



UK qualifier, MCM Birmingham Comic Con, November 2022

1st Prize

- £500 and Trophy
- Automatic entry into the Final of the Cosplay Central Crown Championships at C2E2, Chicago, USA, in Spring 2023
- Two (2) weekend tickets to any MCM Comic Con event within 12 months
- Travel costs for finalist and assistant from UK locations* to Chicago and accommodation (arranged by MCM) to attend the Final of the Cosplay Central Crown Championships at C2E2, Chicago, USA, in Spring 2023

2nd Prize

- £300 and Trophy
- Two (2) weekend tickets to any MCM Comic Con event within 12 months

3rd Prize

- £200 and Trophy
- Two (2) weekend tickets to any MCM Comic Con event within 12 months

**or equivalent cost for participants from the Republic of Ireland.*

Rules

1. All participants must be 18 or older to compete in the Cosplay Central Crown Championships Qualifier at MCM London Comic Con.
2. Applications are open to registered citizens or permanent residents of the UK and the Republic of Ireland
3. Applications must be received between Monday 26th September and Sunday 16th October 2022
4. Each applicant must submit a minimum of one (1) reference image, two (20 images of the costume they wish to enter (with allowance for minor unfinished elements) and a written description which may offer details about the design and construction process, materials and the choice of costume. A panel will assess the applications and select a number of participants to compete to ensure a balanced competition. Participation in the Qualifier will be confirmed no later than Friday 21st October.
5. All selected entrants are responsible for all expenses related to competing in the Championships Qualifier at MCM Birmingham Comic Con including all lodging and travel to and from the convention centre. All contestants must have a badge valid for Saturday at MCM. Entrants are responsible for their own belongings. MCM is unable to provide a secure area for personal items.
6. Group entries are not permitted.
7. Entrants must comply with the MCM costume, weapons and props rules and will be subject to security checks on entry to MCM London Comic Con.
8. Costumes for the Cosplay Central Crown Championships Final must represent an existing or recognizable character or element from the pop culture realm, including comic books, movies and television, video games, anime, manga, theatre or fantasy. Characters or elements from bands, musicians and drag acts are not eligible.
 - a. Costumes replicating published designs from comic books, movies and television, video games, anime, manga, theatre or fantasy, including derivative designs by well-known concept artists that have been publicly available for at least one year and not directly commissioned by the Finalist, will



be judged on “Accuracy” i.e. the detail and steps taken to create a costume that is accurate to the given reference material.

- b. Costumes inspired by existing characters but given an original twist, e.g. character mash ups or interpreting a recognizable character in an alternative style, will be judged on the “Design” choices and decisions taken to create a cohesive costume.
 - c. *Further information on these categories can be found in the [rules for the final](#)*
9. Entrants must have made the costume they are using in selection events and the Final by themselves.
 - a. All significant visible costume elements that can safely be made without assistance must have been constructed entirely by the competitor; If it is impossible or unsafe for a single person to make a costume element, assistance for simple tasks such as holding things in place is acceptable;
 - b. It is acceptable to use bought wigs, shoes, and accessories such as spectacles etc. Simple, largely insignificant base layers such as a leotard or pantyhose are similarly permitted. Any customisation such as styling a wig or modifying shoes must be the sole work of the entrant.
10. Costumes used for the Championships Qualifier or Final must not have been used for any previous international cosplay or costume contest final.
11. The costume should not exceed 2.5 metres in any one dimension, and the entrant should be able to safely move in the costume with limited assistance and the costume must not impede the finalist’s ability to get on and off stage. The MCM team reserve the right to intervene should they believe a costume is not safe to participate on stage.
12. All costumes should provide enough coverage to be worn in public and should be in good taste and appropriate for a family-friendly show.
13. Costumes cannot be obscene or offensive, including insensitive or unnecessary use of makeup, nor endorse any form of hate or any hate group. Gore, graphic violence or other objectionable elements may also be grounds for disqualification as determined by the judges or ReedPop.
14. Costumes cannot promote alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco, firearms/weapons (or the use of any of the foregoing), any activities that may appear unsafe or dangerous or any particular political agenda or message.
15. Costumes must not defame, misrepresent or contain disparaging remarks about Cosplay Central, ReedPop and their products, or other people, products or companies, or communicate messages or images inconsistent with the positive images and/or goodwill with which Cosplay Central and/or ReedPop intends to associate the Competition;
16. Costumes cannot depict, and cannot themselves, be in violation of any English or other applicable law.
17. All accepted contestants must attend craftsmanship judging on the contest day. If accepted, MCM will notify entrants when and where the craftsmanship judging will take place. Entrants must appear in costume at the time of their judging. Construction or progress pictures should be brought by the entrant to their judging session; not supplied electronically. Failure to appear for judging will result in disqualification
18. The weighting for each of the judging criteria is as follows:
 - Accuracy or Design and Ambition- 30%
 - Construction – 70%
 - a. *Further information on these categories can be found in the [rules for the final](#)*
19. Finalists will present their costume on the Main Stage through a walk on and in character posing which showcases their costumes features
 - a. An introduction will be created from the information provided in the application submitted
 - b. The Stage presentation will not be scored directly but may be taken into consideration if the presentation reveals flaws or benefits of the costume’s construction.
 - c. Each Finalist will be on stage for a minimum of thirty (30) seconds and a maximum of two (2) minutes.



- d. Presentations must be suitable for a family audience. No profanity is allowed on stage, including messages on signs or clothes.
 - e. ReedPop will provide background music. Background videos are not accepted.
20. The safety of the audience, staff, and other participants must not be compromised. This means that pyrotechnics, fireworks or any other methods of creating or causing a naked flame or explosion are forbidden; anything that may litter the stage (e.g., glitter or confetti) or make it slippery or sticky is similarly banned. The use of lasers, regardless of strength, is not permitted by the venue.
 - a. Self-generated vapor as part of a costume may be permitted for use on stage following assessment by the ReedPop team but must not be used inside the convention halls.
21. The judges' decisions are final and no further negotiation is permitted. There is no obligation on ReedPop or the judges to provide feedback.
22. All entrants are expected to behave with good conduct and respect each other and the judges.
23. The selected finalist must ensure that they will hold a valid passport with at least 6 month validity at the time of travel to the final in Chicago
24. Selected Finalists are expected to wear the costume that they qualified in for the Championships Final; should a Finalist wish to compete in an alternative costume this may be permitted following discussion with the ReedPop team.
25. Each entrant grants to MCM Expo Limited ("Management"), its employees, agents, and assignees, the absolute and irrevocable right and permission to photograph, film, reproduce, portray and/or otherwise exploit the name, voice, appearance, photograph, image and/or likeness of such Finalist at MCM London Comic Con and/or in the Competition (collectively, "Likeness"), and to use the results and proceeds, without limitation, in materials produced by Management in any and all media, in perpetuity. Competitor hereby waives any claim to compensation for use of such Likeness. Competitor agrees that Management owns the images and all rights related to them. The images may be used by Management in any manner or media without notifying Competitor, such as the Cosplay Central website, publications, promotions, broadcasts, advertisements, and posters, for advertising or other related purposes. Competitor waives any right to inspect or approve the finished images or any printed or electronic matter that may be used with them
26. Release: By accepting a prize, each winner agrees to release and hold harmless MCM and its direct and indirect subsidiaries, suppliers, distributors, advertising/promotion agencies, and prize suppliers (if any), and each of their respective parent companies and each such company's officers, directors, employees and agents, from and against any claim or cause of action, including, but not limited to, personal injury, death, or damage to or loss of property, arising out of participation in the Cosplay Central Crown Championship or receipt or use or misuse of any prize.
27. MCM reserves the right to cancel, suspend and/or modify the Cosplay Central Crown Championship, or any part of it, if any fraud or technical failures or any other factor beyond MCM's reasonable control impairs the integrity or proper functioning of the Cosplay Central Crown Championship, as determined by MCM in its sole discretion. MCM reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any individual it finds to be tampering with the entry process or the operation of the MCM Comic Con Championships of Cosplay or to be acting in violation of the Rules or in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive manner. Any attempt by any person to deliberately undermine the legitimate operation of the MCM Comic Con Championships of Cosplay may be a violation of criminal and civil law, and, should such an attempt be made, MCM reserves the right to seek damages from any such person to the fullest extent permitted by law. MCM's failure to enforce any term of these Rules shall not constitute a waiver of that provision.
28. Limitation of Liability: MCM is not responsible for: (1) any incorrect or inaccurate information, whether caused by entrants, typographical errors, printing errors or by any of the equipment or programming associated with or utilised in the Contest; (2) technical failures of any kind, including but not limited to malfunctions, interruptions, or disconnections in phone lines or network hardware or software; (3)



unauthorised human intervention in any part of the entry process or the Crown Championships; (4) technical or human error which may occur in the administration of the MCM Comic Con Championships of Cosplay or the processing of entries; or (5) any injury or damage to persons or property which may be caused, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, from an entrant's participation in the Crown Championships or receipt or use or misuse of any prize (provided always that MCM or its employees or contractors are not negligent in any way in relation to such injury or damage). If, for any reason, an entrant's entry is confirmed to have been erroneously deleted, lost or otherwise destroyed or corrupted, that entrant's sole remedy is another entry in the Crown Championships, if feasible. If the Cosplay Central Crown Championships, or any part of it, is discontinued for any reason, MCM, in its sole discretion, may elect to hold a random draw from among all eligible entries received up to the date of discontinuance for the prize(s) offered herein.

29. Employees, staff, crew or guests of MCM Expo Limited or any associated company and their immediate families, and persons connected with the Championships e.g. prize sponsors or judges and their agents are not eligible to enter the Cosplay Central Crown Championship.
30. In the event of any dispute arising, these Rules are to be interpreted in accordance with the laws of England and Wales.