

ECG Season 3 Finals – Rules

Article 01: General points

- 1.a) The present rules describe the progress of the European Cosplay Gathering Finals and show, below named “ECG Finals”. It may be completed or modified without prior notice.
- 1.b) Participation to the ECG Finals depends on the approval and respect of the present rules.

Article 02 : Definitions

- 2.a) Any Cosplay show is a show of people or groups of people parading in costumes, below named “shows”.
- 2.b) The festival and Cosplay contests staff work for the organisation and good progress of the shows, they are below named “Cosplay organizers”.

Article 03 : Themes and categories

- 3.a) During the ECG finals (at Japan Expo in July), participants may perform in costumes representing characters from cartoons, comics, video games, movies, TV series, comic books, etc. Personal creations and fanarts are not allowed in this contest. Costumes from J-Music bands or artists are allowed.
- 3.b) People may participate solo, or in a duo or trio. People wishing to participate as duo or trio must wear costumes from 2 or 3 characters of the same series (for example, Kamui from X and Lina from Slayers cannot belong to the same group).
- 3.c) Participants must be 18 at least on the qualification day.
- 3.d) Participants must have made their costumes themselves. Purchased costumes are forbidden. Yet lesser accessories (used for the performance or small jewels) such as wigs, shoes, etc. may be purchased.
- 3.e) The shows are open to any public, of any age and sensibility, therefore the participants’ performances must be made for the widest audience.

Article 04 : Schedule and Number of participants

- 4.a) The schedule of the ECG Finals will be communicated to the representatives by the official ECG officer.

- 4.b) Each country taking part in this contest will be represented by one solo and one group (duo or trio).

- 4.c) These limits may be modified without prior notice by the Cosplay organizers depending on the general organisation of the festival.

Article 05 : Registration to the shows

- 5.a) The representatives will have to confirm their participation to the ECG officer, who will validate their costume and performance.
- 5.b) In case that the selected representatives wouldn’t be able to attend the event, the first runner-up will take their spot.
- 5.c) The representatives nationality must be the same from the country of the event.
- 5.d) Participants from another nationality but owning a “Permanent residency card” are allowed to enter the selections from the country they live in. However they are not allowed to take part in the selections of their nationality country for the same season.

Article 06 : Group registration to the shows

- 6.a) “Group registration” concerns any subscription aiming a performance with more than one participant on stage.
- 6.b) Each group must choose one member of the group who will be in charge of giving to the Cosplay organizers all the required documents for the registration of each member of his group.
- 6.c) The person in charge must respect and make the other members of the group respect the present rules and the instructions that may be given to him/her by the Cosplay organizers, under any conditions.
- 6.d) On the premises, he/she has to make sure that all the members are present and that all the documents given for the performance actually work.

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Article 07 : Prizes for the shows

7.a) The ECG Finals will reward :

- Three Solos (1st, 2nd, 3rd)
- Three Groups (1st, 2nd, 3rd)

The prizes will be announced by the organization during the year.

7.b) Some additional prizes may be added by the organization without prior notice.

Article 08 : Performance duration

8.a) Should participants exceed this limit of time, the Jury has the right to inflict a penalty on the participants' score or to disqualify the participants.

8.b) The performance duration on stage may be modified at any time.

8.c) For individuals, the performance can last 1 minute at most.
For groups (duo/trio), the performance can last 2minutes and 30 seconds at most.

Article 09 : Performance accompaniment

9.a) It is possible to have an audio or video accompaniment. However in the regards of the show and for the audience comfort, videos are only allowed as "introductions" lasting 30 seconds at most.

9.b) mp3 audio files only are accepted.

9.c) mp4, avi, mpg, wmv video files only are accepted.

9.d) Files must be clearly identified (with your name, first name, the name of the group or played character, as well as the show).

9.e) No audio or video montage will be made by the Cosplay organizers, before or during the shows.

9.f) We are not allowed to lend you a microphone for your performance. If it contains some voice, we suggest you to record it.

Article 10 : The shows' course

10.a) The participants will be coached during the whole "ECG Finals" trip by the official ECG officers. The participants will have to follow their advices.

10.b) A briefing will be made then for participants to explain how to access the stage and how the performance is to take place. The participants can ask their last questions to the Cosplay organizers at this moment. Participants who are missing at the specified time and place will be considered to have given up.

10.c) After their performance, the participants will be asked to leave the backstage to let the following participants get ready.

Article 11: Compulsory elements

11.a) A picture or illustration in good quality of the cosplayed character must be provided to the Cosplay organizers.

11.b) All the files given at the registration have to be identifiable (with your name, first name, the name of the group or played character).

11.c) The registration will be invalidated if the picture or illustration mentioned above is not provided.

11.d) An accompaniment media in one of the allowed formats (article 9) and lasting the allowed time for your category (article 8) must be given to the Cosplay organizers.

11.e) Script and dialogs of your performance must be given to the organizers.

Article 12 : Appraisal criteria

12.a) Each final jury can give 10 points for the costume and 10 points for the performance.

- Costume: conception, resemblance to the original, details, technical choices. (stage props are not included in the grading)
- Performance: level of the show, inventiveness, entertainment, direction.

Article 13 : Jury and grading

13.a) The official Jury is made of 5 persons.

13.b) The members of the official Jury cannot take part in the contest.

13.c) The winners of the Finals will be chosen by a general decision of the Jury.

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13.d) The number of members of the Jury may be modified by the Cosplay organizers at any time without prior notice.

Article 14 : Registration limitation

14.a) Each participant must compete with the costume he announced during his/her registration.

14.b) The Cosplay organizers, as well as the members of the Jury, cannot take part in the shows.

14.c) Any costume presented by the participants has to be mostly hand-made. Each participant must have made at least 75% of his costume himself/herself. Help from friends or relative is tolerated as long as majority of the work done by the participants. Any purchased or ordered costume will be refused for the registration.

14.d) Any representative from the previous year is not allowed to enter and be selected in the same category he was selected in last year. (A solo representative can't compete in the solo category in the year following his selection, however he's allowed to enter the Group category)

14.e) Any representative selected twice in three consecutive years, regardless of the category, won't be allowed to enter for two years. After this two years restriction, he/she will be then be allowed to enter any category.

Article 15: Safety

15.a) Regarding safety issues, pyrotechnics (fireworks, firecrackers, lighters, inflamed or incandescent objects, candles) is forbidden.

15.b) Liquids are forbidden on stage (waterguns, full bottles...).

15.c) Weapons (sword and blade replicas) are forbidden, except the ones made by the participants as long as they are no threat to anyone.

15.d) Confettis, glitters, etc. are forbidden on stage.

15.e) The organization has the right to interrupt any performance that could be dangerous to the participants or the nearby audience.

15.f) For their own safety, participants are not allowed to get closer than a meter to the edge of the stage.

Article 16 : Disqualification

16.a) Every participant not complying with one of the articles from these rules will be instantly and permanently disqualified.

16.b) Every participant not complying with the Cosplay organizers' directions can be instantly disqualified.

16.c) Every participants guilty of vandalism, theft, act of aggression (physical or verbal), offending behavior, or any other offense during the festival will be instantly and permanently disqualified. Pursuits will be enforced against him/her according to the current laws and rules.

Article 17 : Image property

17.a) By agreeing with the rules, the participants allow every picture or video taken during the festival to be used for means of communications or promotion of this contest.

17.b) As for the organizers, they promise that the pictures comply with the ethic and the law. Every picture degrading an individual, pornography and violence are strictly forbidden.

17.c) These rules must be filled in and signed, and then handed to the Cosplay organizers for each participant.

17.d) This document must be presented with a valid identity card.

Article 18 : Additional Information

A- Participation rules

18.a) The participants will be allowed to compete in a different costume than the one worn for the preselections, provided that the local and ECG organizers approve of it. If they wish to do so, they will have to provide pictures of the characters, pictures of the costumes, the script and the media of the planned exhibition. If the exhibition media includes voices, they will have to be translated and recorded in English or French so that most of the audience will be able to understand their performance.

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- 18.b) The participants must be able to come to France for a period of one week in early July. (from Wednesday 3rd July until Monday 8th July 2013)
- 18.c) All the participants shall cooperate in a positive way in order to ensure the success of the ECG Finals.
- 18.d) The participants agree to provide as soon as possible every documents the local or ECG organizers could ask (identity card, official documents, ...).
- 18.e) For the promotion, the pictures of the participants can be used in all sorts of medias with the agreement of the ECG organizers. There won't be any financial compensation in this kind of promotional event.
- 18.f) The ECG organizers own the property of all the photos from the ECG or regarding the ECG in every promotional aspect. The terms of this condition are valid before, during and after the trip of the participants to France.
- 18.g) After the ECG Finals, videos and photos from the participants will remain the ECG organizers' property and could be used in various uses as promotional material. In addition, in the event of a DVD or website production, there won't be any financial compensation.

B- Preparations: rules and warnings

- 18.h) Every participant must ideally bring 2 or 3 costumes in France. One for the photoshoots and press conferences organized and the second for the Finals on stage.
- 18.i) Equipment and accessories for the ECG are limited in size and weight to the maximum load that can be carried by the participants and one organizer in one go, from the backstage to the stage. The participants are responsible for the construction and resistance of their props on the stage. These accessories must be solid and stable enough to be carried without special care.
- 18.j) The participants must asked detailed information as well as pictures for the accessories and props. These accessories will have to be validated by the ECG final Officer. Any props or accessory not shown beforehand or not validated won't be allowed on stage. The participants have to make sure these equipment

are not too heavy, harmful or dangerous for them, the audience or the staff members.

- 18.k) Every excess baggage at the airport due to the weight of the costumes will have to be paid for by the participant, and not by the organizers. One alternative would be to ship the costumes to France prior to the Finals, but the shipping fees will entirely be paid for by the participant. The participants are asked to keep this in mind when making and registering their costumes.
- 18.l) Every participant has to send his performance media to the Cosplay organizers before the Finals in one of the formats allowed as written in the rules. He/She shall bring it with him on a USB key, in case there were technical issues. Every detail regarding the performance on stage planned by the participants have to be communicated to the ECG organizers as soon as possible.

C- Other rules regarding the Finals

- 18.m) Only the participants and the Cosplay organizers are allowed to be in the backstage during the Finals.
- 18.n) The organizers or any other outsider are not allowed to help you during your exhibition.
- 18.o) It is forbidden to perform or rehearse in a public area.
- 18.p) Performance order will be chosen by draw at your arrival in Paris.
- 18.q) Participants will have to respect the planning and activities scheduled by the organizers.

I, undersigned....., claim to have read and accepted the rules and agree to respect them.

Date and signature of the participant, following the mention "Read and accepted"