

# SMASH! 2018 MADMAN COSPLAY MASQUERADE RULES AND REGULATIONS

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The Madman Cosplay Masquerade is open to anyone who is wearing a costume that is associated with anime, manga, anime-style video games or other content and artists with heavy artistic influences or inspirations taken from Japanese culture.

Participants with self-designed characters/costumes will not be permitted to participate.

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**These rules are subject to change at any time without prior notice.**

**We will make every effort to inform contestants of any changes as far in advance as possible.**

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## ENTRY RULES

- There will be a limited amount of entries available in the Masquerade (a whole group counts as one entry). If all the spaces are filled online, we may not be able to guarantee you entry on the day.
- Guests, artists, or vendors may not enter the competition for the purpose of advertising or promotion of their own work or merchandise.
- Any information collected by SMASH! will only be used for the Madman Cosplay Masquerade. For more information, please refer to our [Privacy Policy](#).
- All entrants must confirm their registration at the Cosplay Desk on the day of the Masquerade (check-in time will be confirmed via email prior to the event).  
**Entries who do not confirm their registration will be considered a dropout.**
- All entrants will need to show up in costume and be ready for pre-judging as soon as they confirm their registration. All pre-judged entries are strongly encouraged to bring reference material for their costume(s). **Please note that participants with non-handmade costumes who only wish to compete in the Skit category will not have to be pre-judged.**
- Be aware that SMASH! is a PG event and as such, the performance **must be appropriate for a family audience**. Please contact the Cosplay Team for confirmation.
- **Checked-in Props** - If a participant has a prop that is not allowed into the Convention Centre building areas and must be checked-in, they may be able to use it for the Masquerade.  
**Use of non-compliant props will be assessed at time of registration confirmation.** If a participant requires a checked-in prop to be brought back stage for the Masquerade, they must inform the Cosplay Team and provide the prop type and check-in number so it can be retrieved by staff.

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SMASH! does not guarantee that any item judged to be unsafe will be allowed to be carried in the venue or at the Masquerade at all. For more details, please refer to our [Props Policy](#).

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## PERFORMANCE RULES

### Skits:

- Skits can be performed either “live” (using microphones to speak and perform) or “pre-recorded” (all speech and music is prepared and recorded beforehand by the participants and then mimed or lip-synced without the use of microphones).
- A maximum of two handheld microphones will be available. Participants must note it on their registration form if they wish to use microphones. A mix of live dialogue and pre-recorded dialogue is permitted; however, we strongly recommend pre-recorded audio over live.
- **Please make sure all performances are no longer than 3 minutes.** If the skit goes for any longer, it may be interrupted and cut short.

### Audio, Video, & Lighting:

- Only mp3 format for audio files and avi, wmv, or mp4 formats for video files will be accepted.
- Video or pre-recorded audio files must be submitted online via email before the convention. Audio & video presentations must be contained in one file, and must have the same name as the entry it will be for.
- We cannot switch audio or video tracks during performances.
- We cannot fade in, fade out, or change audio levels during performances.
- Please note that our stage screens are used to show video content, but are also used to show the audience close ups of cosplay and performances. Keep this in mind when choosing to submit video, as our video director may choose to switch back and forth. We will endeavour to show videos to their fullest; however, we will at times prioritise how to best show cosplay and performances to the audience.

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**As this is a live performance, we cannot guarantee that audio or video will function correctly on the day and SMASH! is not liable for any impacts this may have on judging and award decisions.**

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- We will not provide special lighting effects such as color changes, blackouts, or dimming. Lighting states are at the discretion of the lighting team. Don't worry, we'll make everyone look great!
- Please bring a USB backup of audio or video tracks on the day of the Masquerade.

### Stage:

- Anything taken on stage must leave with individuals/groups when they exit.
- Backstage access is restricted, so only registered participants will be allowed through.

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**If there are any complaints or issues with the competition please consult the Cosplay Coordinators.**

- Abusive language or actions towards the convention staff will not be tolerated. Any issues with these rules and guidelines, or any enquiries, should be raised with the SMASH! Cosplay Team **at least one week prior to the convention**. This is to ensure we have time to reply and make any changes required.
- When contacting the Cosplay Team, please use a suitable subject heading (such as 'Cosplay Skit Inquiry') so that we don't miss the email and know exactly which area it relates to.
- Any concerns of mismanagement, unfairness, corruption, cheating or other issues that involve the staff, judges or participants of the Madman Cosplay Masquerade are to be sent to: [cosplay@smash.org.au](mailto:cosplay@smash.org.au)

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**We encourage all entrants to try their best and partake in friendly competition.  
Please support each other, especially those who are new to cosplay!**

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