

Dublin Irish Festival Cosplay Competition Rules, Guidelines & Information

When: 6:30 p.m. Saturday, August 1

Where: Dublin Irish Festival, Dublin OH Coffman Park, Music Workshop Stage*

* No tickets will be given to competitors, admission is required, for more information about tickets, visit this [link](#)

1. Divisions

Participants must choose one of the following categories. All must be related to Irish history and tradition. There will not be time permitted for a performance.

- **Mystical** – Fantasy, magical, supernatural, myth or folklore-inspired characters
- **Historical** – Costumes inspired by real historical eras, figures, or cultures (must be respectful and accurate in representation).

2. Category

Participants will compete within one of these groups:

- **Child (12 & under)**
- **Individual**
- **Group:** Open to two or more participants appearing together, including groups of adults, families with children, or multi-generational teams of various ages.

3. General Conduct

- All participants must behave respectfully toward others, judges, and staff.
- Costumes must be appropriate for a general audience (no explicit or offensive content).
- Harassment, discrimination, or disruptive behavior will result in disqualification.

4. Safety Rules

Props & Weapons

- No real weapons of any kind are allowed.
- Prop weapons must be:
 - Clearly fake and made from safe materials (foam, plastic, cardboard).
 - Non-functional (no projectiles, sharp edges, or metal blades).
- Large props must be manageable by the participant without assistance.

- No live animals are permitted as part of your costume

Costume Safety

- Costumes must allow:
 - Clear vision (no fully obstructed masks without assistance).
 - Safe movement (no tripping hazards, excessively long trailing fabric, or unstable stilts).
- No open flames, fireworks, smoke devices, or hazardous materials.
- While full-face masks are allowed during the competition, they are not allowed to be worn throughout the rest of the Festival.

Mobility & Emergency Access

- Costumes must not block aisles, exits, or emergency pathways.
- Participants must be able to quickly remove or adjust costumes in case of emergency.

Supervision

- Children must be supervised by a parent or guardian at all times.
- Family group entries are responsible for ensuring all members follow safety rules.

5. Judging Criteria

Participants will be judged based on:

- Creativity and originality
- Craftsmanship and detail
- Accuracy (for historical category)
- Performance/presentation
- Adherence to safety guidelines

6. Registration & Check-In

- All participants must register before midnight, Thursday, July 10 at this [link](#).
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- Organizers reserve the right to deny participation if standards are not met.

7. Disqualification

Participants may be disqualified for:

- Violating safety rules
- Inappropriate or offensive content
- Unsportsmanlike behavior
- Failure to follow staff instructions

8. Final Notes

- Safety is the top priority—rules are based on best practices from prior events to ensure a fun and secure environment.
- Organizers reserve the right to make final decisions on all rules and interpretations.