

Rules For Contestants

To be eligible for the qualifiers:

- The contestant must have the citizenship of Austria, or have a permanent residence for at least 2 years in Austria.
- The contestant must be at least 18 years old.

To participate in the finals:

- The contestant becomes a finalist by winning the qualifier at AniNite 2024.
- In the finals, the contestant must bring the same costume that they had in Austria. They are allowed (and encouraged) to make improvements, by adding props and similar to their costume.

Rules For Costumes

- The contestant's cosplay must be **self-made** with the exception of lenses, shoes, wigs and minor details (clasps, buttons, small jewelry and similar).
- If shoes and wigs are altered after purchase, the contestant must do it personally.
- The contestant is allowed to have help with making of the costume, but only if such help is limited, and the contestant did the **majority of work on their own**.
- The contestant must disclose to the judges if they had any help with the costume. This may affect their final score.
- Costumes must be based upon **officially published fictional characters**. No original cosplays or cosplays based on fan-arts are allowed.
- The contestant must state clearly **which version of which character** their costume is portraying and must present reference pictures.
- The audience might include **under-aged viewers**. Costumes and performances must be decent enough to be presentable in front of them.
- Contestants **cannot reuse a costume** in which they won a qualifier or the finals in previous years. They can reuse only those costumes in which they competed earlier but did not win.

Rules For Judging

The rules for judging and scoring at qualifier events and the finals must follow the same standard.

- The competitors are judged by a jury of experienced individuals.
- The costume is judged behind the scenes, where the judges can inspect the costume in detail and ask questions about how the costume was made.
- The performance of the cosplayer will be judged based on their performance on stage.
- The jury has the right to exclude any contestants if they suspect that their costume (or major parts of it) was bought or commissioned.

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Rules For Scoring

Judges assign scores to each contestant based on the following categories:

Performance on stage.

It makes up **20%** of the score.

- 0-2 poor performance
- 3 average performance
- 4 good performance
- 5 outstanding performance

Resemblance: accuracy of impersonation. This includes makeup, wig-styling, acting in character, etc. It makes up **20%** of the score.

- 0-2 poor resemblance
- 3 average resemblance
- 4 good resemblance
- 5 outstanding resemblance

Prop: If the contestant has a prop, the prop quality makes up **20%** of the score.

- 0-2 weak prop.
- 3 average prop, good in one aspect, but has weak points.
- 4 good prop (good crafting, special effects or design, but not perfect)
- 5 outstanding prop

Costume: needlework and/or crafting and/or special effects as applicable. It makes up **40%** of the score if the contestant has a prop, **60%** if not.

- 0-2 weak costume
- 3-4 costume with some weak points
- 5-6 decent costume, but either not remarkable or has both strong and weak points.
- 7-8 impressive costume with only minor weak points.
- 9-10 outstanding costume, with many challenging parts and no weak points.
- Multiply these scores by x1.5 if the contestant has no prop.





Stage Rules

- Stage decoration is allowed if it can be set up within 60 seconds before the act by AniNite staff.
- Stage decoration must be able to stand alone on stage and must be able to be carried around easily by contestants.
- Spilling of liquids, bubbles, fire, use of laser pointers, scattering of powder or similar, chemical effects, dry ice, open flames and explosion effects are not permitted and will result in disqualification.

Stage Rules for the 2024 finals

- The length of the stage performance must be at least 2 minutes, but no more than 3 minutes.
- The contestant must submit either a video or a picture with a music track. This will be displayed during their performance. There are certain technical requirements concerning these materials.
- Special effects must be discussed with the organizers in advance. Sharp blades are strongly discouraged and the organizers must be informed in advance.

