Official ToshoCon Cosplay Rules and Guidelines

1. All weapons must comply with Virginia State law. Any guns resembling existing firearms must have an orange tip and be non-functional.

2. No projectiles will be allowed. Any firearms must be non-functional. Leave any clips at home or in the car as they will not be allowed inside. Bows and arrows without real tips will be allowed for display, but are not to be drawn or pointed at any other guests.

3. NO METAL WEAPONS. There are plenty of safe alternatives. (Cardboard, foam, plastic, etc.)

4. Do not draw or aim weapons in the library, on library property, or towards library guests whether they are congoers or not.

5. Please, no foul language or sexuality. This is a family event. This includes costumes.

6. Attendees participating in the cosplay contest must be between the ages of 12-17 or a senior in high school.

7. If you are participating in the cosplay contest, bring a picture and brief description of the character you are representing. This will help our judges during the pre-judging phase of the contest.

8. There are NO skill division categories for our cosplay contest at this time.

9. You may go onstage as a group, but you must register together as a group and will be judged individually. All group members must be present at registration.

10. Stage time is limited to three minutes. This includes groups.

11. While participating in the cosplay contest, please, no threatening poses towards the spectators or judges. This includes flips or kicks. The stage is very small and someone may get hurt.

12. NO microphones may be used by the contestants. Except for the written emcee introduction, all audio material must be pre-recorded on a CD.

13. To have music or dialog accompany your presentation, you must pre-record it on a CD and you MUST bring the CD when you register so that the track can be reviewed, approved, and loaded onto our equipment. Once approved, your CD will be kept by the volunteer in case the track has to be re-copied. If your track exceeds the time limit it WILL be cut off at the time limit.
14. Participants who win in the cosplay contest are asked to stay so that we may take your photos to post on the official Newport News Library Facebook page and website.

15. During the dance, please keep all footwear on. Also place any props or cosplay weapons on the tables or along the wall. Do NOT dance with these objects in hand.

16. Please remember that these rules are for the safety of yourself and other congoers. Compliance ensures a safe and fun convention environment for everyone, guests and cosplayers alike. If you have any questions regarding these rules, please be sure to speak with our friendly volunteer staff at the event. We reserve the right to modify these rules at any time, based on safety needs and/or concerns.