



Cosplay Contest Rule Japan Matsuri 2026

REGISTRATION:

You can register for the Cosplay Contest in Two ways:

1. **Pre-registration:** Via a specific form available on the official “Japan Matsuri” website. Online registration will remain open until **Saturday, September 19 at 6:00 PM.**
2. **On-site registration:** By **Saturday, September 19 at 6:00 PM** at the Info Point. Participants must complete the registration form (downloadable from the official website) and submit any necessary music or video files.

In addition to the registration form, a liability waiver must also be completed; this is available on the official “Japan Matsuri” website. **For participants under 18, the waiver must be signed by a parent or legal guardian.**

We also ask that you send an image of the character(s) you are portraying so the jury can better assess resemblance.

REGISTRATION VALIDATION:

All participants **must report to the Info Point by 12 :30 PM on Sunday, September 20, 2026**, the day of the contest, with a valid ID and a signed waiver. For minors, the waiver must be signed by a parent or legal guardian.

ANYONE WHO FAILS TO CHECK IN BY THE DEADLINE WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. NO EXCEPTIONS.

NOT ALLOWED (According to the Federal Weapons Act):

- **Bladed weapons:** Any sharp or metal weapon such as knives, swords, machetes, bayonets.
- **Firearms:** Any weapon that fires bullets or explosive projectiles (e.g., rifles, guns), fireworks, firecrackers.
- **Incendiary weapons:** Any weapon intended to ignite or burn objects or people.
- **Liquids:** Any liquid product, regardless of its composition.
- **Substances or objects that can stain or damage the stage or equipment:** e.g., firecrackers, smoke bombs, flour, confetti, glitter, foam, etc.
- If the chosen character has weapons, they must not be dangerous to the performer or others (audience or jury).

- Inappropriate performances (e.g., discriminatory content, sexual acts, obscenity, vulgarity, etc.), violations of any applicable laws, or failure to follow the rules and common sense will result in **immediate disqualification** and interruption of the performance.
- Costumes must not offend **public sensitivity**. Use of fake blood splashes, severed limbs, etc., is strictly prohibited. However, fake blood can be used as part of makeup or costume details.
- **Acrobatic performances** (e.g., flips, stunts) are only allowed for individuals who practice such activities professionally or as a sport, not as amateurs. These are done at your own risk and must not cause harm to the event, facilities, or individuals.

By entering the contest, participants **implicitly agree** to this regulation in full. The organizers reserve the right, at their sole discretion, to remove or disqualify anyone at any time and without prior notice for non-compliance.

The organizers accept no responsibility for accidents and reserve the right to disqualify any participant at any time.

PERFORMANCE:

Participants may submit a video or audio file to be played during their performance. If only an audio file is provided, a background image may be projected.

1. The time limit is **1 minute and 30 seconds** for individual participants and **3 minutes** for groups.
2. **Audio Track:** It must be a single file in **mp3 or wav** format. Other formats will **NOT** be accepted. Links to YouTube, Dailymotion, or other hosting sites are not allowed.
3. **Video Track:** It must be a single file in **mp4 or avi** format. Other formats will **NOT** be accepted. Links to YouTube, Dailymotion, or other hosting sites are not allowed.
4. Only JPG/JPEG or PNG formats will be accepted for the reference image (links to Google Drive or similar services are NOT permitted).
5. If you wish to project a video with music, a **single combined file** MUST be submitted.
6. If you wish to project an image with music, a **single combined file** MUST be submitted.
7. Neither the audio file nor the video file may exceed the maximum performance time allowed. **No exceptions will be made**; otherwise, the files will **NOT** be accepted.

8. The organization is **NOT** able to modify audio or video files. Therefore, any files that do **NOT** comply with the specified requirements will **NOT** be accepted.
9. If a participant arrives with audio and video provided as **separate files**, they will **NOT** be accepted.
10. **If the audio/video files exceed the time limits specified** (see point 1), the organization reserves the right to reject them without exceptions. Additionally, **any performance that exceeds the allowed time limit** (even in the case of live dialogues or monologues) may be **interrupted**.

PROPS AND STAGE EQUIPMENT:

You may request a microphone, table, or chairs for your performance.

Large or heavy props must be transported and set up independently by the participant. Helpers (friends, family, etc.) must have their own entry ticket.

The staff may assist with placing small items on stage before the performance.

JURY:

The jury will evaluate each contestant based on overall resemblance to the character (please provide a reference photo upon registration), performance, execution, difficulty, and quality of the costume/accessories.

Their decision is final and non-negotiable.

The organization reserves the right to modify these rules at any time.

For questions, you can contact the staff at the email address: : cosplayjm@gmail.com

These rules were last modified on 15.06.2026