

Cosplay Competition Judging criteria

Costume Judging - Total 100 Points (Applicable for Best Craftsmanship & World Cosplay Summit Preliminaries)

Points are awarded according to the following 3 criteria that are related to the production of the constituent elements that express the character (costumes, hand props, makeup, etc.):

** The differences of race, gender, or size of the cosplayers with respect to the original characters will not influence the judging of the degree of completeness of the costume proper.*

1) Precision in Costumes (40 points)

The costumes are evaluated by comparing the actual costumes with the design of the costumes in the original work:

- If the actual costumes are completely identical to the costumes in the original work, the full points are awarded.
- If completely different, the lowest score of 0 points is given.

In cases there is an unknown part in the costume that appears in the original work, as long as the costume for judging is true to the spirit of the character and the atmosphere of the original work, design construction and choice of color are left up to the discretion of cosplayers, and differences between it and the image submitted of the costume in the original work will not affect scoring. (ie: In the black and white manga, it is not possible to know the correct color of costumes).

2) Costume Quality (40 points)

The costumes are evaluated according to multiple factors such as

- how well the costume is put together
- how well it suits the contestant
- how beautifully it is painted/sewn

3) Technique (20 points)

Evaluation of costume-making skills. Costumes that have been made by utilizing a variety of challenging techniques are scored more highly than those using a few basic skills. These criteria look more at the level of quality rather than the number of techniques employed. If any special techniques such as transformation or other mechanisms are used, the concepts will be evaluated here.

Skit & Character Judging – Total 100 Points (Applicable for Best Performance Onstage)

1) Concept & Character (40 points)

- Clarity and originality of the performance concept or story.
- Accuracy and depth of character portrayal, including personality, mannerisms, and essence.
- How well the act communicates the character and narrative, even to those unfamiliar with the source.

2) Performance & Creativity (40 points)

- Execution of the routine: pacing, choreography, timing, and structure.
- Creativity and originality in interpretation, staging, or presentation.
- Effective use of movement, stage space, and theatrical techniques to enhance the performance.

3) *Audio & Props (20 points)*

- Quality and appropriateness of music, sound effects, or dialogue cues.
- Effective and thoughtful use of props, costume elements, or minimal staging to support the act.
- How well technical elements complement the storytelling without overshadowing the performance.

4) *Engagement & Stage Presence (20 points)*

- Confidence, energy, and connection with the judges/audience.
- Ability to captivate and entertain throughout the act.
- Overall charisma and presence that enhances the impact of the performance.

Stage Performance Judging - Total 100 points (Applicable for Best Performance Onstage, Best Craftsmanship & World Cosplay Summit Preliminaries)

1) *Performance (50 points)*

Evaluation of features such as:

- Quality of the performance
- Story portrayal
- Usage of props
- Respect to the original work
- Overall entertainment value

2) *Acting • Stage proficiency (20 points)*

Evaluation of the cosplayers' expressions on stage including:

- Bringing the character to life
- Proper display of singing, dancing, or other active elements in the performance and how well-rehearsed they are
- Expressiveness of performers in scenes with simple or no action
- Delivery of dialogue

3) *Costume stage presence (20 points)*

Evaluation of the impression caused by the costumes on the stage such as

- Values that are first perceived when the costume appears on stage
- Aspects such as the use of gimmicks to change the appearance
- Structure of the costumes during the performance are also taken into consideration.

4) *X Factor (10 points)*

The additional evaluation of points that exceed expectations and results which are particularly moving or exciting, or of the realization of new ideas that had not been seen before in the competition.