

# Cosplay Contest Rules & FAQ

Competition categories:

## Self-made Cosplay Costumes

This category is defined as such: You made your costume and props with little to no help from others. Your costume was not purchased or made by someone else. Outfits may be pieced together from bought articles of clothing, such as pants and jackets and so forth, but on the whole the cosplay must be entirely of your own making.

- Novice Class
  - Defined as any person who is new to sewing/creating costume(s) for themselves and others and who may have won few to no awards.
  - NO entrance if:
    - The entrant is a professional costumer.
    - The entrant has won more than two major awards from a Novice Class; please consider entering into the Journeyman Class.
    - The entrant has competed in and won in a higher Competition Class.
- Journeyman Class
  - Defined as any person who has been sewing/ creating costumes for themselves or others for several years and who may have won several awards.
  - NO Entrance if:
    - The entrant is a professional costumer.
    - The entrant has won more than three major awards from a Journeyman Class. Please consider entering into the Master Class.
    - The entrant has competed in and won in a higher Competition Class.
- Master Class
  - Defined as any person who has been making costumes for themselves or others for many years and who may have won many awards.
  - Any person may enter this Class at their own discretion.

## Commissioned or Bought Cosplay Costumes

This category is defined as such: You bought your costume from a store or online supplier, or you commissioned and/or paid someone to make the costume for you.

## Competition Rules

- There is a cap of 50 entries this year. Once this limit has been filled no more entries will accepted. Groups count as 1 entry.
- No more than 5 people may enter as a group cosplay.
- MCs WILL NOT give microphones to any entrant. Attempts to take the microphone may result in disqualification from the Cosplay Contest.
- All entrant(s) are required to attend the Cosplay Contest dress rehearsal on Day 0. Time and location will be determined at a later date. Failure to attend may result in the disqualification of the entrant(s) and not being allowed to go on stage.
- All entrants MUST show up at LEAST 30 minutes before the Cosplay Contest begins. Failure to be on time may result in the disqualification of the entrant(s) and not being allowed to go on stage.
- Senshi-Con and all of its affiliates are NOT RESPONSIBLE for any thefts, damages, injuries, etc. to any and all participants and their costumes/props during Senshi-Con 2017 or the Cosplay Contest.
- DO NOT TOUCH anything that is on, near, behind, or in front of the stage. Breaking this rule WILL RESULT in immediate disqualification from the contest and removal from the Events Hall.
- No excessive horse play on, near, or behind the stage.
- All weapons and oversized props must be peace bonded.
- Large costume models that may have a hard time getting on and off the stage must either have at least one helper with them or ask staff for help before the event.

## Judging Rules and Criteria

- All competitive entries will be judged individually.
- All competitive group entries will be judged all together as a group.
- All competitive entries must have at least 1 reference pictures of their character to present to the judges via upload on application. If you have a Fashion or OC (Original Character) outfit, please provide photo of what the fashion style or OC is supposed to look like.
- The judges reserve the right to re-position any entrant into a different category or division if the majority (over half) of the judges agree upon the decision and the change is reasonable (entrant placed into appropriate skill division, entrant placed into correct category, etc.).
- The Judges will be using the following criteria to judge all entries:
  - Accuracy
    - How accurate to the character design/original design is the costume?
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  - Craftsmanship/Construction

- How was it made? What material was used? How did you go about creating this or that? How long did construction take? Did you have help from someone?
- Overall Look/Coherence
  - Does the costume come together: hair, make-up, weathering of clothes/props, fabric choice, etc.? Does the group look like they are from the same series/costumer(s)?

## **FAQ**

**Q:** When and where will the dress rehearsal be held?

**A:** The dress rehearsal will be held in the main events hall on the third floor of the Dena'ina Center on Friday September 29th. The specific time will be announced at a later date which you will be notified of via your preferred source of communication when that information becomes available.

**Q:** What counts as a major/minor award when I'm looking at which category of skill I belong to?

**A:** A major award is any of the following: 1st or 2nd Place or "Best in Show". A minor award is any of the following: 3rd Place, "Honorable Mention", or a "Best" award other than "Best in Show"

**Q:** I don't want to compete, but I still want to share my cosplay. Will there be a Non-Competitive category/walk-on? When is it going to happen?

**A:** During the cosplay contest, there will be a time where we allow walk ons to come and show off their costumes without competing.

**Q:** I forgot about being early for the Cosplay Contest, can I still go on stage?

**A:** If you are not in attendance for the pre show check in, you will not be allowed to compete, but you may be allowed to go on stage as a walk on at the appropriate time.

**Q:** My costume is of my OC (Original Character), can I enter it competitively?

**A:** Yes, OC's will be allowed into the Competitive Categories. Please make sure to place them into the correct category and provide reference photos/ drawings as to what you planned for the character to look like.

**Q:** What if a family member/friend helped me make my costume, can I still enter the Self-made category?

**A:** As long as the costume is at least 60% handmade and the majority of that 60% was constructed by the entrant/costumer, it is still eligible for entry in the self made category.

**Q:** The rules say that the cap is 50 entries, is that for everything or for each category?

**A:** Once 50 entries have been accepted (ex. 30 self-made, 20 bought/commissioned) no more entries will be accepted.