

Rules of the GalaCon Cosplay Contest



§1 Parties and Objects

By registering for the GalaCon Cosplay Contest ("contest"), you enter into a contract according to 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 for the purpose of the GalaCon Cosplay Contest. Place of jurisdiction is Ludwigsburg, Germany. Only German Law and respective international regulations apply.

§2 General Rules of Conduct

The convention rules need to be followed at all times. Costumes and performances need to be family-friendly and safe for the general public, which means that obscene or offensive themes, costume parts or related aspects are forbidden. Any parts or objects that can have a sharp edge or can cause injury cannot be used. Objects and imagery forbidden by German law cannot be used.

ALL kinds of weapons, including replica and fake weapons, are only allowed with explicit permission from the contest staff.

If in doubt, a contest staffer has to be consulted about any potentially prohibited parts of the costume. The contest staff reserve the right to exclude a participant if any of their costume's aspects or themes are deemed unsuitable.

All participants and judges have to be treated fair and with respect. Attempts at destruction or manipulation of costumes or trying to influence the judges' decisions count as heavy violations of the contest rules and will lead to exclusion from the contest.

Please understand that you have to be available during the contest's time frame. It is strongly recommended to show up earlier for "prejudgement" (see below). Check the convention's schedule and ask for help if needed early.

§ 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 information given by the participant has to be made in good faith and be truthful.

After the application, you will receive a receipt and will be asked for a photo of your cosplay (optional) and, if necessary, 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 officially declares that you can take part in the contest.

You can apply both as a group member and as a single applicant. Please fill out both forms in this case.

§ 4 Resignation

You can resign at any time without further explanation via e-mail or at the convention office.

§ 5 Information

We will inform you via e-mail before the contest about important changes and the overall procedure in detail. If you have further questions, please feel free to ask at any time.

§ 6 Prejudgement

We want to give all participants the opportunity to give the judges a deeper insight in your costume and background before the contest starts.

If you want to, you can present your costume to the judges before the contest. This gives you time to explain your work in more detail and lets the judges ask questions. Please allow enough time for this to be done, so if at all possible, show up early.

To take part, please mark the appropriate field in the registration form or ask later via e-mail. You will be assigned a timeframe approximately 1 – 2 hours before the contest. If you are unhappy with the assigned time, please let us know and we will try to change it.

The prejudgement is optional; there is no point penalty or similar if you do not take part. Impressions from the prejudgement 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 would be better explained and have a certain meaning or background.

The prejudgement may be cancelled in case of low interest. Please see the timetable and up to date information at the venue.

§ 7 Voting

Involving the impressions from the prejudgement, the jury will give points from 1 (lowest) to 6 (highest) during the presentation in the criteria defined by the Voting Guidelines (please refer to our website).

The points are summed up with weighting according to the laid out rules in the different categories and build a final score for each category.

The first ranking, based on these scores, is reviewed by the judges who can suggest changes based on their impressions and decide when two or more participants have an equal score. All changes to the ranking have to be voted on with simple majority among the judges, written down and explained.

You have the right to be informed about your rank, score and reasons for your ranking.

The final ranking has to be confirmed with a simple majority of all judges.

§ 8 Age Regulations

Participants of all ages can take part. Persons under the age of 18 need the approval from their parents and/or legal guardian.

General convention rules apply.

§ 9 Duration of the Presentations

You have at maximum 1.5 minutes/90 seconds on stage to present your costume.

Acts and group acts can be at maximum 5 minutes long.

Exceptions can be made in written form; please ask the contest staff in advance.

§ 10 Equipment and Surroundings

If you need certain equipment, music, video sequence etc., please specify your needs in the registration form.

We only offer headset microphones and/or handheld microphones as a standard.

We cannot guarantee that all needs will be met. If we cannot offer something requested, we will inform you in time.

Music or video sequences have to be sent to us via e-mail in .MP3 respectively .WMV format at least 1 week before the convention.

§ 11 Disqualification and Exclusion

Applications can be rejected by the contest staff

- if they are incomplete and still not completed after more information is requested
- if the participant violates the rules, obviously intends to violate the rules or a violation in the past is known to the staff
- if false information has been given in the past

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

- if the participant violates the rules
- if the participant cheats or attempts to tamper with the voting in any way
- if the participant would have been rejected if the grounds for the rejection had been known in advance
- if the participant seriously violates the rules of the convention in any way

Rejections, exclusions and disqualifications are final. In serious cases, the judges can ban a participant from next year's contest as well by majority vote. This measure is subject to review by the convention staff.

§ 12 Changes, Agreements and Exceptions

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

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

All verbal agreements are invalid.

Contact Information

The contract party and host 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 contest staff for any questions or concerns via **cosplay@galacon.eu**.

If you have any questions or complaints, please do not hesitate to contact us.