**General Cosplay Rules:**

1. Cosplayers must have a ticket to Sci-Fi Central to enter the cosplay contest. Sci-Fi Central will check for tickets the day of.
2. All cosplayers are encouraged to pre-register online to participate in the cosplay contest. **The deadline to register for the Sci-Fi Central Cosplay Contest is 1 PM the day of the event.**
3. Cosplayers must have a costume to participate in the Contest. Cosplayers may not enter more than one costume.
4. Due to time constraints, we will only accept a specific number of entries before opening a waiting list.
5. All registered cosplayers will check-in immediately upon arrival at Sci-Fi Central during the convention on Saturday. At check-in, they will receive the time that cosplayers are required to line up for the contest and the location to line up at.
6. All pre-registered participants are automatically included in the show selection. Day of, if no shows or cancellations occur, cosplayers from the waitlist may be selected to participate in their place. Waitlist participants will receive specific instructions on this process prior to the show.
7. Judges will grade only the cosplay entered into the official contest and will not be provided past cosplay photos prior to judging.
8. Contestants must enter as individuals.
9. Cosplays and presentations, which includes language and thematic content, must be limited to a PG rating, or “family friendly.”
10. Presentations are limited to 30 seconds.
11. Do not throw anything off the stage or leave anything on the stage when you exit. Violations of this rule may result in loss of points from the cosplayer’s overall score or disqualification from the contest. Disqualifications will be made at the discretion of the judges.

**SCI-FI CENTRAL Cosplay Contest Rules and Criteria**

*SPECIAL NOTE: Contestants under the age of 16 will be judged in our Juvenile category. Ages 16 and up will be included in the adult category.*

1. **Costumes will be judged on craftsmanship, originality, and presentation.**
   - Craftsmanship is based on the quality of the costume and how well it matches the character being presented.
   - Originality is how unique or unusual the cosplay is.
   - Presentation is based on the quality of the stage presentation.
2. **Cosplayers will be awarded points by the panel of judges based on these categories.**
3. **All participating cosplays must be at least 25% modified/handmade.**
   - Percentages may be flexible depending on costume, and level of work put into existing modifications at the judges’ discretion
   - “Modified” includes removing or adding pieces of detailing, tailoring, painting, distressing, etc.
   - “Off the shelf,” store-bought costumes will lose points, but commissioned costumes can be worn and entered into the cosplay contest provided there is full disclosure from the contestant, and designer is present to co-receive the prize.