

HAUNTED NAILS COMPETITION

(Competition – Rules & Regulations)

Deadline to Enter: September 15, 2025 (4:30 p.m.)

(Students Permitted)

HOW SCARY ARE WE?

Definition: *Haunted Nails* means spooky, scary, creepy, etc. Let your imagination flow with artistic freedom to display haunted, unique designs.

Competition Date: October 18, 2025

Location: **Nova Scotia Ballroom**
Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel
1919 Upper Water Street
Halifax, NS B3J 3J5

Registration Fee: \$150

Weekend Event Ticket: \$80 (Members only)

Guests/Non-Members: \$20

*Competitor's may attend a "guest" for competition viewing and award show only.

Please note: the competition registration and event ticket fees are non-refundable. Each competitor must purchase either a weekend Event or Guest ticket (non-member models may attend for free with registration).

COMPETITION AWARDS:

1st Place: \$2,000

2nd Place: \$1,500

3rd Place: \$1,000

All winners will receive a medal in addition to the cash prize.

COMPETITOR CHECK IN & SET UP: 3:00 p.m.

SHADOWBOX VIEWING: 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

JUDGING: 5:30 p.m. (15 min. max.)

AWARD PRESENTATION: Evening Stage Show (7:00 – 9:00 p.m.)

HAUNTED NAILS COMPETITION

(Team Competition – Rules & Regulations cont'd)

GUIDELINES:

The *Haunted Nails* competition parameters are:

- General
 1. Competitors must register with their own provincial Association (Cosmetology Association NS or NB) for the *Haunted Nails* competition by no later than 4:30 p.m., on October 1, 2025.
 2. All team competitors must possess a current/valid cosmetology (esthetician or nail technology) license or student permit for entry into the competition.
 3. Competitors must provide their own nails and shadowbox. A table with an approximate 2x2 area will be provided for display (table and shadow box props permitted).
 4. Competitors must arrive promptly for check-in. Any competitor that arrives late will be disqualified (registration fees are non-refundable.)
 5. Cell phones, iPads, iPods, MP3 players, and other electronic devices **are not** permitted on the competition floor.
 6. Only competitors will be permitted in the preparation areas.

Please note: All competitors are required to sign a release and waiver acknowledging that the Cosmetology Associations (NS & NB) may post competition and Event photos on social media and websites.

Cosmetologists Unite Event coordinators reserve the right to cancel any competition that has less than five registered competitors. In the event of cancellation, competitors will be notified by phone or email no later than two (2) weeks prior to the Event competition and a refund will be issued.

HAUNTED NAILS COMPETITION

(Team Competition – Rules & Regulations cont'd)

- *Pre-Prep*

- Each competitor must create and present for display 10 originally designed nails that depict a haunted theme (creepy, spooky, haunted, Halloween). All 10 nails must consistently reflect a haunted theme.
- Nails may be of any length (no restrictions.)
- Pre-designed tips, printed images, airbrushed, or patterned tips are not permitted.
- Embellishments (i.e.: gems, foil, and similar decorative elements) are permitted - provided they do not cover more than 30% of the overall design.

JUDGING CRITERIA

- Competitors will be judged on overall creativity, originality, and finished look that is consistent with a *Haunted Nails* theme. Judges will focus on neatness, quality, technical skill, and overall attention to detail, complexity, and workmanship.
- Must illustrate a *Haunted Nails* theme with appropriate coordination of colour, balance, and complexity.
 - 30% - Overall finished look consistent with a *Haunted* theme.
 - 30% - Creativity.
 - 40% - Degree of Difficulty.