



## POWER-CON 2023 Cosplay Competition Rules & Guidelines

Please print legibly! If you win but we cannot read your handwriting, then we cannot mail you your prize.

Contestant Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, City, State, Zip code, Country): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of entry (character, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contestant to be announced, if different from above: \_\_\_\_\_

### Eligibility

- i) All are welcome to dress up and participate. Contestants 13 or under must have their parent's or guardian's permission to enroll and must be accompanied by a legal guardian or relative of age at the show. All contestants under 18 must have a parent or guardian's signature on this contest form.
- ii) Contestants can only submit one entry. Submit one entry per individual. Do not submit as a group (see also Guidelines iii).
- iii) The competition will be hosted at the Greater Columbus Convention Center on Saturday August 12, 2023. Contestants will get to strut their stuff starting at approximately 4:30pm Saturday August 12, 2023 in Panel Room A. Contestants must register ahead of time by submitting this completed form in person to the Advanced Registration table at POWER-CON between 10:00am and 3:00pm on Saturday August 12, 2023. Judging will be conducted, and winners announced after the judging session. All contestants must report to the master of ceremonies outside of the main panel room by 3:30pm for check-in.
- iv) Contestant costumes must be characters from, or inspired by toys and collectibles, either modern or vintage. We realize that sometimes the world of animation will cross over with these aesthetics. But keeping your costume more toy or collectible accurate is preferred.**
- v) Individuals that have worked professionally in any way in the toy and collectible industry (such as, but not limited to, the creation of characters, art, scripts, figures or statues, or intellectual property) are not eligible to participate. In addition, current convention Staff members, Judges, and Coordinators are not eligible to participate in the current competition.

### Guidelines

- i) Body coverage: The POWER-CON is a family friendly convention and has to adhere to the rules and regulations set forth by the Greater Columbus Convention Center and the city of Columbus and Franklin county. All costumes need to be tasteful and must cover at least a bikini bottom for males and full bikini for females. The use of latex paint, body paint, pasties, etc. are not considered adequate body coverage without additional body coverage worn over it. Thongs are not allowed unless covered by shorts or skirts.
- ii) Costume Credit: If asked, it is up to the contestant to credit the appropriate creator(s) of the costume.
- iii) While contestants can only enter once, you can opt to use your single stage appearance to present as a group instead of as individuals. But if your group is chosen as a winner then all group participants must share the prize evenly. Coordinate a group presentation with the master of ceremonies during the 3:30pm check-in in front of the panel room.
- iv) POWER-CON reserves the right to refuse the entry of any prop or weapon it decides is unfit for the convention. All props or weapons must support the overall look of a costume or character. Wearing a prop or weapon for its own sake is not allowed. Misuse of a prop or weapon will result in immediate removal of the user from the convention. Any use of an item in an aggressive or threatening manner, regardless of intent, or any other activity thought to be unsafe in the view of POWER-CON is strictly forbidden and will result in immediate removal of the user from the convention.
- v) The use of metals, hard woods, and industrial plastics are not encouraged as these props or weapons can contain sharp or pointed edges and/or can result in an item that potentially too heavy. Any prop or weapon that may result in an injury to any individual due to sticking, cutting, dropping, pointing, or touching the weapon in any fashion whatsoever may be refused for entry by POWER-CON.
- vi) Sharp edges on any prop or weapon are not permitted, and must be smoothed, filed, padded, or otherwise protected against any potential contact.
- vii) Soft woods such as balsa, fir or layered cardboard are preferred choices for prop or weapon construction materials as they are neither heavy nor hard.

**SIGN AND DATE THE OTHER SIDE >>>**

- viii) The use of varnish, shellac, or any other coating to make a soft weapon have a hard exterior or sharp edge may result in a refusal of entry if the weapon is deemed unsafe due to any such treatment of its exterior. The definition of "hard" in this case is a hardness that exceeds that such as balsa, fir or layered cardboard.
- ix) Materials that can shatter, such as glass or brittle plastics, are not permitted.
- x) Staves are acceptable as long as they are carried as a walking stick with one point on the ground. They may not be worn over the shoulder.
- xi) Any deadly weapon, including a firearm that has the firing pin removed or barrel filled to make it unusable, is not allowed.
- xii) Replica and futuristic firearms are allowed only if such weapon cannot be misconstrued to be a real firearm. A safety cap made of bright colored plastic (orange, red, yellow) may be placed over the end of the barrel and secured against removal. This includes any weapon that may be "fired" such as a homemade replica meant to duplicate a costume-related weapon that you are portraying. Water guns are allowed as a prop if it is not filled with water or any other fluid.
- xiii) Bows or other manual projectile replicas are allowed only if they are rendered incapable of firing a projectile. Airsoft weapons in any configuration are not allowed as props or weapons.
- xiv) Any prop weapon purchased in any exhibitor/retailer/vendor room at the convention is not allowed in the contest if it does not meet our cosplay weapon guidelines.
- xv) Personal firearms, as permitted by the State of Ohio for individuals with a valid and current license for a concealed handgun, are not allowed into the contest or any convention space regardless of reason. Any individual caught with such weapon in a convention space will face removal of the user from the convention and/or being reported to local authorities.
- xvi) Any attendee under the age of 18 are not allowed to carry steel or hard wood weapons. Failure to observe this rule will result in removal of the attendee and his/her parents or guardians from the convention and/or being reported to local authorities.

**Prizes**

- i) Ages 12 and under: One "Grand Prize Winner" will receive a prize package consisting of a check in the amount of \$500.00.
- ii) Ages 12 and under: One "First Runner-Up" will receive a prize package consisting of a check in the amount of \$300.00.
- iii) Ages 12 and under: One "Second Runner-Up" will receive a prize package consisting of a check in the amount of \$200.00.
- iv) Ages 12 and under: Four "Honorable Mention" will each receive a prize package consisting of a check in the amount of \$50.00.
- v) Ages 13 and up: One "Grand Prize Winner" will receive a prize package consisting of a check in the amount of \$1000.00.
- vi) Ages 13 and up: One "First Runner-Up" will receive a prize package consisting of a check in the amount of \$600.00.
- vii) Ages 13 and up: One "Second Runner-Up" will receive a prize package consisting of a check in the amount of \$400.00.
- viii) Ages 13 and up: Four "Honorable Mention" will each receive a prize package consisting of a check in the amount of \$50.00.
- ix) All federal, state and local taxes associated with the receipt or use of any prizes are the sole responsibility of the winner.
- x) The "Ages 13 and up" Grand Prize Winner and First Runner-Up must fill out additional paperwork after the contest that provides Power-Con with important information for 1099 tax reporting.
- xi) All prizes will be awarded and mailed to the winners chosen. Prizes returned as undeliverable or otherwise not claimed within fifteen (15) days after notification of delivery will be forfeited. Prizes are not transferable. No substitutions or exchanges (including for cash) of any prizes will be permitted, except that POWER-CON reserves the right to substitute a prize of equal or greater value for any prize. Limit one prize per household or address. All prizes are awarded "AS IS" and WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, express or implied, (including, without limitation, any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose).

**Misc**

- i) By entering the Contest, you release POWER-CON, participating sponsors and any of their respective parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, directors, officers, employees and agencies from any liability whatsoever, and waive any and all causes of action, related to any claims, costs, injuries, losses, or damages of any kind arising out of or in connection with the contest or delivery, mis-delivery, acceptance, possession, use of or inability to use any prize (including, without limitation, claims, costs, injuries, losses and damages related to personal injuries, death, damage to or destruction of property, rights of publicity or privacy, defamation or portrayal in a false light, whether intentional or unintentional), whether under a theory of contract, tort (including negligence), warranty or other theory.

By submitting an entry into POWER-CON Cosplay contest you agree to allow reproduction of photos or other image reproductions of your entry for promotional purposes by POWER-CON. There is no compensation to artists for entries used for promotion by the POWER-CON. Credit for entries is not guaranteed during any promotional use. Submitting an entry does not guarantee that it will be used as POWER-CON promotional material.

Contestant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date (day/month/year): \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian (for contestant under the age of 18): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date (day/month/year): \_\_\_\_\_