

PRE-Arrival Instructions

Please ensure you have the following items with you:

Valid identification

Your favorite grooming loop(s)

Crate or leash for your dog

Identification of owner and phone number on the crate of the dogs would be recommended for safety purposes.

Shampoo, conditioner, and towels for grooming your dog

Grooming equipment, including clippers, scissors, grooming loops, brushes, stripping knives and any other necessary items. Flat irons are allowed in the ring, but hairdryers are not. We encourage competitors to pre-bathe your dogs prior to coming to the event. This will minimize excessive bathing times at the show.

There will be approximately 24 electric/hydraulic tables with arms supplied for competition for those competitors flying in. **For competitors driving in we ask that you bring your own grooming table for competition to ensure there will be adequate stations. We will need you to do this as we WILL not have enough grooming tables for everyone!**

If you plan to stream your performance (In which we encourage, please tag/mention RWGX in your live stream/posts, RWGX would be happy to collaborate with you) via cell phone/stand/light etc.. on social media please confirm with RWGroomX management that the equipment does not interfere with other contestants or judging.

Arrival Instructions/Getting Registered/Badges

Upon arrival, proceed to the registration desk area at the entrance of the Owensboro Convention Center for the RW GroomX Competition. Scan the QR code on the kiosk with your phone. Fill in the appropriate information prior to approaching the registration personnel for your badge/lanyard. This will make your check in process MUCH faster.

After you are checked in, proceed towards the 1st Floor convention hall to visit our vendors and get familiar with the show floor. Classrooms will be located on the 3rd floor (The Trade show and Competition are in X-Hall 1). Also, familiarize yourself with the bathing and drying area made available within the convention center on the first floor by the elevator leading to the third floor. The Dog holding area will be accessible via the south escalators. A podium with bathing area sign up sheets will be available for signups. Dryers, tubs, shampoos, conditioners (optional shampoos and conditioners will be supplied by Groomer Essentials) and tables will be in place for you to use. Bring your own towels. All crates that house the dogs in the dog holding area must

have 'emergency information' tags attached to crates (dog's name, owner/responsible person, phone number). These tags will be available at the check-in station when you arrive. No soft-sided crates.

Main Competition Schedule

Friday May 29th

8am Check-in for Wire and Clipper Classic

8:30am Pre-Judge for Wire and Clipper Classic

9am Wire Coat Start Time

9am Clipper Classic Start Time

11:45 Extreme Creative Check-in (Dogs are prepared prior to the show for judging)

12:15 to 1:30 Extreme Creative Judging

2pm Check-in for All Other Purebred

2:30pm Pre-Judge for All Other Purebred

3pm All Other Purebred Start Time

4:30-5:45pm Parade of Extreme Creative dogs through 'Friday After 5'

6pm Check-in for Backseat Groomer & Blinding Color Blast

2 Partner Competitions that have never been seen or done before!

(Descriptions under [Entry Sign Up on Competition Page](#))

7pm Backseat Groomer (using model dogs only)

8pm Blinding Color Blast (using model dogs only)

Saturday May 30th

8am Check-in for Sporting and Freestyle

8:30am Pre-Judge for Sporting and Freestyle

9am Sporting Start Time

9am Salon FreeStyle Start Time

12:45pm Check-in for Poodle Class

1:15pm Pre-Judge for Poodle Class

2pm Poodle Class Start Time

5:30pm Abstract Design Check In (Dogs are prepared prior to the show for judging)

5:45pm Abstract Design Judging

Party to be held immediately following the abstract design judging.

Sunday May 31st

8:00am Check-in for Model Dog Competition & Best In Show

8:30am Judging Model Dog Competition

9:30am Best In Show Awards

11:30am Check-in for Creative Duo

12:00pm Pre-Judge for Creative Duo

12:30pm Creative Duo Team Challenge Start

GroomTeam USA Sanctioned Class Rules

Acceptable Coat Growth for All GroomTeam USA, Inc. Sanctioned Classes

It is the responsibility of the show promoter and/or their designated judges to determine adequate coat growth. Minimum of 6 weeks of hair growth or noticeable change.

Acceptable Styling for All GroomTeam USA, Inc. Sanctioned Classes

- ★ All styling must take place during the time frame of the competition except where noted below.

- ★ All dogs must be groomed according to breed standard with the exception of poodles as noted below.
- ★ All dogs may have sanitary areas and pads shaved prior to class start.
- ★ All dogs may have nails trimmed and ears cleaned prior to class start.
- ★ Finishing sprays are permissible in order to tidy up after the competition time frame ends. However, re-shaping with water or product application is prohibited.
- ★ Chalk products are permissible prior to and during the competition time frame but are prohibited after time is called.
- ★ Wire coats must be hand stripped. Clippers are only permissible as presented in the conformation show ring.
- ★ Sporting coats must be carded and/or hand stripped. Clippers are only permissible as presented in the conformation show ring.
- ★ Other purebreds must be styled as presented in the conformation show ring.
- ★ Poodles can be styled as presented in the conformation show ring or pet trims, provided they respect the breed profile as set forth by the standard.

Poodles:

Acceptable Breeds: All sizes, natural colors of purebred Poodles.

This class may be split into two separate classes as follows: 17" and under, over 17".

11" and under: **1:30** (one hour and thirty minutes)

Over 11" and up to and including 17": **1:45** (one hour and forty-five minutes)

Over 17" and up to and including 23": **2:00** (two hours)

Over 23": **2:15** (two hours and fifteen minutes)

When splitting the Poodle class, the following stipulations apply:

A competition must take place between the three (3) finalists from each of the two Open Division Poodle classes to determine the placements of the combined Poodle class, for a final 1st, 2nd and 3rd places for all Open Division Poodles. Only the Final place winners may be awarded GroomTeam USA, Inc. points.

Poodle Styling: All pet and show Poodle styles are acceptable provided they respect the breed profile of the poodle.

- ★ Feet must be shaved.
- ★ Feet may be shaved prior to competition start time. No extra time will be permitted if not completed prior to class start.
- ★ Face must be shaved during the competition time frame.
- ★ Small mustaches or goatees are permitted.
- ★ Scissored face styles such as Bichon or scissored typefaces are prohibited.

- ★ Show topknots may be pre-banded, including hair extensions prior to the start of the class, spray up products are prohibited prior to the start of the class.

Sporting:

Acceptable Breeds Open Division: Spaniels and Setters ([see specific breed list](#))

Styling: Must be groomed to breed profile as presented in the conformation show ring. Time Frame: 2 hours

All Wire Coated Pure Breeds:

Acceptable Breeds Open Division: Pure breeds with wire coat types that are hand stripped ([see specific breed list](#))

Styling: Must be groomed to breed profile as presented in the conformation show ring. Time Frames: ([see specific breed list](#))

All Other Pure Breeds:

Acceptable Breeds Open Division: ([see specific breed list](#))

Styling: Must be groomed to breed profile as presented in the conformation show ring. Time Frames: ([see specific breed list](#))

Awards:

Open (GroomTeamUSA Sanctioned): 1st, 2nd, 3rd in all above 4 categories with BIS

Intermediate: 1st, 2nd, 3rd in all above 4 categories with BIS

Novice: 1st, 2nd, 3rd in all above 4 categories with BIS

1st Timers: 1st in all above 4 categories with BIS

GroomTeam USA Code of Conduct

The GroomTeam USA, Inc., Code of Conduct establishes expectations for professional behavior and actions of all GroomTeam USA, Inc., point holders. Adhering to these policies protects the reputation and perception of the groomers on an individual level, as well as the entire organization.

As a member in good standing of GroomTeam USA, Inc., I promise to:

- ★ Aspire to the highest professional standards.
- ★ Treat all team members and industry professionals with respect, honesty, and kindness.
- ★ Treat all pets with kindness, patience, and respect, and provide for their health and safety while they are entrusted to my care.
- ★ Continue to pursue education and skill development.

- ★ Encourage unity among pet stylists by promoting professionalism, the highest ethical standards, education and creativity.
- ★ Exhibit conduct befitting these standards in my actions, whether it be in writing, in person, or through online communications.
- ★ Discourage unprofessional behavior towards others in my industry community.
- ★ Adhere to the standards of conduct and sportsmanship rules.

I understand that failure to adhere to the Code of Conduct may result in the elimination of honors and privileges awarded by GroomTeam USA.

RWGroomX Class Rules

General Class Rules

-A groomer who has never competed before is allowed to sign up for Novice division if they prefer instead of 1st timers.

First timer competitors that are judged in 1st timer categories to receive 1st timer awards. Best 1st timer competitor will additionally be merited to be judged in the Novice Class in that respective category.

The Clipper Classic.

Contest Time Limit: 2 hours

Divisions: Open to all competitors at any level.

Acceptable Breeds: Any purebred or mixed breed. All dogs must have a minimum of 4-6 weeks coat growth.

General Rules:

This is a solo clipper class. This class will challenge groomers to style any breed using only clippers. Feel free to follow the breed standard or create a unique style to accentuate the dog's conformation.

- ★ The hair may be lifted with combs or fingers.

- ★ Any kind of clippers (with or without snap-on combs) are allowed.
- ★ Scissors are not allowed during this competition, with the exception of the final 10 minutes for final touches. The use of scissors at any time during the competition other than the designated “Scissors Up” period will be cause for disqualification.
- ★ All clipper work must be done in the ring during the allotted competition time. There is no pre-clipping allowed in this class.
- ★ Pads and sanitary areas are to be done prior to the contest start time.
- ★ For Poodles: Clipped feet and faces must be done during the competition time frame.

Final Judging:

Entries will be judged based upon adherence to the rules. Groomers should strive to complete a balanced groom that highlights their clipper work.

Judge will evaluate the following:

- ★ Balance, symmetry, uniformity, and style of the trim.
- ★ The ability of the groomer to execute the style chosen which suits the dog according to his/her body type, structure, and coat.
- ★ Clipper work should be smooth and free of irritation.
- ★ Difficulty will be assessed with regard to the amount of coat removed, difficulty of the coat type, texture, quality and quantity.

Friday May 29th

8am check-in

8:30am prejudge

9am **Clipper Classic**

Awards:

1st Place: Product/Ribbon

2nd Place: Product/Ribbon

Extreme Creative Styling Single

Contest Time Limit: Pre-Done

Divisions:

Entry Level:

Intermediate Level: (NEW) Open Level:

Acceptable Breeds:

Any purebred or mixed breed dog or cat can be used.

General Rules:

The Creative Styling Contest is an exhibition of colorfully staged, uniquely presented, and exquisitely groomed dogs and cats using props and music for the presentation.

- ★ Competitors are permitted a designated 5'x5' space for prop set up. Exhibits exceeding 5'x5' will be disqualified.
- ★ All products used must be safe and non-toxic to the pet and stylist. Glue must be water-soluble.
- ★ Placement of large and/or heavy objects on the pet is prohibited.
- ★ Competitors must title their designs.
- ★ If desired, music may be used during the presentation. Music used for presentation is the sole responsibility of the competitor and must be given to the RWGroomX video wall technician minimum 2 weeks prior to the start of the RWGroomX.
- ★ DVD presentations are not permitted.
- ★ A maximum of 2 minutes is permitted per presentation.

Intermediate Eligibility

Entry Competitors who have earned 3 qualifying first placement wins.

Open competitors who have not yet earned 3 qualifying first placement wins.

Qualifying Win

A qualifying win is a first placement earned in a Extreme Creative competition class with at least two competitors present.

Effective Date

Effective date for all Intermediate Rules will be January 1st 2024.

Mission Statement

The Intermediate Extreme Creative Division was created to provide a fair transition between Entry level and Advanced/Open divisions while supporting competitor growth and confidence. It's purpose is to help groomers continue developing technical skill, creativity, presentation, and ring experience before advancing to higher level competition.

Final Judging:

Entries will be judged based upon adherence to the rules. Judge will evaluate the following:

- ★ Originality and creativity of the design and theme.
- ★ Quality of styling techniques.
- ★ Sharpness and precision of clipper lines.
- ★ Sharpness and/or blending of color.
- ★ Quality of scissor finish.

- ★ Quality and harmony of props and decorations in the final presentation.

Awards:

Open level groomer

1st Place: ribbon. Special prize will be given

2nd Place: ribbon.

3rd Place: ribbon.

Intermediate Level Groomer

1st Place: ribbon. Special prize will be given
2nd Place: ribbon.

3rd Place: ribbon

Entry level groomer

1st Place: Special prize will be given

2nd Place: ribbon

3rd Place: ribbon

Friday May 29th

11:45 Extreme Creative Check-in (Dogs are pre-done)

12:15 to 1:30 EC judge

The Salon Freestyle.

Contest Time Limit:

17" and under: 1:45 (one hour and forty-five minutes)

Over 17": 2:00 (two hours)

Divisions: Open, Novice, First Timers

Acceptable Breeds:

Any dog of mixed parentage, such as a Doodle or a Shih-Poo. Any AKC purebred dog distinctly NOT styled to breed standard (see below for examples).

Examples of acceptable styles include, but are not limited to:

- ★ Poodle (no shaved feet or face) in a kerry trim,
- ★ Poodle (no shaved feet or face) in a spiral trim,
- ★ Shih Tzu in a panda trim,
- ★ Trending styles such as Asian Fusion, the Poodlington, unique pet styles, and breed trims created on alternative mixed or any AKC purebred dogs.

General Rules: Groomers may:

- ★ Use multiple bows for tie-ups.
- ★ Use small amounts of color (10% or less) may be added with chalk, blow pens, or markers.
- ★ Pre-band show top-knots including hair extensions and curlers prior to the start of the class.

Groomer may NOT:

- ★ Use spray products prior to the start of the class. This is prohibited.
- ★ Dogs may have 10% pre-applied color prior to show.

Accessories:

Accessories, such as decorative collars are allowed. However, per the judge's request, accessories must be removed during the final judging.

Final Judging:

Judges will evaluate the following: balance, symmetry, finish and mastery of the trim.

Contestants will be evaluated on the mastery of the above criteria while showcasing each dog according to his/her body type, structure, and coat type.

- ★ For scissored dogs, this evaluation includes creating a plush overall appearance without scissor marks.
- ★ For handstripped and/or carded dogs, proper technique to achieve a natural appearance.
- ★ All clipper work should be smooth and free of marks and irritation.
- ★ Difficulty will be evaluated with regard to the amount of coat removed, coat type, texture, quality and quantity, and the overall design chosen and its suitability for the dog.
- ★ If color is used in your entry, the color will NOT be considered in judging.

Saturday May 30th

8am check-in

8:30am prejudge 9am **Salon**

Free Style Awards:

1st Place: \$50.00/plus Rosette/Product from Les Pooches

2nd Place:\$30.00/plus Rosette /Product from Les Pooches

3rd Place:\$20.00/plus Rosette /Product from Les Pooches

The Abstract Design Challenge.

Contest Time Limit: Pre-Done

Divisions: Open to all competitors at any level.

Acceptable Breeds: Any purebred or mixed breed dog or cat with any coat type.

General Rules:

The essence of the abstract design challenge is creating a masterpiece with the simplicity of color (less than 10% of the design), accents, adornments and accessories. Judges are looking for exceptional sculpting and artistry with the design being reproducible in a salon appointment setting.

- ★ Design should be created prior to the competition.
- ★ Competitors will provide biographical information and inspiration behind the design entry to the MC at check-in for the abstract design challenge.
- ★ Visual or written instructions or any outside coaching is strictly prohibited in the contest ring.

Final Judging:

The judging emphasis is placement of the design, execution, artistry, precision, and overall appeal. If color is used on your entry, it is not taken into consideration during final judging.

Schedule: **Saturday May**

30th

5:30pm Abstract Design Check In

5:45pm Abstract Design

7:00pm Judging (tentatively scheduled to be held at the Brew Bridge across the street.)

Awards:

1st Place: \$125.00/Ribbon

2nd Place: \$75.00/Ribbon

3rd Place: \$50.00/Ribbon

The Model Dog Contest.

General Rules:

This is a pre-groomed contest. You may (we encourage) delivery and set up your model dog entry starting on **(FRIDAY AM OR YOUR FIRST DAY AT THE EVENT WHEN YOU FIRST ARRIVE)** at the Grooming Contest Stage at RW GroomX. **All model dogs must be registered with the grooming contest coordinators prior to placing the model dogs on the platform.**

All model dogs must be completed and delivered to the contest stage by the deadline on **Sunday** at **8:15** am. No late entries will be accepted.

Model dogs must be fully groomed into any Purebred, Freestyle or Creative Style and ready to present to the judges by Sunday at 8:30am

Registered competitors must purchase Model dogs before the show.

You may enter as many dogs as you like. Each contest entry is \$95 and must be purchased through our online registration. Model Dogs available for purchase through **Natalia's Model Dog.**

All registered contestants will receive product giveaways at the show sponsored and provided by **Natalia's**

Final Judging:

The model dog award ceremony will be held on Sunday at 8:30am. All competitors must be present at the contest ring by 8:15am. Each category will have 1st place.

If you are entering a creative model dog, judging will be based more on the intricacy of the detail work rather than the adornments (non-hair accessories) added to create the design.

If you are entering a free-style model dog, the use of small amounts of color (10% or less) may be added with chalk, blow pens, or markers.

Sunday May 31st

8:30am judging Model dog

Judges (Hayley Keys, Guzal Adekoje, Natalia Buslovich)

Awards

1st purebred: \$50.00 plus Rosette

1st freestyle: \$50.00 plus Rosette

1st Creative: \$50.00 plus Rosette

2nd Purebred: Prizes from Natalia's Model Dog Grooming Supply

2nd Freestyle: Prizes from Natalia's Model Dog Grooming Supply

2nd Creative: Prizes from Natalia's Model Dog Grooming Supply
3rd Purebred: Prizes from Natalia's Model Dog Grooming Supply
3rd Freestyle: Prizes from Natalia's Model Dog Grooming Supply
3rd Creative: Prizes from Natalia's Model Dog Grooming Supply

The Creative Duo Challenge.

Contest Time Limit: 3 hours

Divisions: Open to all competitors at any level.

Acceptable Breeds:

Any purebred or mixed breed is allowed in this class.

General Rules:

Two Groomers, One Dog: Groomed to Perfection to Show Off Your Collaborative Talent. Two groomers will work simultaneously on one dog.

- ★ If a team has members with different skill levels, the team will be judged based on the highest skill level within the team. For example, if one groomer is a firsttimer and another is a novice, the team will be judged as a novice. The team's overall skill level will reflect the highest experience level of any team member.
- ★ For Poodle Styles: Spray products are prohibited prior to the start of the class.

Accessories:

Groomers may use accessories for tie-ups if they are relevant or necessary to the style or theme of the groom. However, they should not distract from the overall impression/movement of the groom/dog itself.

Final Judging:

Entries will be judged based upon adherence to the rules. Judge will evaluate the following:

- For scissored dogs, the execution of a plush overall appearance without scissor marks ie...a clean finish
 - Clipper work should be smooth and free of irritation.
- ★ Special considerations will be given for difficulty, combined teamwork, and the ability for the team to work cohesively together.

- The difficulty with regard to the amount of coat removed, difficulty of the coat type, texture, quality and quantity.
 - Minimum of 50% color required
 - No dyeing in the ring
 - DVD presentations are not permitted.
 - If desired, music may be used during the presentation. Music used for presentation is the sole responsibility of the competitor and to be coordinated with RWGroomX IT/sound department.
 - This is to be a creation from both parties/groomers, created specifically for this class. An individual's creative design that has been competed with previously within the last year is not acceptable.
 - Backdrops are highly encouraged but not required. Please do not exceed a 5'x5' display of any sorts. Exhibits exceeding 5'x5' will be disqualified
 - If you wish to dress to match your theme, please feel more than welcome to do so. This is not required in any way though but encouraged
 - Props are encouraged, but not required.
 - Absolutely no additional dogs on stage for presentation. ○ Absolutely NO bribing!
- ★ All products used must be safe and non-toxic to the pet and stylist. Glue must be water-soluble.
 - ★ Placement of large and/or heavy objects on the pet is prohibited.
 - ★ Competitors must title their designs.
 - ★ A maximum of 2 minutes is permitted per presentation.
 - ★ Difficulty will be assessed with regard to the amount of coat removed, difficulty of the coat type, texture, quality and quantity.

Each competitor must register for the Creative Team (Duo) Challenge. The purchase price is per competitor not per team.

Sunday May 31st

11:30am check-in for Creative Duo

12:00pm Prejudge Creative Duo

12:30pm - **Creative Duo Team Challenge**

Awards:

1st Place: Open skill level special prize

2nd Place: Open skill level special prize
3rd Place: Open skill level special prize

1st Place: Non-Open skill level special prize
2nd Place: Non-Open skill level special prize
3rd Place: Non-Open skill level special prize

RWGroomX General Rules

At RWGroomX, we are fully committed to the safety and well-being of every animal involved in the event. To ensure a safe and comfortable environment, we require that no attendee, competitor, or exhibitor leave any animal unattended in a vehicle at any time. We have provided a designated holding area - located on the second floor of the convention center - specifically for the comfort and safety of participating pets, and we strongly encourage its use.

Please be aware that this policy is enforced with zero tolerance. Any failure to comply will lead to immediate removal from the expo, and all associated fees will be forfeited without exception. By prioritizing the welfare of these animals, we can create a positive experience for everyone involved in the RWGroomX community.

Please respect the facility and grounds (including the lodging facilities) regarding cleaning up after your dog. There are several sanitation stations located around the convention center and hotels.

Schedule



Registration Open 7 AM Friday, Saturday, Sunday
 Thursday Classroom Registration At the Registration Desk In Lobby
 Starts at 2pm Trade show Hours 10AM-6PM Friday and Saturday,
 10AM-5PM Sunday

Thursday

Competition Event (1st floor) Education Classes(3rd floor)	Seminar Time		Room A 3rd Floor	Room B 3rd Floor	Room C 3rd Floor	Room D 3rd Floor				
	12pm	<h3>Welcome to the RWGroomX!!</h3> <p>Vendor Move-IN 10am-10pm Attendees/Trade Show Attendees/Educational Attendees REGISTRATION starts at 2:00pm Thursday CST</p>								
	1pm									
	2pm									
	3pm									
	4pm	HELP Pet First Aid & CPR * Certificate Course: Kate Klasen All 5 hours are required for Certification	Master Groomer Certification Workshop:Guzal Adekoje * All 5 hours are required for Certification	Color Theory & Color Application Erin Huland & Holly Baker * All 5 hours are required for Certification	Salon Safety Certificate Course: Linda Easton * All 4 hours are required for Certification					
	5pm	Vendor Move-In 10AM Educational Classes Start at 3PM-9PM								
	4pm						HELP Pet First Aid & CPR * Certificate Course: Kate Klasen All 5 hours are required for Certification	Master Groomer Certification Workshop: Guzal Adekoje * All 5 hours are required for Certification	Color Theory & Color Application Erin Huland & Holly Baker * All 5 hours are required for Certification	Salon Safety Certificate Course: Linda Easton * All 4 hours are required for Certification
	5pm						HELP Pet First Aid & CPR * Certificate Course: Kate Klasen All 5 hours are required for Certification	Master Groomer Certification Workshop: Guzal Adekoje * All 5 hours are required for Certification	Color Theory & Color Application Erin Huland & Holly Baker * All 5 hours are required for Certification	Salon Safety Certificate Course: Linda Easton All 4 hours are required for Certification Salon *
	6pm						HELP Pet First Aid & CPR * Certificate Course: Kate Klasen All 5 hours are required for Certification	Master Groomer Certification Workshop: Guzal Adekoje * All 5 hours are required for Certification	Color Theory & Color Application Erin Huland & Holly Baker * All 5 hours are required for Certification	Safety Certificate Course: Linda Easton * All 4 hours are required for Certification
	7pm						HELP Pet First Aid & CPR * Certificate Course: Kate Klasen All 5 hours are required for Certification	Master Groomer Certification Workshop:Guzal Adekoje * All 5 hours are required for Certification	Color Theory & Color Application Erin Huland & Holly Baker * All 5 hours are required for Certification	Training & Mentoring New Groomers Linda Easton
	8pm	HELP Pet First Aid & CPR * Certificate Course: Kate Klasen All 5 hours are required for Certification	Master Groomer Certification Workshop:Guzal Adekoje * All 5 hours are required for Certification	Color Theory & Color Application Erin Huland & Holly Baker * All 5 hours are required for Certification						
	9pm									
NDGAA Certification by Guzal Adekoje All Thursday Classes receive a Certification										



Registration Open 7 AM Friday, Saturday, Sunday Classroom Registration
At the Registration Desk In Lobby
Tradeshow Hours 10AM-6PM Friday and Saturday ,10AM-5PM Sunday

Friday

Competition Event (1st floor) Education Classes(3rd floor)	Seminar Time		Room A 3rd Floor	Room B 3rd Floor	Room C 3 3rd Floor
8AM check in time 8:30AM Pre-Judging 9AM-11:15AM Competition Rings close 5min before competition (Times will vary for classes) OPEN/Intermediate/Entry Competition Class: Wire Coat Competition Class: Clipper Classic Judge: Hayley Keyes Apprentice Judge: Guzal Adekoje	8am				
	9am	Wire Coat/Clipper Classic	Emergency Scenarios: Kate Klasen	Mobile Grooming Master Series: * Dr. Molly Rowland All 6 hours are required for Certification	All About Bathing Systems & Conditioner Dave Campanella
	10am		Emergency Scenarios: Kate Klasen	Mobile Grooming Master Series: * Dr. Molly Rowland All 6 hours are required for Certification	All About Bathing Systems & Conditioner Dave Campanella
	11am		Break	Break	Break
Creative Single 11:45AM check in time 12:15PM Judging Competition Rings close 5 min before competition (Times will vary for classes) OPEN level/Entry Level Judge: Nicole Kallish Apprentice Judge: Guzal Adekoje Assisting Judge: Natalia Buscovich NDGAA Certification by Guzal Adekoje Competition Class: All Other PBred 2PM check in time 2:30PM Pre- Judging 5:00PM-5:30PM Competition Rings close 5 min before competition (Times will vary for classes) OPEN/Interme/Entry Judge: Hayley Keyes Apprentice Judge: Guzal Adekoje Certification Courses are marked by an * Best in Show Sunday 9:30AM	12pm				
	1pm	Creative Single	Lunch/Shop	Lunch/Shop	Lunch/Shop
	2pm		Salon Sanitation: * Anjie Coates All 4 hours are required for Certification	Mobile Grooming Master Series: * Dr. Molly Rowland All 6 hours are required for Certification	Bichon 101 Allison Brooks
	3pm	Pre-Judging/Chassis	Salon Sanitation: * Anjie Coates All 4 hours are required for Certification	Mobile Grooming Master Series: Dr. * Molly Rowland All 6 hours are required for Certification	Fitting Shears to Your Hand Allison Brooks
	4pm	ALL Other Purebred	Break	Break	Break
5pm	Judge	Salon Sanitation: * Anjie Coates All 4 hours are required for Certification	Mobile Grooming Master Series: Dr. * Molly Rowland All 6 hours are required for Certification	Asian Fusion Dillon Gonzalez	
			Hands On Corrective Grooming Guzal Adekoje 5-7pm		



Registration Open 7 AM Friday, Saturday, Sunday
 Classroom Registration
 At the Registration Desk In Lobby **Trade show Hours 10AM-6PM Friday
 and Saturday, 10AM-5PM Sunday**

Saturday

Competition Event (1st floor) Education Classes(3rd floor)	Seminar Time		Room A 3rd Floor	Room B 3rd Floor	Room C 3rd Floor
<p>8AM check in time 8:30AM Pre-Judging 9AM-11:15AM Competition Rings close 5 min before competition (Times may vary slightly for classes)</p> <p>OPEN/Intermediate/Entry Competition Class: Sporting Competition Class: Salon Free Style</p> <p>Judge: Hayley Keyes Apprentice Judge: Guzal Adekoje</p> <p>12:30PM check in time 1:15PM Pre-Judging 2PM- 4:15PM Competition Rings close 5 min before competition (Times may vary slightly for classes)</p> <p>OPEN/Intermediate/Entry/Competition Class: Poodle Competition Class: Abstract</p> <p>Judge: Hayley Keyes Apprentice Judge: Guzal Adekoje</p> <p>NDGAA Certification by Guzal Adekoje</p> <p>Certification Courses are marked by an *</p> <p>Best in Show Sunday 9:30AM</p>	8am	Check In			*
	9am	Sporting Salon Free Style	The Mindful Groomer: Dave Campanella	Back to Basics: Anna Hawks	Handling Cats Safely Part 1: Linda Easton
	10am		Skin Assessment Michelle Knowles	Clipper Blade Workshop: Anna Hawks	Handling Cats Safely Part 2: Linda Easton
			Break	Break	Break
	11am	Judging	Healing The Follicle: Michelle Knowles All 4 hours are required for Certification *	Everything You Need to Know About Shears: Ralph Whitman	Battling Burnout: Valerie McFadden
	12pm		Lunch/Shop	Lunch/Shop 12:15 Live Reading of Grooming Witch of the Iron Ledge with Anjie Coates	Lunch/Shop
	1pm	Caretaker	Healing The Follicle: Michelle Knowles All 4 hours are required for Certification *	Neurodivergent Series: Creating Patterns for Success: Anjie Coates	From Employee to Business Owner Valerie McFadden
	2pm	Poodle	Healing The Follicle: Michelle Knowles All 4 hours are required for Certification *	Neurodivergent Series: Training Your ND Employee: Anjie Coates	From Employee to Business Owner Part 2 Valerie McFadden
	3pm		Break	Break	Break
	4pm	Judge	Healing The Follicle: * Michelle Knowles All 4 hours are required for Certification	Neurodivergent Series Managing Mental Load, Overwhelm & Sensory Processing: Anjie Coates	Social Media for Groomers: Loren Mesquita
5pm					
		Abstract			



Registration Open 7 AM Friday, Saturday, Sunday Classroom Registration
 At the Registration Desk In Lobby Trade show Hours 10AM-6PM Friday
 and Saturday, 10AM-5PM Sunday

Sunday

Competition Event (1st floor) Education Classes(3rd floor)	Seminar Time	Room A 3rd Floor	Room B 3rd Floor	Room C 3rd Floor
8AM check in time 8:30AM Judging Model Dog Judge: Hayley Keyes Apprentice Judge: Guzal Adekoje Assisting Judge: Natalia Buscovich Best In Show 9:30AM	8am			
	9am	Handstripping Certificate: * Loren Mesquita All 4 hours are required for Certification	Color Lifting for Salons: Holly Baker	You Need to Calm Down: Mindy Dinwiddie
	10am	Handstripping Certificate: * Loren Mesquita All 4 hours are required for Certification	Color Lifting for Salons: Holly Baker	Geriatric Grooming Certification: Mindy Dinwiddie All 6 hours are required for Certification
	11am	Handstripping Certificate: * Loren Mesquita All 4 hours are required for Certification	Color Lifting for Salons: Holly Baker	Geriatric Grooming Certification: Mindy Dinwiddie * All 6 hours are required for Certification
	12pm	Lunch/Shop	Lunch/Shop	Lunch/Shop
OPEN/Entry Competition Class: Creative Duo 11:30PM check in time 12:30PM Pre-Judging 12:30PM- 3:30PM Competition Rings close 5 min before competition (Starting Times will vary for classes) Judge: Hayley Keyes Apprentice Judge: Guzal Adekoje Assisting Judge: Natalia Buscovich NDGAA Certification by Guzal Adekoje	1pm	Handstripping Certificate Loren Mesquita * All 4 hours are required for Certification	Airbrush Art for the Salon Erin Huland	Geriatric Grooming Certification: Mindy Dinwiddie * All 6 hours are required for Certification
	2pm	Bathing Safety Certificate: * Myke Ross 2 hours are required for Certification	Airbrush Art for the Salon Erin Huland	Geriatric Grooming Certification: Mindy Dinwiddie All 6 hours are required for Certification
	3pm	Break	Break	Break
	4pm	Bathing Safety Certificate: * Myke Ross 2 hours are required for Certification	Salon Culture: Accountability Without the Attitude: Loren Mesquita	Geriatric Grooming Certification: * Mindy Dinwiddie All 6 hours are required for Certification
Vendor Move-Out until 10:00pm Certification Courses are marked by an *	5pm	Cutting Corners Clipper Magic Guzal Adekoje 5-7pm		

Events

The Extreme Creative "River Walk" Parade Attention all Extreme Creative Competitors!

Friday 4:30pm - 5:45pm



We have an incredible, first-time opportunity to put your artistry center stage. On Friday, May 29th, we are taking the competition to the streets for a professional parade along the Owensboro Riverfront.

The Details:

- **The Venue:** We'll be marching along the scenic Ohio River promenade, right in the heart of Owensboro's famous "Friday After 5" festival with food trucks, music, and fun.
- **The Audience:** You'll be showcasing your work to a crowd of over 10,000 people. This is your chance to "exploit" your talent (in the best way possible!) and show the general public the high-level artistry of professional grooming.
- **The Exposure:** Expect hundreds of questions, thousands of photos, and a level of visibility that we've never offered before.



Signups are required for After Hours Fun Events!

Friday 7pm at the Owensboro Convention Center Main Floor: Backseat Groomer Competition \$35

Friday 8pm : Blinding Color Blast Competition. \$35

Saturday Events

Live Reading of The Grooming Witch of the Iron Ledge By: Anjie Coates
Room B - 12:15 Feel free to eat lunch in the room.



Western Ho Down Party

Saturday PM (immediately after Abstract at the Convention Center) at the Brew Bridge:

Bring your cowboy hat and your cowboy boots, and let's have some fun! A raffle will be held at the Brew Bridge during the party.

The Brew Bridge has fantastic food available and drinks for you and yours to purchase if you desire.
Dogs are not allowed inside the bar, via the Health Department, but are allowed on the patio.

The Brew Bridge
800 West 2nd Street
Owensboro, KY 42301

Standards Of Conduct And Sportsmanship Rules

Our Mission:

To utilize GroomTeam USA, Inc.® as a vehicle to encourage continued education, growth, pride, and the competitive spirit within the pet styling industry.

GroomTeam USA, Inc.® is a non-profit organization that encourages professional pet stylists in this country to maximize their grooming education and skills and offers them the opportunity to represent the United States of America at World Team Competitions. Team selection is based on points accumulated at various GroomTeam USA, Inc.® sanctioned contests held throughout the country over a two-year period. GroomTeam USA, Inc.® sends the top point earners as a team to compete at the World Team Championships.

GroomTeam USA, Inc.® is entirely funded through generous donations from within the pet styling industry, including major corporate sponsors, auctions held at shows, and merchandise sales. The Board of Directors, Officers, Associates, and many helpers all volunteer their time. The concept of GroomTeam USA, Inc.® was founded in 1987. Due to the beliefs, the potential, and the cooperation of US pet stylists and our supporters, GroomTeam USA, Inc.® has thrived over the years.

Definitions

GroomTeam USA, Inc.® will hereafter be referred to as GT USA

Competitor – Any person who enters into a grooming competition where GroomTeam USA, Inc.® points are to be awarded.

Board of Directors and Officers – A group of individuals conducting the business of GroomTeam USA, Inc.® as described in the Bylaws set forth by the organization.

GroomTeam USA, Inc.® Member – Board member, Officer, Representative or a competitive groomer (past or present), who has accrued points through competitive pet grooming at GroomTeam USA, Inc.® Sanctioned competitions and has been recognized for their accomplishments.

Volunteers – Anyone who gives their time for no compensation.

Show promoter – The person, company or entity who is responsible for conducting the event.

The accused – A general term. Any person or entity having a complaint lodged against them.

Standards of Conduct & Sportsmanship Rules

Whenever people gather together to compete and achieve goals, some rules are needed to help everyone work together efficiently, effectively, and harmoniously. By earning points at a sanctioned GT USA competition, contestants have a responsibility to GT USA to adhere to certain rules of behavior, sportsmanship and conduct. All members of GT USA share this responsibility. The purpose of these rules is to be certain that members understand what conduct is expected and necessary. These rules and policies have been put in place to benefit and protect everyone involved within the competitive pet styling arena.

Lodging A Complaint

Any association, organization, person or persons, may make a complaint against any person, persons or entity for conduct alleged to have been detrimental to the best interests of competitive pet grooming, GT USA sanctioned grooming events and/or GT USA.

One example in the connection with any kind of scene or altercation occurring in conjunction or relationship to a grooming competition is as follows:

If an individual new to the pet grooming profession were to view the incident, would they be inspired to grow their career through similar educational events, trade shows, enter the grooming contest area or seek out advice from open level competitors or individuals associated with GT USA.

The GT USA Board of Directors, Advisory Board or official show promoter staff will have the power to investigate any matters brought to their attention in connection with Unacceptable Activities or appoint a committee to investigate the infraction.

If after such review, the Board of Directors or Advisory Board believe that sufficient evidence exists to warrant a counseling session, a session will be held for both Oral and Written Disciplinary Actions. If more advanced discipline is required, they shall appoint an investigative committee. The investigative committee may not include any member of the Board of Directors. The investigative committee shall perform their investigation independent of the GT USA Board.

The Board of Directors shall act upon said findings. By a majority vote, they may vote to dismiss the complaint, reinstate the competitor, continue the suspension from point earning opportunities for a stated time or have GT USA member status revoked for a determined amount of time.

GT USA will not involve itself in any arguments, disputes or disagreements of a personal nature between competitors, judges, show promoters or vendors. Any private, personal, civil issues should be dealt with by the involved parties only and not brought to the public light.

Unacceptable Activities

We expect each person to act maturely and responsibly at all times. If a member has any questions concerning any rule or any of the unacceptable activities listed below, please get in touch with a GT USA Board Member, Advisory Board Member, or the Show Promoter.

The following list of Unacceptable Activities does not include all types of conduct resulting in disciplinary action, up to and including Oral or Written Warnings, Suspension, Revocation or Termination. Nothing in this list alters the at-will nature of the show; either a member or GT USA may withdraw, suspend or terminate any association with GT USA, with written notice, with or without reason.

- Violation of any organizational rule; including any action detrimental to GT USA's efforts to uphold its mission while operating efficiently, cooperatively, and covering the organization's cost.
- Careless action, which endangers the life or safety of another person or pet.
- Being intoxicated or under the influence of a controlled substance while in the competition ring or preparing a pet for competition, except medications prescribed by a physician, which do not compromise the safety of the pet or competitive performance.
- Engaging in criminal conduct or acts of violence or making threats of violence toward anyone on the tradeshow grounds or when representing GT USA.
- Negligent damage of property.
- Insubordination or refusing to obey instructions properly issued by a GT USA official, judge or sanctioned show promoter staff member.
- Publicly threatening, intimidating or coercing fellow competitors, show promoters or their staff or GT USA officials on or off show grounds at any time through any social media outlet, for any purpose.
- Engaging in an act of sabotage; negligently causing the destruction or damage of tradeshow attendees, competitors, sponsors, show promoters or staff members or GT USA officials property or reputation.
- Spreading malicious gossip and/or rumors; engaging in behavior which creates discord and lack of harmony within the pet grooming industry; interfering with another competitor during a grooming competition or making a public display or un-sportsman-like behavior towards any individual involved in or at a sanctioned GT USA event and/or public social media posts.
- Immoral conduct or indecency either physically or electronically during a sanctioned GT USA event.
- Using GT USA related images without express consent and authorization.

- Obscene or abusive language, indifference or rudeness toward fellow competitor, judge, sponsor, tradeshow attendee, show official; or any disorderly/antagonistic conduct on the sanctioned show grounds or public online forums.
- Competitors must comply with the official rules of each individual grooming competition supplied by the sanctioned show promoter.
- Show Promoters must comply with the official GT USA sanctioning policies.

Reporting Unacceptable Activities

Anyone who has directly witnessed an infraction of Unacceptable Activities involving a member of GT USA should bring the perceived infraction to the attention of the GT USA Board of Directors, Advisory Board or official show promoter immediately. Our goal is to quickly resolve issues while individuals are still at the show site. A GT USA Leader is present at most shows and show staff is always present.

GT USA and/or the Show Promoter will decide on Unacceptable Activities not listed above and what level of Disciplinary Action should be taken.

Contact information can be found at groomteamusa.org. Complaints must be submitted in writing, within seven (7) days of perceived infraction. Complaint forms can be found online at the GT USA website as well as at the registration desk at all GT USA Sanctioned shows.

All other concerns should be brought to the attention of the Show Promoter/Contest Coordinator, utilizing the protocol and timeline established for the specific contest in question.

The following disciplinary actions apply to any GroomTeam USA, Inc.® member:

Discipline Procedure

Under normal circumstances, GT USA Officers and Board members are expected to follow the procedure outlined below. There may be situations, however, in which the seriousness of the offense justifies the omission of one or more of the steps in the procedure. Likewise, there may be times when the organization may decide to repeat a disciplinary step.

Unacceptable Activities that do not lead to immediate termination may be dealt with in the following manner:

- Oral Reminder
- Written Warning
- Decision-Making Suspension
- Revocation

To ensure that the GT USA organization functions properly and efficiently, everyone must conform to certain standards of conduct, sportsmanship and other rules and regulations. When problems arise, a GT USA official will work with the individual(s) to mutually reach an effective solution. If, however, individual(s) fail to respond to counseling, or an incident occurs requiring formal discipline, the following procedures will be enacted.

Step One: Oral Reminder

A GT USA representative will meet with the member to discuss the issue. They will make sure the member understands the nature of the issue and the expected remedy. The purpose of this conversation is to remind the member of exactly what the rule or conduct expectation is and to remind the member it is their responsibility to meet GT USA expectations.

The member will be informed the Oral Reminder is the first step of the discipline procedure. The GT USA representative will fully document the Oral Reminder, which will remain in effect on record for three (3) years. Documentation of the incident will remain in the confidential file and will only be shared with the GT USA Board and the event Show Promoter unless another disciplinary event occurs.

Step Two: Written Warning

If the member's actions do not improve or if the member is again determined to be in violation of GT USA rules or standards of conduct, a GT USA representative will discuss the problem with the member, emphasizing the seriousness of the issue. The member will need to remedy the problem. The member is now at the second formal level of disciplinary action. After the meeting, a GT USA representative will write an official memo to the member summarizing the discussion and document any agreement to remedy the situation. A copy of the official memo will be kept on file with GT USA and provided to all show promoters.

The Written Warning will remain in effect for three (3) years. Documentation of the written warning will remain in the confidential file but will be shared with the GT USA Board and all GT USA Sanctioned contest Show Promoters for their information.

Step Three: Decision-Making Leave / Counseling Session

If the member's actions do not improve within the three (3) year period following the Written Warning, or if the accused is again in violation of GT USA rules or standards of conduct, they may be placed on Decision-Making Leave. Decision-making leave is the third and final step of the GT USA disciplinary process.

Decision-Making Leave is a disciplinary suspension that renders the competitive member unable to receive points at the next two scheduled Sanctioned Grooming Competitions or for a time period determined by the Board of Directors.

Non-competitive members may be placed on Decision-Making Leave for thirty (30) to ninety (90) days. The Board of Directors and/or Advisory Board may suspend duties during this time period and determine the length of leave.

Members undergoing Decision-Making Leave must choose to abide by the GT USA rules or terminate their association with the organization.

All Sanctioned Show Promoters will also be notified of this Decision-Making Leave. They can choose to suspend the member from their future shows.

If the accused member's decision, following the Decision-Making Leave, is to abide by GT USA rules and standards of conduct, a GT USA Representative will submit a letter to the member. The Representative will outline the commitment to GT USA, including the consequences of failing to meet this commitment. The member will be required to sign the letter acknowledging receipt. A copy will be placed in the accused member's GT USA file.

The accused member will be permitted to continue participating in GT USA events and/or duties. The contestant member will be permitted to return to point-earning status at future Sanctioned Shows. The member should understand that if a positive change in behavior does not occur or if another disciplinary problem occurs within the next three (3) Years, the member risks permanent suspension of participation in GT USA Sanctioned events and/or duties.

If the member is unwilling to make such a commitment, the member's status will be revoked.

Crisis Suspension

If a member commits any of the actions listed below or any other action not specified but similarly serious, they will be suspended pending an investigation. Following the investigation, they may have their membership status revoked without any previous disciplinary action having been taken.

Theft during a grooming competition or during a grooming industry tradeshow.

Threat of, or the act of, doing bodily harm during a grooming competition or a grooming industry tradeshow.

Deliberate and/or negligent action that endangers the safety of a pet or person.

Willful or negligent destruction of hotel or showground properties.

The provision of this Disciplinary Policy is not a guarantee of its use. GT USA reserves the right to suspend a point-holding competitor at any time, with or without reason. Additionally, GT USA reserves the right to prosecute any past or present point holding competitor, GT USA Board Member, Officer, or official representative for any of the above infractions.

The GT USA Board of Directors may instill a penalty greater or lesser than provided in these guidelines as final action.

Grounds for immediate and permanent termination of GroomTeam USA, Inc.® status

If any recognized member, (past or present) or volunteer is convicted in a court of law of any crime relating to animal cruelty, abuse or neglect they shall be immediately and permanently stripped of any GT USA status and shall be instructed to immediately cease the use of any GT USA related logo items, use of the name of GT USA in any advertising or promotional material and shall be asked to return any products exclusive to GT USA honorees. The accused shall have their name and biography permanently removed from the GT USA website.