

GamingCon Cosplay Performance Championship Details

Introduction

Welcome to the 2nd edition of the GamingCon Cosplay Championship! The goal is the same as ever: to highlight the best of the cosplay community, while ushering in both old and new talent from across the country.

This year, we're excited to reveal the three major categories you can participate in based on your skill and experience level. They are as follows:

- Best in Show (Top 3 Winners)
 - The best of the best! This category is for those who have years of experience under their belt and have previously participated (and won!) in competitions prior.
- Beginner's Category
 - A brand new category for this year! Are you someone who is passionate about competing but only started your craft a few years ago? This category is for you!
- Kid's Category (16 & Under)
 - Another brand new category! We absolutely adore kids and want to help inspire them to get into cosplay too. So this year, we want to shed a spotlight on our youngest of fans. Please note: you must have a legal parent or guardian to register on your behalf.

Prize Pool

- This year's total cash prize pool for all categories combined is 115,000 INR (before taxes).
- Best in Show (Top 3 Winners)
 - Grand Prize Winner: 50000 INR
 - 1st Runner Up: 30000 INR
 - 2nd Runner Up: 20000 INR
- [NEW] Beginner's Category
 - 1st Place: 7000 INR
 - 2nd Place: 5000 INR
 - 3rd Place: 3000 INR
- [NEW] Kid's Category
 - Goodie Bags from our sponsors and partners.

- All Registered Participants will receive participation certificates.

Location

The Cosplay Championship venue will be at GamingCon 2025 - at the NESCO Complex Mumbai.

Map location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/iDy67r5rb5SvsV4d8>

Cosplayers will enter at Hall 3, Gate No. 2 and must go through security before they are allowed inside the venue. Once inside, registered cosplayers will have designated areas (separated by genders) to change and get ready. A map layout of the venue will also be provided closer to the event to avoid confusion.

Please refer to our *Rules and Regulations* and *Costume and Prop Restrictions* below.

Dates/Timings

Date: 30th November 2025, Sunday

Time:

- Prejudging starts at 2 PM IST at the Cosplay Zone.
- Prejudging closes at 4 PM IST. Judges will have final call on cosplayers who arrive late, but participants may incur penalties during in judges scoring.
- Competition starts at 5 PM IST and will take place on the main stage

Format

- All cosplayers will be required to register online by Friday, 28th November at 11:59 PM IST. Please check below for more info.
- Cosplayers who have not registered will not be entertained for the competition. There is no on-site registration for cosplayers who are unregistered.
- Pre-judging takes place on Sunday, 30th November - Day 2 of the event, starting from 2 PM IST.
- Cosplayers will be judged by a jury panel of ONLY veteran Indian cosplayers with over 20 years of professional experience.
- When on stage, the contestants will perform a short skit or dialogue on stage (max 60 seconds).
- After all performances have concluded, the judges will need 15 minutes to tally their points and discuss their choices.
- All decisions made by the judges will be final.

- Once judges have made their decisions, the winners will be announced on the Main Stage in the respective order:
 - Kids Category
 - Beginners Category
 - Best in Show
- Winners will be requested to come on stage to accept their prizes.
- Once all the winners have been announced, all participants will be requested to come on stage for a nice group photo session.

Judging Criteria

Craftsmanship (50% Score Weightage)

- Minimum of 70% of the Clothes, Armour, Props and Accessories must be made by the participant (ready-made under shirts, trousers, leggings etc will be permitted).
- The fit, proportions, paint finish and mobility of the cosplay will be majorly judged here.

Character Accuracy (30% Score Weightage)

- How close is the completed costume to the reference/artwork/model provided by the participant.
- The “completeness” of the looks, accessories, props etc.

Cosplay Stage Performance (20% Score Weightage)

- Participants are encouraged to use the stage, pose as their character and have the dialogues / catch phrases ready as part of their performance.
- Cosplayers will have a max of 60 seconds for their stage performance.
- Generic, non-copyrighted music will be provided along with the performance. Music can be turned off on contestants' requests if they wish to monologue.
- Crowd reactions to the stage performances will be considered as well.

Terms and Conditions

- By submitting the form, cosplayers grant permission to have their images taken of them in cosplay. These may be used for the promotion of future events, at the discretion of the event organizer.

- By participating in this competition, the participant agrees to the rules and regulations.
- By participating in this competition, the participant agrees to the costume and prop restrictions.
- Please refer to our policy for [Cosplay Conduct and Etiquette Guidelines](#).

Registration Form

Cosplayers are required to pre-register online to participate in the Cosplay Championship. Once registered, cosplayers will receive a confirmation email.

- Cosplayers must submit the following details on the form.
 - Full Name
 - Cosplay/Artist Name
 - Email
 - Phone Number
 - Preferred Contact Method
 - Email
 - Phone Number
 - Details for the character you will be cosplaying, including:
 - Character Name / Skin
 - Series or Title
 - In case of original or fan-designs, cosplayers must provide additional details in the above Character Name / Skin field (For example: [Steampunk Mercy by Demora Fairy for Overwatch](#)).
 - When using fan-designs, cosplayers must have permission from the original artist to use their work in a competition.
 - Reference image for Character (eg. Google Drive or URL image link)
 - [Optional] An online folder containing the WIPs and steps into making the cosplay. An offline construction report can also be provided by the cosplayer during pre-judging time.
 - How many years have you been cosplaying?
 - 0-3 years
 - 3-5 years
 - 5-7 years
 - 7+ years
 - Have you participated in this costume in a cosplay contest before?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Are you a parent who is registering for their child?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Would you also be participating in the cosplay showcase on Saturday, 29th November? This is a completely optional activity and is NOT a part of the cosplay championship.
 - Yes

- No
- Not Sure

Deadlines

Registrations open: **xx October 2025, Monday**

Registrations close: **28th November 2025, Friday**

GamingCon 2025 Cosplay Championship: **30th November 2025, Sunday**

Rules and Regulations

- Cosplayers participating in the Championship Event must be 17 or older to compete.
- Kids below 16 and under must have a legal parent or guardian to register on their behalf.
- A valid Bank Account and PAN Card are required to qualify for the cash prize pool.
- All cosplayers are responsible for their own expenses related to competing in the Cosplay Championship (ie. stay, travel to and from the event, outside food, etc).
- Participants will be allowed to have an accompanying cosplay buddy, however they will have to pay for their own tickets/expenses.
- A participant can apply with only one costume for the competition.
- This year, group or duo cosplays will not be permitted for the cosplay championship.
- All costumes should provide enough coverage to be worn in public and should be in good taste and appropriate for a family-friendly show.
- The costume cannot be in violation of any Indian laws.
- No profanity allowed on stage. That includes messages on signs or clothes.
- No political or religious statements are allowed on stage or during judging.
- Costumes cannot be obscene or offensive, or endorse any form of hate or hate group.
- Cosplayers are expected to refrain from wearing or using any substances that may potentially interfere with another participant's costume.
- Cosplayers can not leave anything on the event grounds or main stage that could potentially damage the venue or other costumes (eg. paint, water, glitter, etc)
- Costumes must not impede your ability to get on and off stage. While assistance will be provided by our team and volunteers, cosplayers are still expected to move to and from the stage.
- In case of costume malfunctions or technical difficulties, our team and volunteers will appear on stage to assist you.
- Cosplayers are forbidden to work on their costume while pre-judging is taking place.
- Cosplayers have to be present at the venue 30 mins prior to the cosplay competition for off stage judging.
- The prizes cannot be transferred to anyone else.

- GamingCon strongly encourages cosplayers to enter with newer costumes. In case the costume has been entered in any competition previously, they may have points deducted based on judges' final call.
- If the winners choose not to show up on stage during the cosplay competition winner announcement and prize ceremony, the prizes will be null and void.
- Once they've entered the venue, cosplayers who registered online must sign a follow-up registration and terms & conditions form, which can be obtained from our cosplay volunteers.
- The organizer holds the right of not disclosing the score during or after the event.
- The organizer reserves the right to disqualify any cosplayer at any time if any misconduct or foul play is detected or if needed so.
- Cosplayers are expected to report in FULL costume at the given time for the pre-judging. Any cosplayer failing to do so shall not be marked or scored.
- Disqualified cosplayers may be called up on stage for an appearance if the judges approve after consent from the cosplayer.
- If the costume is too large for the stage, the cosplayer might have points deduction for lack of movement and stability.
- Cosplayers are responsible for their costumes and props, especially around the stage/booth area. While dressing rooms will be provided for cosplayers to change into and out of their costumes, you are not allowed to leave your costumes or props behind.
- No harassment of any kind towards any person involved in the organising team will be tolerated and the person(s) concerned shall be asked to leave the venue. Please also go through our Cosplay Conduct and Etiquette Guidelines.
- If a costume damages any stage item or equipment, the cosplayer will be held liable and will have to bear the charges of repair or replacement.
- Participants agree to take part and be featured in marketing and publicity material for GamingCon as required, as well as external media available to the general public, including but not limited to newspapers, magazines and websites.
- All pictures taken at the venue will be property of GamingCon and will be used in promotional activities of future editions. No claim by the cosplayer will be accepted on the royalty.
- Application forms and associated content cannot be returned to applicants.

Costume and Prop Restrictions

- No Real Weapons like guns, swords, daggers, arrows will be allowed. Carrying them will lead to immediate disqualification.
- Any props like plastic BB gun, foam dart guns that have the ability of discharging projectiles will be allowed if only they have the orange safety cap and are shown to NOT carry any "ammunition" for the prop (BBs, Nerf Darts, Water, arrows etc).
- Sharpened metal/hard material bladed weapons are NOT Allowed (eg. axes, daggers, hatches, knives, kunai, shuriken, swords, sword canes, and switchblades).
- Kitchen utensils (eg. knives, and forks) are NOT PERMITTED.

- Explosives (eg. firecrackers, and fireworks) are NOT PERMITTED.
- Chemical weapons (eg. mace, pepper spray) are NOT PERMITTED.
- Blunt weapons (eg. brass knuckles, bats, clubs, and nunchaku) are NOT PERMITTED.
- Hard prop weapons (ie. props made of metal, fiberglass, and glass) are NOT PERMITTED in the premises.
- Instruments that cause excessive noise levels or have violent flashing strobes / lights.

Contact Information

- cosplay@gamingcon.in (if applicable)
- surya@scysworks.com