



COSPLAY COMPETITION & PARADES

In 2025, PopCon will again hold a Cosplay Competition and Cosplay Parade. PopCon invites Cosplay enthusiasts of all ages to enter the competition and be a part of the parade.

There will be one Cosplay Parade for Cosplayers of all ages.

The Cosplay Championship will have four competition categories –Best in Show, Crowd Favourite, Best Prop and Best Skit, with prizes awarded to the winner of each category.

COMPETITION & PARADE DETAILS

PRE-REGISTRATIONS OPEN:	Thursday 28 August 2025
ENTRY FEE:	Parade and all categories - FREE
EVENT DATE:	Saturday 13 September 2025

COSPLAY PARADE:

MEETING TIME:	5:05pm (meet at corner of Roseberry St & Goondoon St in front of Auswide Bank)
PARADE TIME:	5:15pm

COMPETITION CATEGORIES:	Best in Show, Crowd Favourite, Best Prop and Best Skit
ONLINE REGISTRATIONS CLOSE:	Thursday 11 September - <i>if you miss this date, you can register in person at the event from 3pm-5pm.</i>
PRE-JUDGING TIME:	6pm – meet at the GECC Merch Desk
COMPETITION TIME:	7:20pm – 8pm – meet at marshalling point (side stage)

COSPLAY PARADE

The Cosplay Parade is a great event showcasing the talent of cosplayers at PopCon. It gives participants of all ages the chance to strut their stuff alongside our Special Guest Cosplayers. Participants can enter this as individuals or as a group and both handmade and store-bought costumes are eligible to participate. The Cosplay Parade is a great way to build confidence for those wishing to enter Cosplay competitions in the future. No questions will be asked, or skits required to be performed for this category.



The Cosplay Parade will commence at the top of PopCon Way, parading through the event. It will disband at the bottom of PopCon Way. Registration is not required for the Cosplay Parade. To be ready for the Parade, please make your way to the top of PopCon Way at 5:05pm, ready for the cosplay parade commencing at 5:15pm.

The Cosplay Parade is not a judged event. Participants may enter the Cosplay Parade as well as the official Cosplay Championship.

COSPLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

Are you a step above the Cosplay Parade and ready to be crowned a PopCon Cosplay Champion? The Cosplay Championship is PopCon's competition for mainstream Cosplay competitors. This event is perfect for Cosplayers to showcase their crafting talents or perform a skit and play the part of their cosplay character. There are four judging categories in the Cosplay Championship - Best in Show, Crowd Favourite, Best Prop and Best Skit, with prizes awarded to the winner of each category.

All entrants in the Cosplay Championship will be eligible to win the Best in Show and Crowd Favourite categories. Entrants wanting to enter the Best Skit or Best Prop categories must advise the judges that they are entering these categories, in their pre-judging.

The Cosplay Championship is open to solo applicants or groups of up to four cosplayers. However, there will only be one trophy and prize presented to a solo or group winner. All entries must represent a character or element from pop culture including comic books, movies, television, video games, anime & manga, and fantasy. To be eligible to enter the Cosplay Championship, costumes or props must be wholly or partially made. Store bought costumes and props will not feature in the Cosplay Championship. They are, however, eligible to enter the Cosplay Parade. If you do not have a prearranged skit, you may be asked to say something in character - so be prepared!

To enter this competition, you can pre-register by 11 September. Due to the limited number of spots available in the competition, the Cosplay Championship may close before the registration end time, without notice.

Cosplay Championship entrants will be required for pre-judging from 6pm. All entrants are to meet at the GECC merch desk for pre-judging at 6pm. Entrants who are not present for pre-judging will not be eligible to be judged for the four category prizes.



Once pre-judging is complete, entrants will be required to meet at the marshalling point (side stage) at 7:05pm, 15 minutes prior to the competition at 7:20pm.

COSPLAY CHAMPIONSHIP PRIZES

Best in Show - \$200 Gift Card + Trophy + Certificate

Crowd Favourite - \$200 Gift Card + Trophy + Certificate

Best Prop – \$100 Gift Card + Trophy + Certificate

Best Skit - \$100 Gift Card + Trophy + Certificate

THE RULES

1. Skits are optional for anyone participating in the competition. The skit cannot exceed two (2) minutes in length and will be cut off if it goes any longer. Skits need to follow our general guidelines and if not followed will lead to disqualification from the competition. Guidelines include:
 - Keep the skit PG – we are a family event
 - No acrobatics on stage – no matter how amazing
 - No water, sparkles, rose petals or other materials that could be considered a slipping/clean-up hazard – what you take on stage needs to come off stage at the end of your performance.
 - Any special effects or props you wish to use on stage must be pre-approved by PopCon staff prior to your performance (include this in your 'skit description')
 - Specific 'background music' or other audio played on stage during your performance is not available, unless pre-arranged with PopCon staff, prior to the event. We will not accept music on the day.
 - No profanity, slander, swearing or any language/comments that could be deemed inappropriate by PopCon Staff. This includes messages on signs or clothes. No political or religious statements are allowed on stage or during judging.



2. Props are a handheld object part of a larger costume (i.e. Helmet, but not full armour or Sword, but not full costume) and not an entire costume. Props can be made in several different ways from foam, worbla to fabric, molding, and casting.
3. 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.
4. Costumes cannot be obscene or offensive, endorse any form of hate or hate group.
5. Costumes cannot defame, misrepresent, or contain disparaging remarks about PopCon or its products, or other people, exhibitors, or companies.
6. No nudity. All costumes should provide enough coverage to be worn in public and should be in good taste and appropriate for a family-friendly show. Gore, graphic violence, or other objectionable elements may be grounds for disqualification as determined by the judges or PopCon Staff.

**Cosplay registration forms or additional information can be requested
by contacting the GRC Community Events team on 4972 2822 or
communityevents@gladstone.qld.gov.au**

**or at the GECC Box Office at 56 Goondoon Street, Gladstone from Thursday 21st August.
The GECC Box Office is open Monday - Friday 8:45am – 4:30pm.**