if necessary in consultation with the judges. Their decision is binding. It is not possible to appeal against this decision.

Participants who pay the entry fee for this competition declare to agree with the content and scope of the competition rules and any other related conditions.