CREATIVE STYLING RULES (Pre-Groomed): 2027-2028

Contest Description

- Two contest formats: Pre-groomed or In-ring grooming
- See individual show rules for designation of that show
- Creative sculpting, color application, character creation and design
- Groomers demonstrating quality grooming techniques utilizing safe application of color, accessories and contestant costumes and presentations
- Open to all contestants

Acceptable Breeds

- All purebred and mixed breed dogs are permitted.
- NO live animals other than dogs are permitted for use as props or contest entries.

Time Frame: Pre- Groomed

- Entry is pre-groomed
- Time will be allotted for decoration and application of products prior to presentations at designated time and place
- Some venues will provide designated area for contestant to complete styling and grooming

Products, Decorative Objects, Color

- All products, decorative objects, coat coloring and applications must be safe for the dog and stylist
- Costumes and ornament applications to the dog must not hinder the dog's ability to move or impair movement of ears, legs or tail
- Costumes and/or decorations must be easily removable for judge inspection
- Glues should be non-toxic and water-soluble
- Lifting of dog's natural color is prohibited
- Use of duct tape, carpet tape or any other substance that pulls on the skin or hair to remove, is prohibited
- Large or heavy objects placed on the dog are prohibited

Judging Considerations

Technical Finish

- Precision and sharpness of the clipper lines
- Quality of scissor finish
- Overall decorative application
- Overall color application, depth of color, separation of color and blending

Profile

- Concept easily recognizable
- Intricacy balance
- Originality of design
- Original concept for previously executed design
- Unique use of color, decorations or applications

Difficulty

- Intricacy of design and color application
- Color application prior to and during competition (in-ring competition)
- Overall amount of work completed during contest time frame (in-ring competition)

Final Presentation

- Not to exceed 6'x6' space
- Tables provided must be protected from glitter, glue, color, etc.
- Maximum of 2 assistants may enter the arena for prop set up during the 10 minutes following scissors down.
- Up to three persons may assist in the presentation on stage and three off stage
- Contestants have a maximum of two minutes for their presentation
- Presentation may engage the audience
- Music must be given to the staff prior to contest start and must be cued up to start.
- Lights cannot be dimmed during performance.
- Smoke, confetti, streamers or explosive items are strictly prohibited

Awards

Judging panel will choose 1st, 2nd and 3rd placements

Peoples' Choice Award

- One winner
- Award chosen by audience applause and determined by judges selected from the audience

Refer to Procedures and Protocols for other important information

Revised 9/2018