

MASQUERADE ENTRY RULES AND GUIDELINES

- The masquerade is open to all ages, but if you are under 16, your entry form must be signed by your parent or guardian on the day, or you must bring a signed note from them. If you are 16 or 17 but look young, please bring proof of age.
- The contest is open to ages 12 and up. If you are under 12, you will receive a goodie bag for taking part in the masquerade.
- If a costume has been entered into the Masquerade at a previous MCM Expo event it may not be entered again unless this has been agreed with the cosplay organisers. Costumes that have previously been entered into competitions at other events may be entered.
- Purchased costumes are not allowed in the masquerade, The majority of a costume should have been constructed by the person entering the costume in the contest (we don't mind your mum and friends helping though).
- If you are entering a costume constructed by another attendee you must notify us on your entry form so that proper credit can be given.
- You may enter alone or in a group. However, there will not be separate prizes for each group member.
- All entrants aged 12 and up MUST provide a picture or photo reference of the character / costume they are representing. You will be judged against this reference so it is advisable to make it good! If possible, also provide any other information regarding the costumes construction such as an 'in progress' photograph.
- Original costumes can be represented by concept sketches and a brief explanation of the inspirations behind the costume.
- All entrants must have signed in at the cosplay desk (and handed in their picture reference if not previously supplied) by 13:00 on the day.
- All entrants should congregate at the Masquerade holding area half an hour before Masquerade start time.
- You may be filmed or photographed during the masquerade, and MCM Expo or its sponsors may wish to use your image. By entering you agree to this.
- Entries will be judged on Accuracy (1-10), Construction (1-10) and Style (1-5)
 - A high Accuracy score will be awarded for correct colours, details, patterns, hair style etc. Lack of a picture reference to compare against is a large handicap here.
 - A high Construction score will be awarded for good workmanship, and finish. A costume largely constructed from shop bought clothes will score lowly etc
 - Style speaks for itself.
- The judges decision is FINAL. Please respect the judges and the other participants by accepting their decision.
- Have FUN. That's an order!

ENTERING

You may enter in advance by filling in the masquerade entrance form that is available here online

and emailing it to cosplay@mcmexpo.net

As spaces are limited entry to the masquerade is on a first come basis. There will also be a limited number of places available on the day.

CATEGORIES

The masquerade is open to costumes related to the following genres; Film, TV, Books, Comics, Manga, Animation, Japanese Animation, Pro-Wrestling, Toys and even original designs may be entered.

As this is a family show costumes of an adult nature may not be entered.

MUSIC

Accompanying Music for walk on/walk off entries will be provided by MCM Expo at the organizers discretion.

Music or audio tracks for performances can be provided by the entr ee but must be supplied in advance of Midlands MCM Expo.

Please supply music in a separate email clearly labelled "music for <entry>"

WEAPONS AND PROPS

Please see the separate guidelines.

PERFORMANCES

You may wish to enter a short performance or "Skit" at the masquerade. If so, please inform us in advance by emailing (cosplay@mcmexpo.net), including full details of what you wish to do and any special requirements such as music or video that you have. Any digital media that you wish to use MUST be provided to us in advance of expo weekend.

When working out your performance allow about 30 seconds per group member, up to a maximum of 3 minutes.

The content of the performance should be suitable for a family audience.