



## 2017 Official Rules and Regulations

We're happy to announce the Picture This! Contest is returning for METROCON 2017! This contest allows photographers to showcase their best shots of cosplayers, anime figures, convention photos, and more! We want the most creative shots you can shoot for a chance for glory and riches! Ok maybe not riches, but glory for sure and lots of prizes! We will feature all of our acceptable entries during the judging portion of the "Lip Sync Battle" contest and prizes will be available the following day at the Cosplay Booth during its normal hours of operation.

### Contest Rules:

- 1) All entries must be entered by **July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017** via email to **MetroTeamCosplay@gmail.com** with the subject line "**METROCON Picture This Contest 2017.**"
- 2) Only the photographer may enter the contest, proxies are not allowed. (Exception: If the photographer is a minor their parent or legal guardian may enter the photos for them for legal purposes. However no other form of proxy is allowed. If the photographer is of legal age they must enter the contest themselves directly.)
- 3) Entries may not exceed a **PG-13 rating**. Rating of photos will be at the sole discretion of the Team Cosplay judges.
- 4) Photos containing nudity will be disqualified.
- 5) You may submit up to **5 entries** into the contest. (You can submit up to 5 different photos.)
- 6) All entries must be **submitted in .JPG format** in the **highest resolution possible**. (Low quality photos may negatively impact the judges score. So submitting a low resolution photo could mean the difference between *Best in Show* and no placement.)
- 7) File names of each entry should be the title of the entry. Example: **avoid naming** photos Entry 1, Entry 2, etc. and consider creative titles such as "Fallen Rise Again."
- 8) All photos must have been taken between **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016** and **July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**. Individual photos taken before or after these dates will be disqualified.
- 9) Those entering the Picture This! 2017 Photo contest must be in attendance for METROCON 2017.
- 10) Anyone caught entering photos they did not take will be banned from entering future contests.

11) All photo must in some way relate to anime, video games, conventions, some aspect of Japanese/Asian culture, or relate to the theme of METROCON 2017, "Faithful VS Fallen."

**Award Categories (subject to change):**

- ◆ Best in Show
- ◆ Best Composition
- ◆ Most Expressive
- ◆ Best Convention Photo
- ◆ Most Humorous
- ◆ Most Adorable
- ◆ Best Model
- ◆ Best Photoshop
- ◆ Most Interesting use of Location
- ◆ Judges Awards
- ◆ Cosplay Director Award
- ◆ Best Meme (**New Award**)

**Note:** Photos that do not use Photoshop or another photo editing program are eligible for any award category except "Best Photoshop."

**Submission Rules:**

When you email your entries, please include in the body of your email the following information.

- 1) Your full legal name.
- 2) Your contact phone number and email address.

For each entry submitted include the following information.

- 1) The title of the entry.
- 2) Date Taken.
- 3) Equipment used.
- 4) Character Used\*
- 5) Show/Video Game/Source used\*
- 6) Model Name\*
- 7) Was Photoshop or another photo editing software used? Yes or No?
- 8) Additional comments about the entry
- 9) Fields with "\*" may not be applicable to all entries, please list n/a if that is the case.

**Additional Contest Guidelines:**

~ You May ~

- 1) Use any feature of your camera.
- 2) Use filters or standalone utilities designed to preserve image integrity (Neat Image, Noise Ninja, Unsharp Mask, dust & scratch and color correction tools) these filters must be applied uniformly to the entire image.
- 3) You may Saturate / desaturate or change the colors of your entry.
- 4) Add a border and text to the outside edge of your image, if it's easily visible as such.

- 5) Use RAW conversion software, so long as all changes are made globally.
- 6) You may use Photoshop filters and techniques to clean up images and to add effects, as there is now a Photoshop award. (You do not have to use Photoshop at all, but it is now an option.) this, but it is an option now).
- 7) You may not submit photo memes. (Example: Funny, happy, sad, etc.)
- 8) Submit the highest quality .JPG photo you have available. As stated in the rules, this can significantly affect the judging process. Winning photos are printed on an 8x10 sheet. As a rule of thumb, photos should be submitted at at least a **300 DPI** quality. Avoid using your Facebook or other social media uploads of your images, as those images are always reduced in quality for uploading purposes to those sites.

~ Frequently Asked Questions ~

**May I have some ideas of what pictures I should take?**

*Bad idea:* A photo of a cat

*Bad idea:* A photo of your friend.

*Good idea:* A photo of your cat in a Gundam costume.

*Good idea:* A photo of your friend in a Gundam costume.

**I don't have a camera. Will METROCON provide me with one? What can I do?**

METROCON will not provide you with a camera to enter this contest. You may borrow a camera from someone or otherwise. If you are desperate, many cell phones now have cameras with high enough quality to enter. As long as it can be printed clearly on an 8x10, it should be high enough quality to enter.

**May I submit a photo I took previously?**

Yes, as long as the photo was taken between **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 and July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**. Example if you took the photo on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 it would be disqualified.

**I Photoshopped the photo I want to use a long time ago. Can I still enter it?**

No. New Photoshop editing alone will not qualify the entry. It must be taken within our listed time frame.

**I have a friend that I took a photo of but I can't find it anymore. Can I submit one that they took of themselves?**

No, you must have taken the picture yourself.

**I didn't read all that legal stuff and I really don't care. I'm just going to take pictures of random people and enter them without their permission!**

That would be inadvisable as in they may seek damages against you. Please get permission from someone before you enter their picture in this competition.

**YOUR RIGHTS:** Entrants retain ownership and all other rights to future use of the photographs they enter except for the following: Your entry to the contest constitutes your agreement to allow your entered photographs—and your name to be published as winners or finalists in METROCON's Picture This contest website, and used for promotions of METROCON including, but not limited to, publications from METROCON and its subsidiaries, exhibitions, a

photo contest calendar, a compilation book or electronic collection of photographs, online photo features and contests, and web pages.

**LEGAL CONDITIONS:** By entering this competition, you agree to these entry rules and the following legal conditions:

By entering, participants warrant that his or her entry materials do not infringe on any third party's rights, and that participant has obtained any necessary permissions from any third party if a third party or third party's property appears in the photograph. METROCON reserves the right to disqualify any entry if it finds in its sole discretion that any of the foregoing warranties are not true. Decisions of METROCON Cosplay Staff shall be final and binding.

By entering, participants release and hold harmless METROCON/ Team Dynamite Productions, its affiliated organizations, and each of their directors, officers, employees, attorneys, agents and representatives (collectively, the "Companies") from any and all liability for any injuries, loss, claim, action, demand or damage of any kind arising from or related to the METROCON, any prize won, any use of the entry materials by METROCON, the warranties participants make, any misuse or malfunction of any prize awarded, participation in any METROCON related activity, or participation in METROCON.

Any attempt by an entrant or other individual to deliberately damage any website or undermine the legitimate operation of the METROCON convention is a violation of criminal and civil laws, and should such an attempt be made, the Companies reserve the right to seek damages to the fullest extent permitted by law.

The Companies are not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information, whether caused by website users or by any equipment or programming associated with or utilized in the METROCON, or by any technical or human error that may occur in the processing of submissions to the METROCON, including but not limited to any misprints or typographical errors. The Companies assume no responsibility for any error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, communications line failure, theft or destruction or unauthorized access to, or alteration of, photographs. The Companies are not responsible for any problems or technical malfunction of any telephone network or lines, computer equipment, servers, providers, computer on-line systems, software, or failure of email on account of technical problems or traffic congestion on the Internet or at any website, including injury or damage to participant's or to any other person's computer related to or resulting from participating or uploading images or information in METROCON.

If, for any reason, METROCON is not capable of completion of the contest as planned, including, but not limited to, by reason of infection by computer virus, bugs, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures or any other causes beyond the control of the Companies that corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity or proper conduct of the contest, the Companies reserve the right at their sole discretion to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the contest.

In no event will the Companies, their advertising and promotional agencies, or their directors, officers, employees, attorneys, agents and representatives be responsible or liable for any damages or losses of any kind, including direct indirect, incidental, consequential or punitive damages arising out of participant's access to and use of the Companies' websites, or the downloading or uploading and/or printing of material from said sites. Without limiting the foregoing, everything on the Companies' sites is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind,

either express or implied. Some jurisdictions may not allow the limitation or exclusion of liability for incidental or consequential damages, so some of the foregoing limitations or exclusions may not apply to you. Check your local laws for any restrictions or limitations regarding these limitations or exclusions.