

# Cosplay Contest Rules & Guidelines

## Registration Details

- **Registration Deadline for Dubai Cosplay Championship:** 6 May
- **No registration required for Catwalk Cosplay Competition**
- **Notification:** Accepted participants will be notified via email.
- **Character Photo:** Please provide a clear image of the character you will be cosplaying on the registration form.

## General Cosplay Rules

- Cosplay must be from published works, such as anime, games, TV shows, movies, manga, live action, etc. Original characters (self-invented or created) are not allowed.
- Costumes and screen content must adhere to the general event rules as well as UAE regulations.
- Costumes should be respectful and culturally appropriate.
- No rainbow symbols or stripes of any kind or form are allowed.
- The body must be covered from the collarbone to at least the lower thigh.
- For men, crossdressing in cosplay is not permitted.
- All materials, including costumes, screen content, skits, and hand gestures, must be PG-13. If you're unsure whether something is acceptable, please contact us.
- Zentai suits (e.g., Spider-Man, Evangelion, etc.) are allowed as long as the suit is PG-appropriate.
- Masks and fursuits are allowed, provided the masks and fursuit heads are easily removable.
- Unsafe props will not be accepted or allowed in the venue or on stage, including metal weapons, sharp objects, firearms, projectiles, and large props that obstruct pathways.
- No sharp, dangerous, or illegal props, including smoke bombs, sharpened metal, swords, ninja stars, or realistic guns without an orange tip.
- You must be able to carry your props and manage them independently.
- Profanity, or anything deemed racially or culturally offensive, will not be allowed.
- Politically charged and/or discriminatory cosplays or props will not be permitted.
- Using any sprays, staining substances, or materials considered damaging to the stage or venue is not allowed.
- The organizer reserves the right to deny entry to any participant whose entry is unsafe, inappropriate, or does not comply with event and UAE regulations.
- All communications will be handled confidentially. Feel free to contact the organizer if you're unsure about your entry.
- All audio-visual content used in performances must be submitted in advance and comply with event regulations.
- Religious and culturally sensitive attire must be respected. Cosplays that mock or misrepresent religious figures, traditional dress, or national symbols will not be permitted.

### Catwalk Rules (for all catwalk participants)

- All the above General Cosplay rules must be followed
- Cosplayers must be aged 6+ to enter this competition
- Cosplayers only have 30 seconds on the stage
- Cosplays can be bought or craved, there will be no points allocated towards this aspect

### Points will be given on these three aspects:

- Character accuracy in looks
- Character accuracy in act/pose
- Costume quality
- OC cosplays are allowed
- There will be 3 winners
- Sponsor gifts and medals will be given out to the winners
- Prizes will be given out on stage as cosplay winners are being announced
- Only single cosplays and duo cosplays allowed
- COSPLAYERS MUST BE PRESENT BACKSTAGE 30 MINS BEFORE START OF COMPETITION OR THEY WILL BE DISQUALIFIED

### Competition Rules (for all competition participants)

- All the above General Cosplay rules must be followed
- Cosplayers have a maximum of 2 mins on the stage
- There will be two sections in this competition:
  - Solo
  - Group
- For Solo and Group cosplayers must be over 13 years old
- **For crafting**, there will be prior prejudging, and points will be given on the following aspects:
  - Quality of finished costumes
  - Use of unique materials and techniques
  - Costume accuracy
- **Crafting** will also be judged by stage performance and presence.
- **For performance**, there will be points given on these aspects:
  - Character accuracy in act
  - Character accuracy in looks
  - Stage presence, audience reaction and 'wow factor' (*any special acts that includes singing, aerobics etc. those skills will also be judged if demonstrated by the performer*)
  - NO USE OF FIRE OR SMOKE PROPS ON STAGE

- Act must be PG13 and family friendly (*use of indecent imagery such as excess gore or nudity, and use of foul language and controversial topics like politics and religion are strictly forbidden*)
- Cosplayers must be present backstage at least 1 hour before cosplay competition. If cosplayers do not show up at least 30 minutes before start time, they will be disqualified.
- Cosplayers must submit their background video and audio beforehand to the appropriate email/forum. Those videos WILL be pre-evaluated for any use of obscenity.
- There will be three winners in each category.
- Cash prizes for each category except the kids.
- Kids will receive a sponsor gift.
- Prizes (including cash) will be given out on stage as winners are announced.

**Solo**

- Max duration of the performance is 1 minute

**Groups**

- Max duration of the performance is 2 minutes
- Minimum 2 cosplayers, max is 4 cosplayers
- Stage helpers won't be allowed