



COSTUME CONTEST 2019 RULES AND REGULATIONS

Thank you for showing interest in the 2019 METROCON Costume Contest! Here is everything you will need to know in order to qualify and compete.

~ Rules and Regulations ~

- ⊗ We will accept **30** online preregistrations for the costume contest or until **June 30, 2019**, whichever comes first.
- ⊗ To preregister online, email your completed entry form to Metroteamcosplay@gmail.com with the subject line “METROCON 2019 Costume Contest.” Failure to do so will result in your registration not being accepted.
- ⊗ The costume contest is strictly limited to **75 entries**. On-site registration for the costume contest will be done at the **Cosplay Booth** from Thursday to Saturday of METROCON or until all 75 slots are filled on a first come first served basis.
- ⊗ Those who preregister must print out their completed entry form and bring it with them to the cosplay booth to check in and be assigned a prejudging time slot for the contest. Due to past no show preregistered contestants, we will not reprint any completed forms. Bring them with you.
 - Blank forms will be available at the cosplay booth for on-site registrants and those who forget to print out their completed forms.
- ⊗ All contestants must have a valid pass to METROCON for their prejudging time and for the costume contest itself.
- ⊗ Costumes may not exceed a PG-13 rating at the discretion of judges.
 - For clarification please email Metroteamcosplay@gmail.com with the Subject line “METROCON 2019 Costume Contest”
- ⊗ All props and weapons must comply with METROCON Weapon policies. Example: Guns must have orange tip.
- ⊗ Group entries are a maximum of 15 people.
- ⊗ You may not throw anything into the audience during the contest at any time.

- ⊗ All those competing in the contest will be scheduled for prejudging of the costume contest. When checking in at the cosplay booth you will be scheduled a slot for judging. It is your responsibility to check in at the cosplay booth as soon as possible to be scheduled for your time. See below for Cosplay Booth hours of operation.
- ⊗ All contestants must arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of the costume contest for lineup and staging for the runway portion of the contest.
- ⊗ Models may be used for created costumes; however, both the model and actual costume creator must be present for prejudging. (Models may walk alone for the catwalk portion of the contest.
- ⊗ Handlers are allowed for those with bulky or overly cumbersome costumes. If alone, please see Cosplay Staff member during registration for help during the catwalk portion of the contest. If providing your own handler, they must have a valid pass to METROCON.
- ⊗ The results of our judges are binding and final.
 - Harassment of Judges or Cosplay Staff over disagreement of awards will not be tolerated and may result in future banning of entry into the costume contest.
- ⊗ This is a craftsmanship-based contest. Store bought costumes or costumes you had completely commissioned are not eligible to be entered.
 - If you have a bought costume, you can enter the Hallway Costume Contest, which is a more informal costume contest judged only on your looks and votes from fellow convention attendees. See a Cosplay Staff team member for more details on entering the Hallway Costume Contest at the con.
- ⊗ You must make at least 75% of your costume.
- ⊗ If in a group, 50% or more of the costume must have been made by someone in the group.
- ⊗ Those ages 12 and under will be judged as a Youth unless in a group.
- ⊗ You may only enter once into the contest.
 - IE: you have made your own Sailor Moon Costume and entering yourself, but also made a Light Saber for a friend also entering the contest. That friend cannot use the light saber in the contest.
 - The only exception is if you are all in the same group. Example: You have made all five Sailor Soldier costumes for your one group entry. That is allowed.
- ⊗ Reference and In Progress photos are not required but encouraged.
 - These documents will help judges more accurately examine your work.
- ⊗ Only those specifically entering a prop for judging must include in progress and reference photos to qualify it for an award.
- ⊗ Those caught lying about creating a costume (IE: Purchased a costume and tried to make it look like they made it themselves, actively lying to judges) will be disqualified, not allowed to participate in the runway portion of the contest, and be banned from entering all future contests.
- ⊗ Those who miss their prejudging may be disqualified.
 - If missed you can ask the Cosplay Staff to be added to the very last time slot of prejudging for that day if time is available. It is suggested you arrive at least 15 minutes early to your designated slot. Remember this old saying: **On time is late and early is on time.**
- ⊗ The Cosplay Director reserves the right to disqualify a contestant for a valid reason not specifically listed within this document. IE: Misconduct, cheating, etc.

- ⦿ By submitting your entry, you confirm that you have read all rules and regulations and agree to them.

Cosplay Booth Hours of Operation:

Thursday: 12:00pm - 5:00pm

Friday: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sunday: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Prejudging hours:

Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Sunday 9:00 AM - 12 PM

~ More About the Judging Process ~

Our Judges will be examining your costume(s) up close and personal. You will be asked questions about your costume and costuming process.

Due to our limited time, we have a 3-minute time limit for prejudging individual costumes and 5-minutes for groups. Our judges and staff will strictly enforce this so please be versed in important details to be shared about your work.

A list can be submitted along with your reference photos if your time is too limited, but you will have to communicate with our judges. We will attempt to return reference materials but this is not guaranteed.

Costumes are judged by: Craftsmanship/Cleanliness/Creativity/Accuracy/Technical achievements

Skill Levels:

Youth: ages 13 and under.

Novice: less than two Major awards.

Journeyman: 2-5 Major awards. Never received a Best in Show or Best Journeyman award at METROCON.

Masters: 5+ Major awards or has received a Best in Show or Best Journeyman award at METROCON.

If you are unsure of your skill level, feel free to ask a member of Cosplay Staff at the Cosplay Booth when you sign up and they can help you figure out what level you should enter for. Judges may possibly move a cosplayer into a different category at their discretion due to level of skill or work presented.

~ Award Categories ~

- ⦿ Best In Show
- ⦿ Best Masters
- ⦿ Best Journeyman
- ⦿ Best Novice
- ⦿ Best Group
- ⦿ Best Technical
- ⦿ Most Impressive Armor
- ⦿ Most Epic Wig Work
- ⦿ Best Prop
- ⦿ Best Craftsmanship/Technical
- ⦿ Best Character Likeness
- ⦿ Best Junior (kids 13 and under)
- ⦿ Judges Awards (one from each judge)
- ⦿ MC/ Mascot Character Award
- ⦿ Cosplay Director Award

~ Stage Presentation ~

You will have 15-20 seconds on stage. We have a catwalk style stage so prepare your best runway walk. **Make sure to do two poses at a minimum of 5 seconds each**, before you leave the stage so everyone can see your costume and take photos!

~ Frequently Asked Questions ~

Q: Can I do cool backflips on stage?

A: No. You may not perform stunts of any kind on stage. You are only permitted to pose.

Q: Even with a handler, I cannot go upstairs with my costume or because of other reasons. What do I do?

A: A ramp will be provided for non-stair friendly costumes. Please verify one your entry form that you will need a ramp.

Q: My reference photo/in progress photo is on my cell phone, is that okay?

A: As long as you have it ready for the judges and it is a clear photo, it is okay. Figures, manga, playing cards, etc. are also acceptable. In addition, color images are preferred for accuracy judging.

Q: I am late for my prejudging. Can I go in now that I am here?

A: No. If there is time left at the end of the day's prejudging, we can make an exception in the order of who is present first. This also goes for groups-the ENTIRE group must be present at the time block. If you do not all show up for your time block, you will be disqualified

Q: I was judged, but I missed line up and the stage presentation began. Can I still go on?

A: If you miss lineup, you are disqualified. We cannot rearrange entries in order to accommodate late arrivals. All members of a group must be present or the group will be disqualified.

Q: Our group was judged, but we found two more people and want them in our group!

A: Once you are group is judged, you cannot add or subtract members. They can walk on, but will not be accepted in the judging process.

Q: I am going to enter my prop and get it approved by the con later.

A: YOUR PROP MUST BE APPROVED AT REGISTRATION BEFORE PRE-JUDGING.

If your prop is not registered, it cannot be entered, even if you have in progress photos. You must have a registration sticker on your prop. If you need your prop registered, please take it to the registration to be approved. Do this before your pre-judging slot, otherwise, it will not be judged and you will lose your allotted time.

Q: I do not have my badge yet. Can I get it after prejudging?

A: **No.** You need an official METROCON badge on your person to enter. This also goes for group entries, handlers, and models. Every person involved in the contest must have a badge. Without a badge, you will be disqualified and you will lose your allotted time.

Q: I found a handler after I was judged. Can they come with me to the stage presentation?

A: Yes. Please inform the members of the costume contest IMMEDIATELY if you do. Your handler must have an official METROCON badge.

Q: I am wearing a few costumes this weekend, and I do not know which to compete!

A: Choose your favorite (that has not won major awards) or the one you are most proud of for the contest.

Q: There was only a limited amount of people who could participate in the Costume Contest at METROCON and I was not signed up in time. What can I do?

A: We apologize; there is a limit to the amount of contestants allowed in our limited time for the contest. If you did not get in, please try again next year.

Q: I am upset with the results of the Costume Contest. What do I do?

A: You can contact the Cosplay Director at Metroteamcosplay@gmail.com to discuss your concerns or if time is available, directly at the convention. Those who respectfully question the results of the contest will be given attention and as much time as possible. However, harassment will not be tolerated at the convention or online over disagreements of the costume contest. We welcome feedback, but harassment again is not tolerated.