

# MIDWEST CLOWN ASSOCIATION

## COMPETITION RULES

**AS APPROVED July 01, 2021**

### I) GENERAL RULES

#### A) MCA COMPETITION CHAIRPERSON(S)

1. The Chief Joey will appoint a Competition Chairperson(s) to serve at MCA conventions (Round-Ups)
2. The Competition Chairperson(s) will be responsible for adhering to all rules and guidelines for competition and Judges.
3. The MCA Competition Chairperson(s) will be responsible for obtaining judges for each competition at the Round-Up.

#### B) ELIGIBILITY

1. The Host Alley(s), its members, and associate members are eligible to participate in the competition.
2. Members of the Midwest Clown Hall of Fame may compete in any category.
3. To enter competition, you must be a member of an Alley or Club that is based within the Midwest and / or live within the seven (7) states that make up the Midwest Region (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, or Wisconsin).
4. A competitor must have a fully paid registration.
5. You must be at least sixteen (16) years of age by the start date of the Round-Up.  
Except: Junior Joey Make-Up, Alley Skits, Group Skits, and Paradeability competitions.
6. Competitors may only enter once per category per Round-Up except for Group Skits and Alley Skits.
7. No motorized vehicles will be allowed, except those used on a daily basis for health reasons.

#### C) COMPETITION REGISTRATION

1. Each competitor must register for the competition that he/she wishes to compete in.
2. Competitor must fill out a competition form completely and place it in the appropriately marked container.
3. Competition forms and containers will be in the Round-Up Registration area.

#### D) POSITION

1. The Hosting Alley or Group will provide a room with a door where competitors will meet to check in and receive their order / numbers. The location of this room will be

- posted at the registration desk, Competition Sign-in area and on the schedule, if possible. Competitors not there on time will be disqualified from that competition.
2. A number will be assigned to each competitor.
  3. This may be their registration number or a previously drawn sequence number.
  4. This applies to Make-Up, Skit and Paradeability.
  5. If a sequence number or order is used (Skit Competitions), a drawing may be held at a location determined by the competition chairperson(s).
  6. Competitors will begin to check-in fifteen (15) minutes before completion. If competitor is not signed in by the time the competition is scheduled to start, the competitor will NOT be able to compete, but can be judged for critique.
  7. Competitions that have their own rooms (Balloons, Face-Painting), will have the competitors arrive in that room fifteen (15) minutes prior to competition to check in and get their display or model numbers.

#### **E) AWARDS**

1. Awards may be presented at the Banquet.
2. In the event of a tie for any award, a duplicate award will be sent as soon as possible.
3. Awards will be given to First (1<sup>st</sup>), Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Place in all categories of competition, provided the qualifications for such awards have been met.
  - i. In the event of a tie, a duplicate award(s) will be presented when there are five (5) or more competitors in any category.
4. Awards will be given to First (1<sup>st</sup>), Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Place in all categories except in the cases listed below:
  - i. If the competition category has less than five (5) entries, then awards would be presented on the following basis:
    - a) The top competitor would have to fall into one of the following categories and the rest of the competitors would be placed behind that position.
      - 1) Based on a possible 500 points (All categories except Face Painting and Balloon competition)
      - 2) 401 – 500 points to receive First (1<sup>st</sup>) Place (or top score)
      - 3) 326 – 400 points to receive Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Place (or top score)
      - 4) 250 – 325 points to receive Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Place (or next score)
      - 5) This would be used for the highest scoring person and each person thereafter would receive the next award.
    - b) Example: The top scoring person could receive a Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Place with scoring and the next person would receive Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Place. No one **would** receive a First Place.
    - c) In Make-Up category, where five (5) Judges are used, the point system is as follows with less than five (5) entries:
      - 1) Based on 500 possible points
      - 2) 401 – 500 points to receive First (1<sup>st</sup>) Place (or top score)
      - 3) 326 – 400 points to receive Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Place (or top score)
      - 4) 250 – 325 points to receive Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Place (or next score)

- d) In Balloon category, the point system is as follows with less than five (5) entries:
  - 1) Based on 600 possible points
  - 2) 501 -600 points to receive First (1<sup>st</sup>) Place (or top score)
  - 3) 401 -500 points to receive Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Place (or top score)
  - 4) 301 – 400 points to receive Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Place (or next score)
5. Junior Joeys will be presented in the categories of Make-Up and Paradeability
  - i. Junior Joey competition will be known as Junior Joey Presentation
  - ii. For Junior Joey Presentation of Make-Up and Paradeability, awards will be Gold, Silver and Bronze, instead of First (1<sup>st</sup>), Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Place.
  - iii. Awards will be presented as follows: Gold Medal – 85 % and above; Silver Medal – 70% - 84%, and Bronze Medal – below 70%.

#### **F) PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT**

1. The following will be made available to all participants at the beginning of each Midwest Round-Up, as well as on the official Midwest Clown Association website throughout the year:
  - i. The written / oral judging criteria used for the competitions
  - ii. The Clown Code of Ethics (See Appendix A)
  - iii. The Clown Creed 2000 (See Appendix B)
2. Each individual must conduct themselves accordingly. Any clown whose conduct is not in accordance with these criteria as deemed by the majority of the acting judges shall be disqualified from ALL competitions.

#### **G) RESULTS**

1. After the Awards Presentation, all results will be posted by category, listing all competitors, starting with the top score, using competition and / or registration numbers.

#### **H) DISQUALIFICATIONS**

1. If for some reason a competitor(s) is disqualified for any violation of the Competition Rules, that person or a member of the group will be notified of their disqualification as soon as possible.
2. The Competition Director or Co-Directors will conduct a thorough investigation into the matter into anything and everything that applies to show what was done and why that person or group was disqualified.
3. A copy of the section(s) of the Competition Rules will be attached to the score sheets of the competitor or group / alley, which shows the violation(s) for that person or group / alley.

## **II) JUDGING**

## **A) JUDGES**

- 1) Five (5) judges will be utilized in all competitions, except Face Painting and Balloons.
- B) Each Judge will complete a score sheet (provided by the Competition Committee Chairperson(s) for each participant appropriate to that competition.
- C) Each Judge will identifiably print their full name on the completed score sheets.
- D) All score sheets will be turned into the Competition Committee Chairperson(s) (or designee) for tallying.
- E) A two (2) part carbonless form will be used as a score sheet, with the original (top sheet) kept by the Competition Committee Chairperson(s) (or designee) for two (2) weeks after the conclusion of the FOLLOWING Midwest Round-Up (i.e. about 54 weeks); and the copy going to the participant at the end of the Awards Banquet.
- F) No one except the Competition Committee Chairperson(s) (or chosen designee) may speak to a judge during the competition, unless answering a direct question by the Head Judge.
- G) All judging will be within designated areas.
- H) The decision of the Judges will be final on all scores.
- I) The Judges reserve the right to disqualify competitors in competition for infractions of these rules.
- J) A Head Judge for each competition should be decided by the Competition Committee Chairperson(s) before each competition.
- K) All Judges will have a minimum of five (5) years of extensive clowning experience, through public performances, education, teaching the art of clowning and /or clowning.
- L) Judges should, but not necessarily, have competed and placed in the top ten in either a Midwest Clown Association Round-Up, or an International Competition provided by one of the following organizations:
  - 1) Clowns of America International
  - 2) International Shrine Clown Association
  - 3) World Clown Association
- M) Judges should, but not necessarily, have attended one of the available classes in Judging and have a minimum of four (4) hours in training before they can judge.
  - 1) If qualified judges are not available, then it will be the duty of the Competition Chairperson(s) and the Midwest Clown Association Officers to assist in approving judges.
- N) A Judging Qualification Book will be maintained.
  - 1) This book will contain the resumes of all clowns and individuals who have applied to become judges.

## **III) CATEGORIES FOR COMPETITION AND SPECIFIC RULES**

### **A) ELIGIBILITY**

1. Any eligible clown wishing to compete, must register for competition at the sign-up area near the Round-Up Registration Desk, a minimum of four (4) hours prior to the start of the competition.
  - i) If the competition start time is before 12:00 PM (noon), the registration will close at 11:00 PM the night before.

- ii) **Registration cut-off times for each competition must be posted at the registration desk or at the competition sign-up location.**
- iii) **No unregistered clown will be allowed to compete.**

## **B) MAKE-UP COMPETITION**

- 1. Judging will be consistent with procedures under II) Judging**
- 2. Two (2) categories will be used for judging:**
  - i) Adult—All Types**
  - ii) Junior Joey—All Types**
- 3. First Place winners in Make-Up competition cannot compete the following year in the same category of make-up and costume.**
- 4. Only self-applied make-up will be allowed in competition.**
- 5. Wardrobe must be suitable for the clown's character type.**
- 6. A Clown should display his/her basic qualities or carriage from the time he/she enters the judging area until he/she exits.**
  - 1) Example: A sad tramp should be sad, not smiling.**
- 7. Clowns must conduct themselves in an orderly, professional manner at all times.**
- 8. Clowns will be grouped by number for judging.**
  - i) The clowns will be paraded in front of the judges (in a line) before being individually judged.**
- 9. A clown may enter only one make-up competition for that year.**
- 10. No conversation with the judges is allowed during the competition unless asked a question by the Head Judge.**
- 11. Clowns must line up according to their assigned competition numbers and / or with their registration numbers as requested by the Competition Chairperson. All identification tags, badges or identifying patches must be removed or concealed.**
  - i) Failure to do so will result in a deduction of five (5) points by each judge.**
  - ii) Identification badges are those tags, badges or patches which give your name, alley name or organization.**
- 12. No performing in the audience area during a competition. This will be enforced by the Competition Chairperson(s) or designee.**
  - i) Example: Making balloons**
- 13. Each clown will:**
  - i) Be called by the emcee into the judging area by his / her assigned number**
  - ii) Proceed to a mark on the stage about fifteen (15) feet from the judges.**
  - iii) Face the judges, then do quarter turns as instructed until he / she is again facing the judges.**
  - iv) When instructed, the clown will strike a pose.**
  - v) When the judges are finished, the clown will be instructed to leave the area by the emcee and the next clown will be call in for judging.**
  - vi) On the initial parade past the judges, if the judges decide they want to look at a specific area on the competitor, they must ask each competitor in that category to show that specific area (ex: gloves, inside of tramp's coat, socks, etc.)**

14. A single prop that can easily be carried will be allowed for all categories, but may not be used.
  - i) Participants will not be penalized for not carrying a prop.
15. Music and / or other items off stage will not be allowed.
16. Clowns will be judged on 20 points for each of the following categories:
  - i) Make-Up design
  - ii) Make-Up Application
  - iii) Costume
  - iv) Accessories
  - v) Total Look
17. A copy of the score sheets will be available to the competitor after the Awards Banquet.

### **C) RULES FOR SPECIFIC MAKE-UP TYPES**

1. White Face (Classic or Comedy)
  - a) Make-Up
    - i) All exposed flesh, from the bottom of the neck, up, is covered with white make-up. Other facial decorations may be in various colors.
  - b) Wardrobe
    - i) This is the elegant clown. Styles vary but are coordinated in color and material. Well-fitting costumes can be exemplified with glittery or flashy materials.
    - ii) Gloves must be worn to cover the hands.
  - c) Character
    - i) Decent in manners, performances are artistic in nature. In the hierarchy of clowning, he/she is the top. He/she instigates and sets up the routines, he/she is in command of the situation that he/she is in.
2. Auguste and Auguste Lite
  - a) Make-Up
    - i) All exposed flesh from the bottom of the neck, up, is covered with make-up, except Auguste Lite. Base colors are flesh tones. The eye, nose and mouth areas are usually of an exaggerated proportion. Wigs are of unlimited styles and colors. Auguste Lite does not have to wear a wig. They could be bald or use their natural hair. Auguste competitors must have all skin covered by make-up and/or wardrobe, unless it's Auguste Lite. White gloves or colored gloves are acceptable.
  - b) Wardrobe
    - i) The Auguste Clown has the widest variety of costume designs to choose from. The colors and patterns should complement the overall clown's appearance whether or not they are coordinated and match. The costume can be complimented with outlandish accessories.
  - c) Character
    - i) The Auguste Clown is the most slapstick of all clowns. In the hierarchy of clowns, the Auguste Clown is the second rung. When with the White Face,

**the Auguste Clown is the brunt of the joke or routine. However, with the Tramp Clown, he/she becomes the instigator in control of the situation.**

**3. Tramp, Hobo or Bag Lady**

**a) Make-Up**

**i) Base can range from a variety of flesh tones. Black, brown or gray is applied to create a beard, except for bag lady. The mouth area is white and the eye area is generally white. Make-up usually reflects the character of the clown, whether happy or sad.**

**b) Wardrobe**

**i) The Tramp Character reflects a shabby individual with a normally ripped, torn or patched costume. The Hobo Character is usually dressier, with patches. Bag lady character usually wears layers of clothing. Can possibly wear cheap jewelry and carry a tattered bag. Gloves are generally old and worn.**

**c) Character**

**i) The Hobo Clown is usually happy but can be sad. The Tramp Clown is generally sad. In the hierarchy, the Tramp Clown is at the bottom. Known as the fall guy, the Tramp Clown is the butt of all jokes and routines that he / she is in. The Tramp Clown is the clown who gets the pies, water, etc. The Bag Lady is basically a female hobo.**

**4. Character / Novelty**

**a) Make-Up**

**i) Can be a take-off on any other clown types, no masks are allowed. Must portray the character as nearly as possible. Make-up is clown like, including a base. All skin should be covered.**

**b) Wardrobe**

**i) Must portray the character so as to be easily understood.  
1. Example: A sailor must look like a sailor.**

**c) Character**

**i) MUST BE APPARENT**

**ii) If the judges cannot easily understand the character or novelty character being portrayed, they will severely mark down your score as appropriate.**

**5. Junior Joey**

**a) Eligibility**

**i) Open to clowns who have not had their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday by the start of the Midwest Clown Association Round-Up that year.**

**ii) Junior Joey competition will conform to all of the regular rules of the Midwest Clown Association Competition Rules in force at the time of the competition with the following additions:**

**1) The Junior Joeys will be placed in an area where they put on their own make-up and costume. Only Junior Joeys, Chairperson(s), and Competition Committee members are allowed in the room. (A parent or guardian may be in the room for observation purposes only). A member of the Competition Committee must be present at all times while the Junior Joeys are putting on their make-up. They will have at least one**

hour to put on their make-up. An official starting time and ending time will be announced and posted. Water and a full length mirror should be provided. Junior Joeys may ask questions but not receive physical assistance in the application of their make-up from anyone present. (Note: this does not mean that someone in the room can't button them up or zip them, but it does mean that no one can help them put on their make-up, etc.)

- 2) All of the different types of make-up will be judged at the same time in one Junior Joey category. White Face, Auguste, Tramp/Hobo, Character/Novelty.
- 3) Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals will be presented as set out in I] E] Awards, 5 (c).

#### **D) SKIT COMPETITION**

1. Judging will be consistent with procedures under section II) Judging.
2. Skit competition will be divided into two categories:
  - (i) Individual Skit
  - (ii) Group Skit
3. Awards will be presented to the top three (3) places in each category.
4. Positions
  - (i) Competition positions will be given out to competitors at check-in prior to competition.
  - (ii) Drawing of numbers or positions will be done when forms are verified after competition registration is closed.
  - (iii) Order will be drawn by the Competition Chairperson(s) and a witness designated by the Competition Chairperson(s).
  - (iv) Each individual skit competitor must check-in to receive their number.
  - (v) A representative from each group competition must check in to receive their number.
  - (vi) Also see Section I] D] Position, 6.
5. All skits will have a maximum time limit of five (5) minutes.
  - (i) Any individual skit or group skit that exceeds the five (5) minute limit will automatically be penalized one point per judge per minute.
  - (ii) Time starts either when the clown sets foot on the stage or the music / sound effects start, whichever occurs first.
6. All skits will be limited to three (3) minutes set-up before and three (3) minutes tear-down time after the skit.
  - (i) This set-up time and tear-down time is in addition to the five (5) minutes skit presentation time.
7. Skits should be suitable for all ages and in keeping with clowning.
  - (i) Example: Clean and decent.
8. Skits are to be presented in the sequential order established per the drawing process.
  - (i) Failure to do so will result in disqualification.
9. All clowns on stage must be actively involved in the skit.

- 10. All clowns on stage must be suited to their role in the skit according to their basic clown type.**
- 11. A prop crew will be supplied to assist the competitors' with set up and tear down, but only to do minimal clean-up work.**
- 12. Performers using pies, etc. that end up on the judges or audience will result in being penalized five (5) points per judge unless circumstances are beyond the clown's control.**
  - (i) These circumstances to be determined by a majority of the judges.**
  - (ii) Water, confetti, etc. must be cleaned up on stage during tear-down time.**
  - (iii) If something lands in the audience, clean-up must be arranged by the appropriate skit member(s) immediately following the conclusion of the day's competition. Failure to do so will result in penalization of five (5) points per judge.**
- 13. Make-up must be self-applied or it will disqualify the whole skit; single and/or group.**
- 14. Any skit that causes injury to any spectator will be automatically disqualified.**
- 15. The size of the stage is to be a minimum of twelve (12) feet by eighteen (18) feet and sixteen (16) inches off the main floor.**
  - (i) Recommend the stage be higher, if available, so the audience will be better able to see the action.**
- 16. Competitors will supply their own sound tracks if needed on cassette tape or compact disc (CD) in audio wave format.**
  - (i) Sound equipment with cassette and compact capabilities and a technician will be provided.**
  - (ii) The compact disk player must be able to play all formats (CR, R+, RW-, and RW+) compact disks, as well as MP3 and MP4 players.**
- 17. The use of pyrotechnics has been outlawed at the Midwest Round-Up. Definition as follows:**
  - (i) Pyrotechnics are items containing black powder, flash powder, flash cotton, flash paper or other items that will produce an explosion or flash flame.**
  - (ii) Items that must be avoided are items that in their use may potentially cause personal injury, damage to property or automatic fire systems to go off.**
  - (iii) Candles or matches in small quantities are not considered pyrotechnics for these competitions, providing approval is obtained by the Convention Group, the Host Alley and the Hotel.**
- 18. Competitors must register for each category by 11:00 PM the day before the competition if the competition starts in the AM, and four (4) hours before the start of the competition when the competition starts in the PM.**
- 19. First (1<sup>st</sup>) Place winner in Individual skit will not be allowed to enter the same category the following year.**
- 20. Skits will be judged on the following:**
  - (i) Definite start, middle and definite blow-off (beginning, middle and end).**
  - (ii) Audience Reaction**
  - (iii) Pace, Timing**
  - (iv) Professional Behavior**
  - (v) Make-up and Costumes**
  - (vi) How well the clown types are suited to their roles in the skit.**

(vii) Each clown's active involvement in the skit (Group Skit Only)

(viii) The suitability of the skit to the audience.

**E) ALLEY COMPETITION: THE TRAVELING TROPHY**

1. All paid voting Alleys may compete in the Midwest Clown Association Competition for the Traveling Trophy.
2. Junior Joeys may participate, but with at least one-adult-to-one Junior Joey ratio.
3. This competition was initiated to provide Alleys and Clubs an opportunity to parade their talents, encourage teamwork and have fun.
4. The competition will usually be held on Wednesday or Thursday evening of the Fall Round-Up.
5. Alley members may wear their colors proudly and encourage their performing members.
6. Rules:
  - (i) Each Alley must have a minimum of two (2) on stage participants. Junior Joeys are encouraged to participate, but with at least a one-adult-to-one Junior Joey ratio.
  - (ii) One (1) judged entry per Alley.
  - (iii) A clown is allowed to compete in any alley skit of which s/he is a member.
  - (iv) Competitors need to abide by the general make-up rules set forth in Section III, B
  - (v) Five (5) judges will be used.
  - (vi) Alley Skits will be limited to five (5) minutes
  - (vii) A representative of a competing Alley must completely fill out the appropriate registration form and place it in the appropriate box.
  - (viii) A representative of the Alley must check-in prior to the competition to receive their order number. (Also see Section I] D] )
  - (ix) Nothing may be thrown from the stage.
  - (x) Alley Skits will be judged on:
    - a) Humor
    - b) Entertainment
    - c) Audience Reaction
    - d) Involvement – Interaction of participants

**F) PEOPLES' CHOICE AWARD**

A "Peoples' Choice Award" will be given for both Single and Group Skits. The audience will vote on their favorite single and group skits following the competition, by relaying this information to a designated individual(s) stationed at the exits of the competition room. This award does not carry any point value, nor does it receive a medallion. This award is strictly for fun and encouragement. Winners will be awarded a "Peoples' Choice" certificate.

**G) PARADEABILITY**

## **1. General**

- a) This competition is designed to judge a clown's ability in make-up, costume and props; to perform, entertain and / or bring laughter to a parade.
- b) Clowns entering this competition can use a sight gag, an object or a prop.
- c) Parade gimmicks can be carried, pushed, pulled or driven and cannot require set-up or tear-down time. No motorized vehicles will be allowed except those used for personal health reasons on a daily basis. This may be decorated but not used as a prop or part of the parade gimmick.

## **2. Rules**

- a) Clowns must meet eligibility requirements as listed under General Rules of Competition.
- b) Each entry will be limited to a single clown event (one clown only) for Single Paradeability.
- c) The competitor will perform or demonstrate the parade prop or act at least twice, within a defined space with a time limit of two (2) minutes.
- d) Judging will be consistent with procedures under II] Judging.
- e) Scoring will be from 1 to 25 points on the following criterion:
  - i) Appearance of Make-up and Costume, appropriateness to the prop, act or gimmick.
  - ii) Is the parade gimmick original
  - iii) Did the presentation have good crowd reaction / appeal?
  - iv) Is the parade gimmick well-made and professional in appearance?
  - v) Will the clown be able to do this parade gimmick repeatedly along a two (2) mile parade?

## **3. Junior Joey Paradeability Presentation**

- a) Junior Joey Paradeability Presentation will use the same rules and guidelines as regular Single Paradeability.
- b) The Junior Joey Paradeability Presentation may be conducted concurrently with Single Paradeability and Group Paradeability.

## **4. Group Paradeability Competition**

- a) Group Paradeability Competition will use the same Rules and Guidelines as regular Single Paradeability, with the exception of III] G] 2] b], limiting the entry to one clown.
- b) A Group Paradeability must consist of two (2) or more clowns.
- c) Junior Joeys may participate, but with at least a one-adult-to-one Junior Joey ratio.
- d) The Group Paradeability competition may be conducted concurrently with Single Paradeability and Junior Joey Paradeability.

## **H) BALLOON SCULPTURE COMPETITION RULES**

### **General**

1. Balloon competition will be held during the Annual Midwest Clown Association Annual Round-Up.
2. Any fully registered clown at the convention (Round-Up) may enter.
3. Entrant is to furnish his/her own balloons.

4. **Balloons may not be inflated or pre-cut ahead of the starting time.**
5. **A pump will be used to inflate balloons (hand, electric/battery). NO MOUTH BLOWING.**
6. **There will be only ONE (1) competition.**
7. **Each competition entry MUST include one of EACH of the following:**
  - a) **Single Balloon:**
    - i) **Only one (1) balloon can be used in the final judged entry.**
    - ii) **The balloon must be any commercially available balloon.**
    - iii) **The balloon may not be cut and the piece reattached.**
  - b) **Multiple Balloons or Combination Balloons**
    - i) **More than one balloon must be used in the final judged entry.**
    - ii) **The balloons must be a commercially available balloon.**
    - iii) **Can be all of the same type (size) of balloon or use more than one type, size, or style of balloon.**
    - iv) **This balloon is a one (1) piece multiple balloon that requires all pieces to be attached.**
    - v) **Tape and adhesives may be used in this category only. Use of foreign materials is allowed as long as it is attached to the balloons.**
8. **Art work must be self-applied by the entrant, only during actual competition.**
9. **The competitors will have thirty (30) minutes to complete BOTH sculptures.**
10. **Competitors must register by 11:00PM the day before the competition if the competition starts in the AM, and four (4) hours before the start of the competition when the competition starts in the PM.**
11. **Competitors must be in competition area fifteen (15) minutes before start to check-in and receive their entry number.**
12. **Only two (2) sculptures may be submitted for judging per competitor. ONE number will be assigned to the set of TWO sculptures.**
13. **First (1<sup>st</sup>) place winners cannot compete the following year.**
14. **No reference pictures and/or instructional materials are allowed during competition.**

#### **Judging**

1. **Judges cannot be present during the balloon sculpturing.**
2. **Competition Chairperson(s) or designee will watch the sculpturing to make sure the rules are followed.**
3. **Only Judges are allowed in the room during judging.**
4. **Spectators may watch the competition at the option of the Chairperson(s) if space is available, but they must not interfere in any way with entrants or they will be asked to leave.**
5. **After balloons have been placed on the judging table, ONLY the Head Judge may touch them.**
6. **If any balloons, after the allowed time period, leak or break, they will be judged as is.**
7. **Judging will be consistent with procedures under II] Judging**
8. **Sculptures will be judged on the following criteria:**
  - a) **Uniformity**
  - b) **Proportions: Length of arms, legs, etc.**
  - c) **Creativity**

- d) Appearance
  - e) Aesthetic Appeal. Does it resemble the character or object being portrayed?
9. The decision of the judges will be final on all scoring issues.
  10. Awards will be given to the top three (3) places.
  11. The scoring sheets will be divided in two (2) sections; single and multiple or combination. Each section will be one hundred (100) points for a total of two hundred (200) points in judging.
  12. Scoring in each category in the Balloon Competition will be as follows:
    - a) Uniformity: 0-25 points
    - b) Creativity: 0-25 points
    - c) Appearance: 0-25 points
    - d) Aesthetic Appeal: 0-25 points

#### **I) FACE PAINTING RULES**

1. Face Painting competition will be held during the Annual Midwest Clown Association Round-Up.
2. There will be only one (1) competition.
3. There will be three (3) subjects posted before the Round-Up for the competitors to practice. The Competition Chairperson(s) will choose the three (3) subjects. Subjects will be announced at the Annual Spring Meeting.
4. At start of the competition, only one (1) of the previously posted subjects will be chosen and all competitors will paint their model using the randomly chosen subject.
5. Competitors can paint subject on a model as a Full Face or Arm, any of the quadrants, or Cheek/Tattoo on the Face, Arm, or Hand.
6. The competitors will have twenty (20) minutes to paint their models.
7. All competitors must provide his/her own model to paint and will use that model that they bring.
8. Competitors must furnish his/her own supplies.
9. Only FDA approved face paints for skin will be allowed.
10. The competitors may use shimmer paints, if they wish.
11. No sparkle, glitter or glitter gel allowed.
12. No foreign materials, such as gemstones / feathers / eye lashes, etc. may be used.
13. All painting will be done with brushes or sponges...NO airbrushing allowed.
14. Licensed and / or other trademarked designs will be disqualified.
15. Competitors must register by 11:00 PM the day before the competition if the competition starts in the AM, and four (4) hours before the start of the competition when the competition starts in the PM.
16. Judging will be consistent with procedures under II) Judging.
17. Competitors must be in the competition area fifteen (15) minutes before the competition begins to sign in. Competitors entering late will be disqualified.
18. Only one (1) design may be submitted for judging per competitor.
19. First (1<sup>st</sup>) place winners cannot compete the following year.
20. No reference pictures and / or instructional materials are allowed during competition.
21. Designs will be judged on the following criteria (total 100 points):

- |                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| a) Artistic Ability             | 20 points |
| b) Creativity                   | 20 points |
| c) Use of Colors                | 20 points |
| d) Does the Design fit the Area | 20 points |
| e) Overall Look                 | 20 points |
22. The point spread will be as follows:
- |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| a) 1-4 points   | Needs Improvement |
| b) 5-8 points   | Fair              |
| c) 9-12 points  | Good              |
| d) 13-16 points | Very Good         |
| e) 17-20 points | Excellent         |

*\*The changes to the Face Painting and Make-Up competitions will be effective until the attendance at the Annual Round-Up returns to 175 or above pre-registered attendees thirty (30) days prior to the Round-Up.*

## **MIDWEST CLOWN ASSOCIATION**

### **ALL AROUND CLOWN COMPETITION RULES**

- 1) This competition was originally designed to get the MCA Hall of Fame members to compete.
- 2) This category is now open to ALL fully registered clowns.
- 3) This competition is tallied after results of all individual competitions and does not change the rules or results of that category.
- 4) There will only be a First (1<sup>st</sup>) Place award in the All-Around category.
- 5) Clowns must compete in the following three competition categories to be eligible for the All-Around Clown award:
  - A. Make-Up; White Face, Auguste, Tramp/Hobo, Character/Novelty
  - B. Single Skit
  - C. Paradeability
  - D. Points will be awarded for the following finish in each individual category:
    - i) 1<sup>st</sup> Place Finish = 10 points
    - ii) 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Finish = 7 points
    - iii) 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Finish = 5 points
    - iv) 4<sup>th</sup> Place Finish = 3 points
    - v) 5<sup>th</sup> Place Finish = 1 point
  - E. Competitor with the most points will earn the award.
- 6) How do we handle current competition rules?
  - A. It is not the intent to change the current competition rules.
  - B. If a clown competitor is not eligible to compete in a category because they took first place in a category the prior year, then they are not eligible to compete in that individual category.
  - C. However, the clown can compete in that category for All-Around Clown points and not be eligible for the individual category awards.
- 7) The All-Around Clown category is in addition to awards for the individual competition categories.
  - A. Examples:
    - i) If a clown takes first place in a make-up category, that clown is awarded first place in that category. The All-Around Clown points are then applied for the final standing in winning the All-Around Clown Award.
    - ii) Clown takes first place in Tramp/Hobo. The clown is awarded first place in the Tramp/Hobo category and is given 10 points toward the All-Around Clown standings.

- iii) Clown takes first place in Tramp/Hobo, but took first place in Tramp/Hobo the prior year. The clown is not awarded first place (based on the current rules). However, the clown is awarded 10 points for All-Around Clown standings.
- iv) Clown takes second place in individual skit competition. Clown is awarded second place award and is given 7 points in the All-Around Clown standings.
- v) Clown takes second place in individual skit competition but took first place the prior year and was not eligible to compete in skits this year. No award for individual skit is awarded but 7 points are awarded toward All-Around Clown standings.
- vi) Clown takes third place in Individual Paradeability competition. Clown is awarded third place in Individual Paradeability and 5 points in All-Around Clown standings.

**B. Scoring Example:**

| Competitor | Make-Up              | Paradeability        | Individual Skit      | Totals |
|------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------|
| #1         | 1 <sup>st</sup> = 10 | 5 <sup>th</sup> = 1  | 6 <sup>th</sup> = 0  | 11     |
| #2         | 3 <sup>rd</sup> = 5  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> = 5  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> = 7  | 17     |
| #3         | 4 <sup>th</sup> = 3  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> = 7  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> = 5  | 15     |
| #4         | 2 <sup>nd</sup> = 7  | 1 <sup>st</sup> = 10 | 5 <sup>th</sup> = 1  | 18     |
| #5         | 1 <sup>st</sup> = 10 | 4 <sup>th</sup> = 3  | 4 <sup>th</sup> = 3  | 16     |
| #6         | 5 <sup>th</sup> = 1  | 6 <sup>th</sup> = 0  | 1 <sup>st</sup> = 10 | 11     |

Based on the above results: 1<sup>st</sup> = #4, 2<sup>nd</sup> = #2, 3<sup>rd</sup> = #5

In the event of a tie, ties will be broken based on the clown with the highest scores in the following order; single skit, paradeability and make-up.

## APPENDIX A

### CLOWN CODE OF ETHICS

#### THE EIGHT CLOWN COMMANDMENTS

**I will keep my acts, performance and behavior in good taste while I am in costume and make-up. I will remember at all times that I have been accepted as a member of the clown club only to provide others, principally children, with clean clown comedy entertainment. I will remember that a good clown entertains others by making fun of himself or herself and not at the expense or embarrassment of others.**

**I will learn to apply my make-up in a professional manner. I will provide my own costume. I will carry out my appearance and assignment for the entertainment of others and not for personal gain or personal publicity when performing for either the International club or alleys events. I will always try to remain anonymous while in make-up and costume as a clown, though there may be circumstances when it is not reasonably possible to do so.**

**I will neither drink alcoholic beverages nor smoke while in make-up or clown costume. Also, I will not drink alcoholic beverages prior to any clown appearances. I will conduct myself as a gentleman/lady, never interfering with other acts, events, spectators, or individuals. I will not become involved in, or tolerate sexual harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or any protected status.**

**I will remove my make-up and change into my street clothes as soon as possible following my appearance, so that I cannot be associated with any incident that may be detrimental to the good name of clowning. I will conduct myself as a gentleman/lady at all times.**

**While on appearance in make-up and costume, I will carry out the directive of the producer or his designated deputies. I will abide by all performance rules without complaint in public.**

**I will do my very best to maintain the best clown standards of make-up, costuming, properties, and comedy.**

**I will appear in as many clown shows as I possibly can.**

**I will be committed to providing an atmosphere free of discrimination and harassment for clowns of all ages to share ideas and learn about the art of clown.**

## **APPENDIX B**

### **CLOWN CREED 2000**

**Clowning is a performance art. We exist to perform. Our obligation is to prepare ourselves for effective and entertaining performances.**

**The primary expectation of our audiences is that we will bring humor into their lives. While delivering humor, we can also do many important things, such as teach lessons, praise God, help heal troubled souls, and many other worthwhile things. We do these things within the context of our art form and with the understanding that our primary purpose as clowns is to comically entertain.**

**Clowns are of human nature. Clowns are not representations of fictional characters. Clowns are not figments of the imagination. We are human, we are real and we are alive. The clown is an essential part of our human soul. We nurture and care for the clown in us so that it always continues to grow.**

**We respect and learn from clowning's rich past. We also understand that clowning has always changed and grown to adapt to the society of its day. We must not force artificial constrictions on the development and advancement of clowning simply in the name of tradition. Conversely, we must not abandon tradition for the mere sake of change. Change should come as natural extensions and adaptations of our tradition.**

**Make-up and costume are merely two of the many tools we use in our clowning. They are not what define us. Costume and make-up styles do change and evolve over the years and will continue to do so. This is a sign of dynamic progress in our art form. No style of make-up or costume is ultimately right or wrong (except in a historical context). Its ultimate criteria today is its effectiveness in helping the clown comically entertain.**

**Character development, thought patterns and styles of action are no longer predetermined by any particular make-up or costume design. Character development determines make-up and costume choices that highlight and augment character. Character development determines thought patterns and range of action appropriate to each situation.**

**Individuals, alleys or clown organizations may freely choose to impose upon themselves, restrictions concerning costume, make-up or action. Failure to adhere to these self-imposed restrictions, however, does not preclude anyone from the enjoyment of participation in the art of clowning. Alley and organizational rules are applicable only to those who want to belong to that specific alley or organization and do not speak for the entire clowning world.**

**Clowning is one of the most free and open art forms. It can incorporate aspects of all other art forms. Clowns are free to show expertise or feign incompetence. Clowns are free to explore. Clowns are free to succeed or fail in their endeavors. Clowns are free to laugh and cry. Clowns are free to relate to young and old.**

**Clowning is, and ought to be, inclusive and not restrictive.**

**David “Mr. Rainbow” Bartlett**

**Bruce “Charlie” Johnson**

**Marcella “Mama Clown” Murad**

**Bob “Bunky” Gretton**

**J.T. “Bubba” Sikes**

**Teresa “Blinky” Gretton**

**Carol “ClaroL” Crooks**

**Randy “Simon de Clown” Christensen**

**Steve “Peachy Keene” Long**

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