



2027
COMPETITION RULEBOOK
Official Rules & Regulations for All Student Competitions

Saturday, March 20th, 2027
North Shore Oceanfront Hotel
201 75th Avenue North • Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
Association of Cosmetology Salon Professionals

Table of Contents

1. General Information (Photo/Video Release, Competition Definitions, General Rules and Regulations)
 2. Student – Avant Garde Eye Art Challenge
 3. Student – 3D Nail Design
 4. Student – Fantasy Makeup
 5. Student – Braiding/Twist Style
 6. Student – Bridal Open Competition
 7. Student – Ladies Evening Makeup
 8. Student – Clipper Cut Design/Total Look
 9. Student - Black & White Nail Art
 10. Student - School Team Competition
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ACSP 2027 Competitions – General Information

Questions about RULES? Call Doug Robinson, 803-448-0101 Questions about Registration? Call Adrienne Macloed, 803-345-2909

Competition Date: Saturday, March 20th, 2027 **Location:** North Shore Oceanfront Hotel, 201 75th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

The competition registration desk opens at 8:00 AM. Please register for all competitions you intend to enter as early as possible.

Photo/Video Release Statement

As a competitor and/or model participating in the ACSP Competitions, I:

- Hereby give my permission to use my image in these photographs to the above association, with the right of reproduction either wholly or in part.
 - I agree that the Association can use the aforementioned photographs either separately or together, either wholly or in part, in any medium.
 - The Association may have use of these photographs for any reasonable purpose including the furthering of the cosmetology industry.
 - Should the Association need to use these images in a form that crosses into a Regional or National format, ACSP will contact me and acquire my permission to use my image with specifics as to their use.
 - I agree that the photographs and any reproductions shall be deemed to represent my image or any imaginary person or form of intellectual property and further agree that they may be used for the purpose of illustrating and wording, and agree that no such wording shall be considered to be attributed to me unless my name is used.
 - Provided my name is not mentioned in connection with any other statement of wording which may be attributed to me personally, I undertake not to prosecute or to institute proceedings, claims or demands against the ACSP in respect of any usage of the aforementioned photographs. I waive all rights and abilities to collect remuneration for the use of these photographs or images of my likeness. I have read this model release form carefully and fully understand its meanings and implications.
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Competition Definitions

Terms are grouped below by category to make them easier to find.

General Competition Terms

- **Attire** — A model's clothes, outfit, or costume, plus accessories.
- **Competition Director** — The person in charge of the entire event, who organizes all contests and has the final say on any question or situation that comes up.
- **Competition Chairperson** — The person responsible for overseeing one specific competition or a group of competitions.
- **Consumer** — Someone who uses products or services for their own personal needs.
- **General Rules and Regulations** — The rules that apply to all competitors and all competitions.
- **Rules and Special Instructions** — The specific rules for an individual competition.
- **International 30 Point Scoring System** — A standardized numerical scoring system used by major cosmetology competitions worldwide.
- **Intricacy of the Design** — How complex or detailed a design is, based on how many interrelated parts it has.
- **Judge** — A professional appointed by the competition committee to evaluate entries; judges are recognized experts in cosmetology competitions.
- **Sage/Wise man** — An official on the competition floor for the entire contest, who makes sure competitors follow all rules and can assess penalty points for violations.
- **Objective** — A description of the type of work competitors are expected to present in a given contest.
- **Penalty Points** — Points deducted from a competitor's score for breaking a General or Specific Rule.
- **Product Restrictions** — Specific products, or types of products, that cannot be used in a given competition.
- **Tool Restrictions** — Specific tools, or types of tools, that cannot be used in a given competition.
- **Professional** — Someone who has met their state, region, or country's licensing requirements for Cosmetology, Barbering, Esthetics, or Nail services, and currently holds that license.
- **Student** — Someone currently enrolled in a cosmetology-related program who has not yet met licensing requirements and is not currently licensed in the field they're competing in.
- **Reporting Time** — The time competitors must report to the competition arena, as set by each competition's specific rules.
- **Time Allowed** — How much working time a competitor has to finish their piece before judging.
- **Visual/Printed Diagram** — A drawing that uses lines, shapes, and colors to convey a design or idea.
- **Progressive** — A forward-thinking, innovative approach to color, cutting, and styling — typically unconventional haircut shapes paired with bold or neon colors.
- **Morph** — A smooth, gradual transition from one image or look to another.

Nail Terms

- **3D Nail Artwork** — A nail design with real height, width, and depth — not just a flat painted design. It can be created on acrylic or any flat surface, under any theme. This is a different category from Fantasy (see below).
- **Acetone** — A solvent used to dissolve and remove nail polish or acrylic.
- **Acid Primer** — A primer (usually made with methacrylic acid) that helps enhancement products stick to the natural nail.
- **Acrylic** — A nail system made of two parts — a liquid (monomer) and a powder (polymer) — that combine to form a hard, durable coating. It's the strongest nail coating option.
- **Acrylic Brush** — The brush used to apply acrylic, usually with natural bristles, available in different sizes and shapes.

- **Cure** — The process of a nail coating hardening all the way through. This isn't the same as drying — a coating can feel dry on the surface while it's still curing underneath.
- **Fantasy** — A bold, imaginative design made purely to be looked at (not worn day-to-day), meant to show off creative use of both new and traditional materials.
- **Fill-in** — Adding fresh acrylic to cover new nail growth after the initial full set, usually needed every two to three weeks. Also called a back-fill, fill, touch-up, or maintenance.
- **Forms** — Sticky-backed paper (or reusable flexible plastic with bendable wire) placed under the nail tip to extend the acrylic beyond the natural nail.
- **Mannequin Hand(s)** — A realistic practice hand used in place of a live model's hand.
- **Nail Art** — Any creative painting, decorating, or embellishing done on fingernails or toenails.
- **Nail Jewelry** — Decorative add-ons applied to the nail after a manicure or pedicure — things like gems, feathers, rhinestones, glitter, thread, fabric, foil, beads, tape, crystals, paint, gel, or molded pieces.
- **Ornament** — Any decoration that is not made of human, animal, or artificial hair.

Hair Terms

- **Hairpiece** — Human, animal, or artificial hair (with or without a base) that is permanently or semi-permanently attached to the model's own hair.
- **Hair Extension** — Human, animal, or artificial hair (with or without a base) that is permanently or semi-permanently attached to the model's own hair.

Cosmetic Terms

- **Cosmetic Enhancement** — Any permanent or temporary makeup, moisturizer, false eyelashes, temporary tattoo, paint, glitter, or similar product.

General Rules and Regulations for All Competitions

Eligibility & Registration

1. Competitions are open to student cosmetologists, barbers, nail technicians, and estheticians currently enrolled in a cosmetology, nail, barber, or esthetics school. Include your school's contact information on your Student Competitor Registration Form. If you finished your required hours within the last 30 days, you may still be eligible to compete, but you must show proof of your completion date.
2. For each competition you enter, submit an Official Competition Registration Form and a Model Release Form, along with the required fee. Models under 18 need a parent's signature on the Model Release Form. Entry fees are non-refundable and cannot be credited toward another competition.
3. On-site registration is accepted up until one hour before each specific competition begins.

Models

4. Only one model or mannequin is allowed per competitor, per competition. The model cannot be the competitor, and the competitor cannot be their own model — they must be two separate people. Each competitor is responsible for providing their own model, at their own expense.
5. Competitor and model must check in together at the registration desk so their IDs can be verified.
6. Instructors may not serve as models in student competitions.

Officials & Judging

7. Competitions are run by the competition chairperson or an appointed representative. Judges, Sages, and Tally personnel — appointed along with the chairperson — make up the competition committee.

Competitors agree to abide by the judges' decisions.

8. If a rule violation occurs, the chairperson consults with the sages. The competition committee then assesses penalty points (from 1 to 3) or disqualification, depending on the severity of the infraction. Judges are never told which penalties the sages have assessed.
9. The Director of Competitions and the Competition Committee have final say on any situation not already covered by these rules.

Competition Site & Equipment

10. Only tables, chairs, and mirrors are provided at the competition site — hood dryers are not provided. One electrical outlet (with two standard plugs) is available only where a specific competition's rules call for it. Tools drawing more than 1800 watts are not allowed, and blow dryers must display a visible wattage label. Ceramic stoves, unattended ("free") irons, and outside lighting sources of any kind are not allowed in the competition arena.

Day-of Logistics

11. Competitor and model must be in the holding area 30 minutes before their competition for roll call. Once contestants are placed in the competition arena at their assigned spot, they cannot change chairs or numbers for any reason without permission from the Competition Chairperson.

Safety

12. Each competitor must bring their own Blood Contamination Kit, including: antiseptic spray, disposable toweling, Band-Aids, styptic powder or liquid, a sealable plastic bag, and a rigid container for any accidental blood contamination.

Note: All individual competition rule sheets reference these General Rules and Regulations in addition to their own specific rules.

Student - Avant Garde Eye Art Challenge

An open, artistic eye makeup competition. Competitors design a bold, avant garde look centered on and around the eye area — pushing creativity beyond what would be worn day-to-day.

Competition Date: Saturday, March 20th, 2027 **Competition Begins:** 9:00 AM **Reporting Time:** 8:30 AM

Pre-registration: Fee: \$25 **Deadline:** Must be received or postmarked by Friday, March 5th, 2027

On-site Registration: Fee: \$35 cash Must register no later than 1 hour prior to competition start time (8:00 AM) and then report for competition at 8:30 AM.

Registration Area: North Shore Oceanfront Hotel, 201 75th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29572

Awards Presentation: 5:00 PM (approximately), Competitions Arena - 1st Place: Trophy for Competitor - 2nd Place: Trophy for Competitor - 3rd Place: Trophy for Competitor

Time Allowed: 45 minutes on a live model (male or female).

Rules and Special Instructions

1. You may enter only one male or female model.
2. Before entering the arena, foundation, lip color, and blush must be applied. Eyes must be completely clean.
3. Combine color, technique, and prosthetics — push as far as you dare to create a unique avant garde design.
4. The model's body must be draped in a clean white drape or white sheet, and the model's head must be covered with a clean white covering, for the entire competition. Both coverings will remain in place for final judging.
5. The design must be centered on and around the eye area — brows, lids, lash line, and the immediate surrounding skin. Work should not extend to a full-face design.
6. Allowed materials include gems, feathers, rhinestones, glitter, false lashes, liquid latex, special effects supplies, and other accessories needed for the eye design, provided all items are in their original packaging and intended for use on the skin.
7. A printed visual diagram is allowed for reference.
8. Stencils and airbrushing are not allowed.
9. You must apply all makeup yourself — no assistance from the model or anyone else is permitted.
10. Judges will be present during the competition to observe your technique and execution.
11. Refer to the General Rules and Regulations.

Judges Will Be Looking For

- **Originality & Creativity** — a bold, imaginative eye design that feels genuinely avant garde.
- **Technique & Precision** — clean, controlled application.
- **Color Use & Blending** — thoughtful, well-executed color work.
- **Balance** — intentional symmetry or asymmetry that supports the design.
- **Overall Impact** — the finished look's presentation and avant garde effect as a whole.

Penalty Point Chart

It is the responsibility of a competitor to not only show respect for all the rules, but also to show respect for the intent of the rules. Penalty Points are only subtracted when in the opinion of the Committee a

competitor has taken an unfair advantage. The amount of points subtracted for each penalty will be reflective of the severity of the infraction. Penalty points may be assessed for, but not limited to, the following:

Disqualification: - D-1: Competitor arriving late. - D-2: Any competitor who with malicious intent interferes with another competitor or their presentation before, during or after any contest.

Three Penalty Points: - 3-A: If coached by anyone during the competition. - 3-B: The use (or impression of use) of electronic devices is prohibited in the Competition Arena. This includes smart watches, cell phones, tablets, etc. - 3-C: Any electronics brought into the competition arena by contestants.

Two Penalty Points: - 2-A: Model enters with cosmetics, moisturizers, false eyelashes, cosmetic enhancements, etc. on their face. (With the exception of eyelash extensions). - 2-B: Model is assisting in the application of makeup. - 2-C: The model physically helped in creating the finished look. - 2-D: Use of stencils or airbrushing. - 2-E: Design extends into a full-face look rather than staying centered on the eye area.

One Penalty Point: - 1-A: STARTING to work before the call of "START". - 1-B: Competitor continues to work after time has been called.

Note: This is a newly added competition. Please confirm the fees and any product restrictions with the Competition Director before publishing, since these details were drafted to match the format of the other competitions rather than pulled from an official source.

Student - 3D Nail Design

Competition Date: Saturday, March 20th, 2027 **Competition Begins:** 9:30 AM **Reporting Time:** 9:00 AM

Pre-registration: Fee: \$25 **Deadline:** Must be received or postmarked by Friday, March 5th, 2027

On-site Registration: Fee: \$35 cash Must register no later than 1 hour prior to competition start time (8:30 AM) and then report for competition at 9 AM.

Registration Area: North Shore Oceanfront Hotel, 201 75th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29572

Awards Presentation: 5:00 PM (approximately), Competitions Arena - 1st Place: Trophy for Competitor - 2nd Place: Trophy for Competitor - 3rd Place: Trophy for Competitor

Time Allowed: 75 minutes on (1) one mannequin hand.

Rules and Special Instructions

1. Bring one mannequin hand, prepped in advance with a tip size and length of your choice, based in one solid acrylic color only.
2. You are responsible for supplying all products and tools needed to compete.
3. Allowed materials: monomer and polymer, builder gel, sculpting gel, or poly gel. Any brand may be used, and products do not need to be odorless. A battery-powered UV/LED light is allowed.
4. A mask is recommended during the competition but is not required.
5. A printed visual diagram is allowed for reference.
6. All work — including the 3D artwork — must be created and applied during the competition itself, not beforehand.
7. One hand-held, battery-operated fan may be used if needed.
8. Not allowed: stencils, decals, airbrushing, or stamping plates.
9. This is a 3D Nail Design competition, not a Fantasy competition — keep designs within that category.
10. Refer to the General Rules and Regulations.

Judges Will Be Looking For

A 3D Nail Art design that shows:

- **Originality & Theme** — a clear creative concept, inspired by your chosen theme.
- **Visual Interest & Color** — purposeful, eye-catching use of color and detail.
- **Balance & Design** — elements that feel intentional and well-composed, not random.
- **True Dimension** — real height, width, and depth, not just a flat design with texture.
- **Complexity & Workmanship** — skillful, detailed execution rather than a simple design.
- **Presentation** — a clean, professional finish that holds up under close inspection.

Penalty Point Chart

It is the responsibility of a competitor to not only show respect for all the rules, but also to show respect for the intent of the rules. Penalty Points are only subtracted when in the opinion of the Committee a competitor has taken an unfair advantage. The amount of points subtracted for each penalty will be reflective of the severity of the infraction. Penalty points may be assessed for, but not limited to, the following:

Disqualification: - D-1: Competitor arriving late. - D-2: Any competitor who with malicious intent

interferes with another competitor or their presentation before, during or after any contest.

Three Penalty Points: - 3-A: If coached by anyone during the competition. - 3-B: The use (or impression of use) of electronic devices is prohibited in the Competition Arena. This includes smart watches, cell phones, tablets, etc. - 3-C: Any electronics brought into the competition arena by contestants.

Two Penalty Points: - 2-A: Designs not securely fastened to the nail surface. - 2-B: Use of Stencils, decals, airbrushing or Stamping Plates.

One Penalty Point: - 1-A: STARTING to work before the call of "START". - 1-B: Competitor continues to work after time has been called.

Student - Fantasy Makeup

Competition Date: Saturday, March 20th, 2027 **Competition Begins:** 11:00 AM **Reporting Time:** 10:30 AM

Pre-registration: Fee: \$25 **Deadline:** Must be received or postmarked by Friday, March 5th, 2027

On-site Registration: Fee: \$35 cash Must register no later than 1 hour prior to competition start time (10 AM) and then report for competition at 10:30 AM.

Registration Area: North Shore Oceanfront Hotel, 201 75th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29572

Awards Presentation: 5:00 PM (approximately), Competitions Arena - 1st Place: Trophy for Competitor - 2nd Place: Trophy for Competitor - 3rd Place: Trophy for Competitor

Time Allowed: 45 minutes on a live model (male or female).

Rules and Special Instructions

1. You may enter only one model.
2. Before the competition begins, the model's face (from the neck up) must be free of all cosmetics, moisturizers, false eyelashes, and cosmetic enhancements. Eyelash extensions are the only exception.
3. The model's body must be draped in a clean white drape or white sheet for the entire competition. It will only be removed for final judging.
4. Since this is a fantasy makeup competition, the model should be dressed to match the fantasy theme.
5. All items used for the makeup application must be in their original packaging and intended for use on the skin only.
6. Allowed materials include gems, feathers, rhinestones, glitter, liquid latex, special effects supplies, jewelry, and other accessories needed for the fantasy look.
7. A printed visual diagram is allowed for reference.
8. Stencils are not allowed.
9. You must apply all makeup yourself — no assistance from the model or anyone else is permitted.
10. Judges will be present during the competition to observe your technique and execution.
11. Refer to the General Rules and Regulations.

Judges Will Be Looking For

- **Execution & Technique** — how skillfully the makeup is applied, blended, and built up.
- **Corrective & Color Enhancement** — how well color and technique are used to shape and enhance the face.
- **Fashion Effect & Overall Presentation** — the finished look should feel intentional and visually striking as a complete piece.

Note: Hair, wardrobe, and jewelry are also factored into the overall effect.

Penalty Point Chart

It is the responsibility of a competitor to not only show respect for all the rules, but also to show respect for the intent of the rules. Penalty Points are only subtracted when in the opinion of the Committee a competitor has taken an unfair advantage. The amount of points subtracted for each penalty will be reflective of the severity of the infraction. Penalty points may be assessed for, but not limited to, the following:

Disqualification: - D-1: Competitor arriving late. - D-2: Any competitor who with malicious intent interferes with another competitor or their presentation before, during or after any contest.

Three Penalty Points: - 3-A: If coached by anyone during the competition. - 3-B: The use (or impression of use) of electronic devices is prohibited in the Competition Arena. This includes smart watches, cell phones, tablets, etc. - 3-C: Any electronics brought into the competition arena by contestants.

Two Penalty Points: - 2-A: Model enters with cosmetics, moisturizers, false eyelashes, cosmetic enhancements, etc. on their face. (With the exception of eyelash extensions). - 2-B: Model is assisting in the application of make-up. - 2-C: The model physically helped in creating the finished look. - 2-D: Use of Stencils.

One Penalty Point: - 1-A: STARTING to work before the call of "START". - 1-B: Competitor continues to work after time has been called.

Student - Braiding/Twist Style

Competition Date: Saturday, March 20th, 2027 **Competition Begins:** 11:30 AM **Reporting Time:** 11 AM

Pre-registration: Fee: \$25 **Deadline:** Must be received or postmarked by Friday, March 5th, 2027

On-site Registration: Fee: \$35 cash Must register no later than 1 hour prior to competition start time (10:30 AM) and then report for competition at 11 AM.

Registration Area: North Shore Oceanfront Hotel, 201 75th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29572

Awards Presentation: 5:00 PM (approximately), Competitions Arena - 1st Place: Trophy for Competitor - 2nd Place: Trophy for Competitor - 3rd Place: Trophy for Competitor

Time Allowed: 75 minutes on a live model (male or female).

Rules and Special Instructions

1. You may enter only one model, male or female.
2. Models may have hair color and chemical texturing done prior to the competition.
3. Bring your model to the arena with hair prepped, dried, and combed out — ready to be braided and/or twisted.
4. No pre-combing, twisting, or braiding on the model or hairpieces before the competition. All work must be done in the arena during the competition.
5. Extensions of any color may be used, but must be clean and dry.
6. No electricity will be provided.
7. Judges will be present during the competition to observe your technique.
8. Refer to the General Rules and Regulations.

Judges Will Be Looking For

- **Trend Interpretation** — your take on a fashion-forward braided or twisted style that reflects current trends.
- **Finished Appearance & Artistry** — a polished overall look that shows creative flair.
- **Technique & Balance** — clean execution and a well-proportioned design across the whole head.
- **Line & Securing Technique** — how cleanly the braids/twists are parted, sectioned, and held in place.
- **Workmanship** — attention to detail and overall craftsmanship.
- **Completion** — judges expect a fully finished design, not a partial one.

Penalty Point Chart

It is the responsibility of a competitor to not only show respect for all the rules, but also to show respect for the intent of the rules. Penalty Points are only subtracted when in the opinion of the Committee a competitor has taken an unfair advantage. The amount of points subtracted for each penalty will be reflective of the severity of the infraction. Penalty points may be assessed for, but not limited to, the following:

Disqualification: - D-1: Competitor arriving late. - D-2: Any competitor who with malicious intent interferes with another competitor or their presentation before, during or after any contest.

Three Penalty Points: - 3-A: If coached by anyone during the competition. - 3-B: The use (or impression

of use) of electronic devices is prohibited in the Competition Arena. This includes smart watches, cell phones, tablets, etc. - 3-C: Any electronics brought into the competition arena by contestants.

Two Penalty Points: - 2-A: If pre-combing, twisting or braiding on model or hair pieces prior to the start of competitions.

One Penalty Point: - 1-A: STARTING to work before the call of "START". - 1-B: Competitor continues to work after time has been called.

Student - Bridal Open Competition

Open competition allows the competitor free creativity and choice for depicting an elegant bridal look.

Competition Date: Saturday, March 20th, 2027 **Competition Begins:** 12:00 PM **Reporting Time:** 11:30 AM

Pre-registration: Fee: \$25 **Deadline:** Must be received or postmarked by Friday, March 5th, 2027

On-site Registration: Fee: \$35 cash Must register no later than 1 hour prior to competition start time (11 AM) and then report for competition at 11:30 AM.

Registration Area: North Shore Oceanfront Hotel, 201 75th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29572

Awards Presentation: 5:00 PM (approximately), Competitions Arena - 1st Place: Trophy for Competitor - 2nd Place: Trophy for Competitor - 3rd Place: Trophy for Competitor

Time Allowed: 45 minutes on a female mannequin.

Rules and Special Instructions

1. Bring one female mannequin, plus your own table clamp, mannequin holder, or tripod.
2. The mannequin's hair may have color and chemical texturing done in advance, and can be set and dried in any manner, ready for combing.
3. Before the call to start, you'll have 10 minutes to set up your equipment and remove rollers, clips, etc.
4. No pre-combing, pleating, or braiding on the mannequin or hairpieces before the competition. All styling work must be done during the competition itself.
5. Comb and style an elegant bridal look of your own choosing.
6. No electric or battery-operated appliances are allowed.
7. Hairpieces or ornamentation may be used, but the base cannot cover more than 1/3 of the head form. Extensions count as hairpieces/ornamentation for this rule.
8. No veil may be used. The mannequin may be dressed with a scarf (or similar item) around the neck, plus jewelry and makeup applied.
9. Refer to the General Rules and Regulations.

Judges Will Be Looking For

- **Bridal Theme Fit** — does the design read as a bridal look, rather than a general updo?
- **Creativity & Originality** — a fresh take on bridal style, not something generic.
- **Detail & Workmanship** — careful, precise execution throughout.
- **Suitability** — would a modern bride realistically wear this look?
- **Consistency** — do all elements of the design work together as a cohesive whole?
- **Overall Appearance** — the total visual impact of the finished style.

Judging is visual, based on the categories above.

Penalty Point Chart

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following:

Disqualification: - D-1: Competitor arriving late. - D-2: Any competitor who with malicious intent interferes with another competitor or their presentation before, during or after any contest.

Three Penalty Points: - 3-A: If coached by anyone during the competition. - 3-B: The use (or impression of use) of electronic devices is prohibited in the Competition Arena. This includes smart watches, cell phones, tablets, etc. - 3-C: If a veil is used. - 3-D: Any electronics brought into the competition arena by contestants.

Two Penalty Points: - 2-A: If pre-combing, pleating or braiding on models or hair pieces prior to start of competitions. - 2-B: The base of the hairpieces or ornamentation covers more than 1/3 of the head form.

One Penalty Point: - 1-A: STARTING to work before the call of "START". - 1-B: Competitor continues to work after time has been called.

Student - Ladies Evening Makeup

Competition Date: Saturday, March 20th, 2027 **Competition Begins:** 1:00 PM **Reporting Time:** 12:30 PM

Pre-registration: Fee: \$25 **Deadline:** Must be received or postmarked by Friday, March 5th, 2027

On-site Registration: Fee: \$35 cash Must register no later than 1 hour prior to competition start time (12 PM) and then report for competition at 12:30 PM.

Registration Area: North Shore Oceanfront Hotel, 201 75th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29572

Awards Presentation: 5:00 PM (approximately), Competitions Arena - 1st Place: Trophy for Competitor - 2nd Place: Trophy for Competitor - 3rd Place: Trophy for Competitor

Time Allowed: 45 minutes on a female model.

Rules and Special Instructions

1. You may enter only one female model.
2. Before the competition begins, the model's face (from the neck up) must be free of all cosmetics, moisturizers, false eyelashes, and cosmetic enhancements. Eyelash extensions are the only exception.
3. Models must report wearing a clean white headband covering the hairline, with their body draped in a clean white drape or white sheet. Both stay on for the entire competition and are only removed for final judging.
4. Since this is an evening makeup competition, dress the model accordingly.
5. You must apply all makeup yourself — no assistance from the model or anyone else is permitted.
6. Judges will be present during the competition to observe your technique and execution.
7. Refer to the General Rules and Regulations.

Judges Will Be Looking For

- **Execution & Technique** — how skillfully the makeup is applied, blended, and built up.
- **Corrective & Color Enhancement** — how well color and technique are used to shape and enhance the face.
- **Fashion Effect & Overall Presentation** — the finished look should feel intentional and visually striking as a complete piece.

Note: Hair, wardrobe, and jewelry are also factored into the overall effect.

Penalty Point Chart

It is the responsibility of a competitor to not only show respect for all the rules, but also to show respect for the intent of the rules. Penalty Points are only subtracted when in the opinion of the Committee a competitor has taken an unfair advantage. The amount of points subtracted for each penalty will be reflective of the severity of the infraction. Penalty points may be assessed for, but not limited to, the following:

Disqualification: - D-1: Competitor arriving late. - D-2: Any competitor who with malicious intent interferes with another competitor or their presentation before, during or after any contest.

Three Penalty Points: - 3-A: If coached by anyone during the competition. - 3-B: The use (or impression

of use) of electronic devices is prohibited in the Competition Arena. This includes smart watches, cell phones, tablets, etc. - 3-C: Any electronics brought into the competition arena by contestants.

Two Penalty Points: - 2-A: Model enters with cosmetics, moisturizers, false eyelashes, cosmetic enhancements, etc. on her face. (With the exception of eyelash extensions). - 2-B: Model is assisting in the application of make-up. - 2-C: The model physically helped in creating the finished look.

One Penalty Point: - 1-A: STARTING to work before the call of "START". - 1-B: Competitor continues to work after time has been called. - 1-C: If headband or drape or sheet is any color other than white.

Student - Clipper Cut Design/Total Look

This competition is open to all Student Cosmetologists and Barbers.

Competition Date: Saturday, March 20th, 2027 **Competition Begins:** 1:30 PM **Reporting Time:** 1:00 PM

Pre-registration: Fee: \$25 **Deadline:** Must be received or postmarked by Friday, March 5th, 2027

On-site Registration: Fee: \$35 cash Must register no later than 1 hour prior to competition start time (12:30 PM) and then report for competition at 1:00 PM.

Registration Area: North Shore Oceanfront Hotel, 201 75th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29572

Awards Presentation: 5:00 PM (approximately), Competitions Arena - 1st Place: Trophy for Competitor - 2nd Place: Trophy for Competitor - 3rd Place: Trophy for Competitor

Time Allowed: 60 minutes on a live model (male or female).

Rules and Special Instructions

1. This is a Total Fashion Competition on a live model, who may be male or female. The finished look must include a clipper cut, plus attire that complements the design.
2. Bring your model to the arena already dressed and draped.
3. The model's hair must be clean, dry, and free of all products. It may be pre-colored with any color used to enhance the design.
4. The model's hair should reflect two weeks' growth. No pre-cutting, shaving, or trimming should be detected.
5. This is an open design competition — be original, creative, and detailed with your color and cut design. All work must reflect a complete transformation from start to finish.
6. Allowed tools: shears, clippers, trimmer, razor, and a blow dryer (not exceeding 1800 watts), plus combs and brushes. Only one tool may be plugged in at a time. Any styling products may be used.
7. Refer to the General Rules and Regulations.

Judges Will Be Looking For

- **Originality and creativity** — since this is an open design competition, judges want to see a cut and color concept they haven't seen before, not a standard style.
- **Clean, precise technique** — clipper work, line work, fades, and any patterns should be sharp and well-executed.
- **Intricacy and attention to detail** — how many thoughtful design elements are incorporated, and how carefully they're finished.
- **A clear transformation** — the model's before-and-after should show a complete, deliberate change, not just a trim.
- **Total Look presentation** — since this is a Total Look competition, judges also weigh the model's attire and overall styling alongside the haircut itself, not the haircut in isolation.

Penalty Point Chart

It is the responsibility of a competitor to not only show respect for all the rules, but also to show respect for the intent of the rules. Penalty Points are only subtracted when in the opinion of the Committee of Sages a competitor has taken an unfair advantage. The amount of points subtracted for each penalty will be reflective of the severity of the infraction. Penalty points may be assessed for, but not limited to, the

following:

Disqualification: - D-1: Competitor arriving late. - D-2: Any competitor who with malicious intent interferes with another competitor or their presentation before, during or after any contest.

Three Penalty Points: - 3-A: If competitor or model is wearing school or salon logo or name on cape, clothing, jewelry, etc. - 3-B: If coached by anyone during the competition. - 3-C: The use (or impression of use) of electronic devices is prohibited in the Competition Arena. This includes smart watches, cell phones, tablets, etc. - 3-D: If pre-cutting, shaving or trimming is detected. - 3-E: Any electronics brought into the competition arena by contestants.

Two Penalty Points: - 2-A: Blow-Drying tools drawing more than 1800 watts.

One Penalty Point: - 1-A: STARTING to work before the call of "START". - 1-B: Competitor continuing to work after time has been called.

Student - Black & White Nail Art

Competition Date: Saturday, March 20th, 2027 **Competition Begins:** 2:00 PM **Reporting Time:** 1:30 PM

Pre-registration: Fee: \$25 **Deadline:** Must be received or postmarked by Friday, March 5th, 2027

On-site Registration: Fee: \$35 cash Must register no later than 1 hour prior to competition start time (1 PM) and then report for competition at 1:30 PM.

Registration Area: North Shore Oceanfront Hotel, 201 75th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29572

Awards Presentation: 5:00 PM (approximately), Competitions Arena - 1st Place: Trophy for Competitor - 2nd Place: Trophy for Competitor - 3rd Place: Trophy for Competitor

Time Allowed: 45 minutes on (1) one mannequin hand.

Rules and Special Instructions

1. Bring one mannequin hand to the competition.
2. You're responsible for supplying all your own tools — paint brushes, a water dish and water, acrylic paint, acetone, and black and/or white polish. Only polish or acrylic paint may be used; gel polish is not allowed.
3. The mannequin hand may have any type of professional nail extension, in any shape or length, as long as the nails are clean with no base coat applied before the competition starts.
4. Your artwork must stay within the perimeter of the nail surface and cannot exceed 3mm (1/8") in height.
5. All artwork including the base color of black or white must be applied within the forty five minute time limit and done entirely by hand.
6. The design must be strictly black and white and fully cover the nail — no other colors, shades, or blending of the two are allowed.
7. A printed visual diagram is allowed for reference.
8. Only one hand-held, battery-operated fan may be used. Professional quick-dry spray is allowed.
9. Not allowed: gems, stones, pierced jewelry, layered nail extensions, decals, airbrushing/compressors, or pre-made art.
10. This is not a fantasy competition — no props are allowed.
11. Refer to the General Rules and Regulations.

Judges Will Be Looking For

A design created entirely in black and white, using only water-based acrylic paints or nail polish. Judging is based on:

- **Originality** — a fresh, creative approach to black-and-white nail art.
- **Use of Medium** — how skillfully the paint or polish is applied and controlled.
- **Continuity of Theme** — the design should feel cohesive and intentional across all the nails.
- **Workmanship** — clean, precise execution overall.

Penalty Point Chart

It is the responsibility of a competitor to not only show respect for all the rules, but also to show respect for the intent of the rules. Penalty Points are only subtracted when in the opinion of the Committee a competitor has taken an unfair advantage. The amount of points subtracted for each penalty will be

reflective of the severity of the infraction. Penalty points may be assessed for, but not limited to, the following:

Disqualification: - D-1: Competitor arriving late. - D-2: Any competitor who with malicious intent interferes with another competitor or their presentation before, during or after any contest.

Three Penalty Points: - 3-A: If coached by anyone during the competition. - 3-B: The use (or impression of use) of electronic devices is prohibited in the Competition Arena. This includes smart watches, cell phones, tablets, etc. - 3-C: Any electronics brought into the competition arena by contestants.

Two Penalty Points: - 2-A: Artwork exceeds the perimeter of the nail surface itself. - 2-B: Art exceeds a height of 3mm. - 2-C: Gems, stone, pierced jewelry, layers of nail extensions, decals, airbrushing/compressors, or pre-made art is used. - 2-D: Props were used.

One Penalty Point: - 1-A: STARTING to work before the call of "START". - 1-B: Competitor continues to work after time has been called.

Student - School Team Competition

Theme: Metallics and Chrome

Description: Teams explore a liquid metal aesthetic, bringing molten shine and reflective finishes to every element of the look.

Inspiration: Picture mercury-like chrome pooling across satin gowns and tuxedo lapels, with metallic sheens in silver, gold, gunmetal, copper, or holographic finishes catching the light.

Competition Date: Saturday, March 20th, 2027 **Competition Begins:** 2:45 PM **Reporting Time:** 2:15 PM

Pre-registration: Fee: \$25 **Deadline:** Must be received or postmarked by Friday, March 5th, 2027

On-site Registration: Fee: \$35 cash Must register no later than 1 hour prior to competition start time (1:45 PM) and then report for competition at 1:15 PM. *(Note: as printed in the source document — please confirm timing with the Competition Director.)*

Registration Area: North Shore Oceanfront Hotel, 201 75th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29572

Awards Presentation: 5:00 PM (approximately), Competitions Arena - 1st Place: Traveling Trophy for School - Trophy for each Competitor - 2nd Place: Trophy for each Competitor - 3rd Place: Trophy for each Competitor

Time Allowed: 75 minutes total on a live model (male or female). Before the call to start, 10 minutes will be given for any setting up of equipment and removal of rollers and clips. No Props may be used. NO STARTING to work before the call of "START".

Rules and Special Instructions

1. Each team consists of three students from the same school.
2. One team member handles Nails only, one handles Make-up only, and one handles Hair only — no overlapping into another member's area of expertise.
3. Each team may enter only one model, though a school may enter more than one team.
4. Report to the arena with the model's hair already set and dried (any method), and the model covered in a clean white drape or sheet for the entire competition — removed only for final judging.
5. All work must be completed during the competition. No electricity will be provided, so no power tools or props are allowed.
6. Refer to the General Rules and Regulations.

Nails — Metallic, Chrome, or Liquid Metal Finish

1. Models may report with any type of nail extensions, if desired.
2. Nails should reflect a metallic, chrome, or liquid-metal finish. Gel polish may be used on all twenty nails (fingers and toes).
3. Each nail may have a different metallic solid color of the competitor's choice, across all nails, hands and feet. A single color does not need to dominate the design.
4. All nail artwork must be created during the competition — no pre-attached art on tips. Everything must be assembled within the allotted time for judges to observe.
5. Only one battery-operated UV light may be used.
6. Nail art does not need to appear on every nail, but all nails — including toes — will be judged. Models may arrive with a pre-done pedicure in one metallic color only.
7. Not allowed: airbrushing, stencils, decals, or stamping plates.

Make-up — Chrome Eyes, Metallic Lips, Liquid Metal Highlighting

1. No makeup may be applied before the competition. The model's face (from the neck up) must be free of all cosmetics, moisturizers, false eyelashes, and cosmetic enhancements beforehand — eyelash extensions are the only exception.
2. Airbrushing is not allowed.
3. Sages will inspect the model before the competition begins.

Hair — Sleek Updos or Vintage Waves with Metallic Accessories

1. Models report with hair set, dried, and ready for combing. Hair must be fully brushed out before styling begins, and there should be a visible change in the hair over the course of the competition.
2. Hairpieces or ornamentation may be used, but the base cannot cover more than 1/3 of the head form. Extensions count as hairpieces/ornamentation.
3. Hairpieces may be pre-set but not pre-combed. No pre-combing, pleating, or braiding on the model or hairpieces before the competition — all work must be done in the arena during the competition.

Judges Will Be Looking For

- **Theme Execution** — bold, creative use of materials and techniques that push the metallics and chrome theme.
- **Cohesion** — a unified, liquid-metal look that ties Hair, Nails, Make-up, and Apparel together.
- **Overall Finish** — a complete, polished result across all three categories.

Penalty Point Chart

It is the responsibility of a competitor to not only show respect for all the rules, but also to show respect for the intent of the rules. Penalty Points are only subtracted when in the opinion of the Committee a competitor has taken an unfair advantage. The amount of points subtracted for each penalty will be reflective of the severity of the infraction. Penalty points may be assessed for, but not limited to, the following:

Disqualification: - D-1: Competitor arriving late. - D-2: Any competitor who with malicious intent interferes with another competitor or their presentation before, during or after any contest.

Three Penalty Points: - 3-A: If coached by anyone during the competition. - 3-B: The use (or impression of use) of electronic devices is prohibited in the Competition Arena. This includes smart watches, cell phones, tablets, etc. - 3-C: Any electronics brought into the competition arena by contestants.

Two Penalty Points: - 2-A: If the model physically helps in creating the finished look. - 2-B: If pre-combing, pleating or braiding on model's hair or hair pieces prior to start of competitions. - 2-C: Base of the hairpieces or ornamentation covers more than 1/3 of the head form. - 2-D: If nail artwork is pre-attached or assembled before the competition. - 2-E: If props were used. - 2-F: Overlapping on the other team member's area of expertise. - 2-G: Power tools were present.

One Penalty Point: - 1-A: STARTING to work before the call of "START". - 1-B: Competitor continues to work after time has been called. - 1-C: If head covering or drape is any color other than white.
