

## **Cosplay Contest Rules & Weapons Policy**

Halloween X-SPO encourages fans to Cosplay as their favorite Pop Culture icons! For everyone's safety and for a relaxing event, here are guidelines to use with your Cosplay experience. Costume & daily wear shall not exceed the body in such a way as to be deemed indecent exposure under the WA State & City of Spokane ordinances. Remember this is a family show. Simply put if you wouldn't wear it to the Post Office then do not wear it to the con. If you are still questioning if it's too risqué, then it probably is. All costumes and or props worn within the convention center must fit through a standard doorway without effort. All costumes with limited movement must have a handler to assist them to safely navigate throughout the show.

### **Cosplay Contest Rules:**

1. You must enter a new costume. Previous costumes entered in Halloween X-SPO cosplay contests are not allowed.
2. You may enter as a single or group. Group limit is 5 people. If you enter as a group and win as a group only one single grand prize will be awarded. No additional prizes will be given.
3. "Customized" or "Crafted" means anything you have added to or alterations you have done to your costume. Store bought pants are not customized. Store bought pants with added paint, materials or design changes are considered customized. Kits are acceptable if the contestant has assembled the kit.
4. It goes without saying that you MUST purchase Single Day General Admission to enter the Con to be able to be entered into the contest.
5. All costumes must be of original construction or show major modifications or alterations to pre-existing materials. Costumes that are purchased or otherwise obtained from a professional or retail source will be accepted into the contest.
6. Any props or weapons must adhere to convention rules and be non-working. No projectiles, blades, fire, smoke, pyrotechnics, roller skates are allowed.
7. All costumes must be family friendly. No partial nudity or indecent exposure is allowed. (If you have to ask about it, it's probably not going to be allowed. Just please use common sense.)
8. Any rude gestures, profanity or lewd behavior from any contestant will not be tolerated and the contestant will be removed from the contest immediately.

9. Costumes do not have to be worn by the creator. Costumes can be modeled by contestants, but the creator must be present during the contest.

10. Adults Must be check-in in-person at Cosplay Booth (Main Lobby) in order to enter the contest by 3:00pm PST on Saturday October 18th, 2025, or Youth by 2:00pm PST on Sunday October 19th, 2025.

11. Once all In-Person Cosplay / Costume Registration slots are filled a small waitlist may be created by First Come First Served and do not guarantee entry into the Cosplay contest later.

12. By registering for any category of Halloween X-SPO's Cosplay Contest you are giving consent for our staff photographer to take your picture and to be potentially used in future marketing and promotional materials without compensation.

13. Kids Youth Costume Parade must register in-person at our Cosplay Booth (Main Lobby) by 2:00pm on Sunday October 19th, 2025.

14. Kids will participate in a Costume Parade throughout the show floor before returning to the Main Stage for photos.

15. Kids must be Ages 5-12 years old to qualify for the Youth Costume Parade on Sunday.

16. No Pets or Babies are allowed in the Costume Parade that may give a competitor an unfair "cute" advantage.

17. Wheelchairs are allowed! A service ramp will be connected to the Main Stage for all to access. :)

**At Halloween X-SPO discretion, the following activities are prohibited:**

- Brandishing or swinging your prop item.
- Using a prop item to threaten or intimidate others.
- Hitting, tapping, poking, or otherwise inappropriately touching another person with your prop item.
- Using a prop item to annoy or bother others in a direct or intentional way.
- Pointing a prop item at another person without permission.
- Leaving your prop item unattended at any time.
- Causing damage to personal property.
- No Roller Skating or Rollerblading.

Please exercise caution and be aware of the size of your peace bonded item so as to not inadvertently come in contact with people or property. You are responsible for the interactions of your peace bonded item whether it is in your possession or not. If you let anyone else use or hold your peace bonded item you are responsible for anything that person does with your peace bonded item.

**The following items are prohibited from all Halloween X-SPO events:**

- Items that are or have ever been functional projectile weapons whether or not you have a concealed weapons permit. This includes firearms and airsoft guns even if they have been gutted or filled, functional bows even if the bow string is removed, projectile play weapons such as Nerf brand items, and water squirting items.
- Paddles, for example: yaoi/yuri paddles.
- Live blades, metal-bladed swords, and items with cutting edges such as knives, scissors with sharp tips, and razor blades.
- Spring-loaded wrist blades regardless of material.
- Anything determined to be unsafe to the public.
- Unlawful items.
- Exotic weapons will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.
- Ice skates without blade guards.
- Live ammunition.
- Pepper spray.
- Props that are large enough to impede foot traffic, block doorways/fire exits, or cause a significant hazard to other individuals because of excessive bulk or size.
- No Roller Skates or Rollerblades are allowed inside the Convention Center.

**Weapons & Peace Bonding Policy**

Halloween X-SPO & Lilac City Comicon welcomes and encourages our attendees to come in cosplay and have a great time at events. We desire to foster a positive and encouraging environment where all attendees can enjoy a safe, fun, and memorable event. To that end, we require that anyone bringing in prop items that resemble weapons or are larger than six inches in any dimension, read and adhere to this policy.

## **Weapons Policy:**

1. No real firearms! This includes firearms that shoot only blanks or BB's.
2. Replica weapons must stand out as fake from at least 10 feet away. An Orange Safety tip is required in all replica weapons.
3. If any type of blade weapon is sharp enough or has a pointed tip, so that it might cut or pierce the skin – it will not be allowed into Halloween X-SPO.
4. Solid prop weapons which have enough weight to cause physical harm with even a medium swing are not allowed or MUST BE Peace Bonded prior to entry to the facility.
5. Functioning fake projectile weapons – even “Airsoft”, water guns, squirt guns, and any toy that can fire a projectile, liquid, or object of any type are not allowed.
6. All Weapons & Props may be peace bonded Outside of Convention Center before passing through security checkpoint Your item will be identified so that staff and attendees know it is safe and approved to enter the facility.
7. Even if you are not competing in a Cosplay Contest your prop may still need to be Peace Bonded before entering the Convention Center. It's FREE and takes hardly any time at all to obtain and can be removed after the show is over.
  - Security will involve bag searches using illuminated wands, and metal detectors. If items on your person or something you are carrying triggers the metal detectors you may be asked to identify the items.
  - Convention Center Security Staff might ask you to remove articles of clothing or costume to identify metal on your person. If the Security Staff determine an object to be a security threat, you will be asked to leave and remove the metal object before attempting to re-enter the convention space.
  - All costumes with limited movement must have a handler to assist them to safely navigate throughout the show.
  - Halloween X-SPO and the Spokane Convention Center reserve the right to remove anyone from the building that is acting disrespectful or inappropriate towards others without warning. Don't be that guy.
  - All children under the age of 13 (12 and under) must be accompanied by an Adult during the show. Halloween X-SPO and The Spokane Convention Center are not responsible for supervising your child. Sorry but we are not a day care.
  - If you are in violation of these rules you may be asked to leave the convention center without notice by event staff.