

Everything you need to know

about the GalaCon Cosplay Contest



General Information

First of all, we're so excited that you're considering taking part in the GalaCon Cosplay Contest. Before we get into the specifics of the Judging Guidelines and Rules, here's a step-by-step overview of how the Cosplay Contest works.

1. Application

To enter the Cosplay Contest, you need to fill out the entry form provided on the website. You can also sign up at the con office, registration closes 1 hour before the prejudging.

When doing the application, you will need to decide whether you just want to do a walk-on, or if you'd also like to show off your acting skills.

If you are planning an act and need certain equipment, music, video sequence etc., please specify your needs in the registration form.

We offer headset microphones and hand microphones.

We cannot guarantee that all needs will be met. If we cannot offer a needed equipment, we will inform you in time.

Music or video sequences have to be sent to us via e-mail in mp3 respectively .wmv format until the 21th of July 2024.

2. Prejudging

We want to give all participants the possibility to give the jury a deeper insight in your costume and talent before the contest. If possible, we would like to see every participant in the prejudging, there is no special application procedure.

The time and place of the prejudging will be noted in the timetable of the con guide. The prejudging will take place approximately 1 or 2 hours before the cosplay contest.

The prejudging is optional; there is no points deduction etc. if you do not take part. Impressions from the prejudging will become part of the overall rating though. It is highly recommended if you want to get a high rating in the category "Best Craftsmanship", are presenting an original character or included details or variations that are to explain and have a certain meaning or background.

3. Cosplay Contest

The moment we've all been waiting for – presenting your beautiful creations on the main stage!

All participants must be in the main hall in front of the stage 10 minutes before the Cosplay Contest officially starts.

The Cosplay Contest starts with the walk-on. Every participant, no matter if they also applied for acting, will be called on stage for a walk-on. During this time, you will walk / dance / jump (in case you're a Pinkie) across the stage, do some poses and show off your cosplay.

After the walk-ons, it's time for acting! You can either do group or solo acts.

Since we want to give everyone the chance to perform an act, there's a time limit of 5 minutes for group acts and 3 minutes for solo acts.

The Cosplay Contest ends with all the participants on stage for a group picture.

4. Award Ceremony

During the award ceremony, the winner of each category will be called on stage. Please attend the award ceremony and be ready to be called on stage.

The judging takes place according to the judging guidelines which are outlined below.

Judging Guidelines

These guidelines regulate the way the judges rate participants and their presentations as a means of transparency and comparability.

It helps the judges to do their work correctly and assures that the overall rating is only based on profound, professional reasons and is not influenced by external influences.

It also gives an insight in the different categories and criteria to help the participants prepare their presentations.

1. General Rules

The judges are totally free in their decisions. They may only base their rating on objective assessments and observations.

Judges may not be influenced in any kind.

The participants will be judged in different categories, which are explained below.

Apart from the Cosplay Rules outlined below, the Convention Rules apply at all times.

2. Procedure

At first, the judges will have a short view on the information given in the registration form and – if given – have a look at the photo. They will use this information to get a better view of the participant and estimate details they want to have a closer look at or things that may be relevant for their rating. If an original character is presented, they will also read and review the background story.

During the optional – but highly encouraged – prejudging before the contest, the judges will have a closer look at the costume and talk to the participants about the cosplay. They may ask questions regarding certain details, the background, certain meanings or the character or variation itself.

During the contest, the judges will take notes concerning the different criteria.

After the contest, the judges will make their decisions based on the criteria explained below.

The final ranking has to be approved by the simple majority of the judges and will be announced during the award ceremony.

3. Criteria

There are different criteria to rate the performance and work of the participants.

3.a. Criteria for Costume Presentations

Name	Meaning
Similarity	How similar is the presented character to the model?
Crafts	Is the costume professionally crafted? How detailed is it?
Presentation	How well is the behavior of the character implemented? Is the overall presentation convincing?
Creativity	How creative is the overall costume/variation/style?
Audience	Does the audience like the performance?

3.b. Criteria for Acts

Name	Meaning
Impression	How good is the overall impression of the costumes and equipment?
Presentation	How well is the act presented? How well are the characters implemented? Is the presentation entertaining and convincing?
Creativity	How creative is the overall idea?
Collaboration	How well do the group members work together? Do all group members have something to present?
Audience	Does the audience like the performance?

4. Categories

There are 3 main categories participants can be rated in. Also, there are up to two flexible categories, depending on the participants.

The 3 main categories are: Best Craftsmanship, Best Act and the Newcomer Award. These will be outlined below.

The flexible categories could be, but are not limited to: Most creative Idea, Best Group, Best Princess, Best OC, Best Villain.

Each winner of a category will get a price as a means of appreciation.

4.a. Best Craftsmanship

This category represents the main aspect of the contest and is awarded with the main price.

Craftsmanship is the most important part about cosplaying and the quality and richness of detail of the costume presents how much effort, time and expense the participant has put into the cosplay.

Besides this crucial criterion, this category also includes the other elementary aspects of cosplaying like creativity and presentation.

This category therefore appreciates the hard work and enthusiasm of all cosplayers.

All participants are rated in this category.

4.b. Best Act

Object to this category is the quality of the participant's act.

Both single acts and group acts qualify for this award.

Depending on the number of acts performed, we give out a maximum of two awards, one for single and one for group acts.

Only applicants who present an act will be rated.

4.c. Newcomer Award

This category is reserved for participants with little or no experience (estimated on the statement in the application form and the impression of the costume and presentation). It gives them a chance to win a price despite their experience.

5. Transparency and Complaints

Sometimes also the judging of a jury can be false, mainly when a participant has cheated without knowledge of the jury. Sometimes a judging also just seems false because the jury knows more

than the audience or participants or has grappled with the cosplay more.

Both audience and participants can ask the jury for explanations of certain decisions and give complaints or evidence for cheating. We are thankful for anything that helps us to improve the overall experience and gladly explain our judging's, of course in consent with the privacy rights of our participants.

The contact person is reachable via cosplay@pony-events.eu.

Everything you need to know

about the GalaCon Cosplay Contest



§ 1 Parties and Objects

By registering for the GalaCon Cosplay Contest ("contest"), you enter into a contract after German legislation with the Pony Events Federation e.V. ("GalaCon", "we"), Poststraße 6 in 59174 Kamen, Germany. These rules, our terms and conditions and our privacy policy become a part of the named contract. Place of jurisdiction is Waiblingen, Germany. Only German Law and respective international regulations apply.

§ 2 General Rules of Conduct

Always pay respect to the convention rules. Costumes and acts need to be family friendly and safe, which means that obscene themes, sharp or otherwise dangerous parts or emblems that are illegal after German law are forbidden.

All kinds of weapons, also replica and fake weapons, are only allowed with a special allowance from the staff.

All other participants and judges have to be treated fairly. Destruction or manipulation of costumes or trying to influence the jury's decisions count as heavy violations of the contest rules.

Please understand that you have to be available during the contest and possibly prejudging times. Inform yourself about the procedures before the contest.

§ 3 Application

Applications are accepted via the online form or at the convention office. Applications may be closed or rejected if there is no more room.

All given data and statements have to be true.

After the application, you will receive a notice of receipt and, if necessary, be asked for additional information.

We will review your application as soon as possible and send you a registration confirmation if the application is accepted. The registration confirmation confirms that you can take part in the contest.

You can apply both as a group member and as a single participant. Fill out individual applications for each cosplay performance.

§ 4 Resignation

You can resign at any time without further explanation via e-mail.

§ 5 Information

We will inform you via e-mail before the contest about important changes. If you have any further questions, please feel free to ask via email (cosplay@pony-events.eu).

§ 6 Judging

The Judging will take place according to the Judging Guidelines.

§ 7 Age regulations

Participants of all ages can take part. Underage children need the approval from their parents and/or legal guardian.

General convention rules apply.

§ 8 Disqualification and Rejection

Applications can be rejected by the contest staff.

- if they are incomplete and not completed after the first request
- if the participant violates the rules, a violation is very likely to occur or a violation in the past is known
- if false statements have been given in the past

A participant can be disqualified with the simple majority of the judges.

- if he violates the rules
- if he tries to cheat or cheats
- if he could have been rejected and the reason for rejection is only revealed afterwards
- if he violates the rules of the convention

Rejections and disqualifications are final.

§ 9 Changes, Agreements and Exceptions

If necessary, these rules can be changed until the day before the prejudging begins. All registered participants will be informed about the changes and the justification and have the right to resign.

All exceptions and additional agreements must be put down in written form. E-Mails or other digital documents count as written.

All oral agreements are invalid.

Contact Information

The contract party and organizer of the contest is the

Pony Events Federation e.V.
Poststraße 6
59174 Kamen, Germany
info@pony-events.eu
Amtsgericht Hamm, VR 2265

You can reach the contact person for any questions or concerns via **cosplay@pony-events.eu**.

If you have any questions or complaints, feel free to contact us.