

## **Otakuthon 2008: Masquerade Rules**

Entry types:

i) **Sketch/Skit:** A short scripted performance of maximum **ONE (1) minute**. May be performed alone or as part of a group, however larger groups will NOT be given more time. If the skit should run over the time limit, the entry will be disqualified, sound and lighting will be cut and the participant(s) will be escorted off the stage.

ii) **Parade/Walk-On:** A presentation of the costumer's workmanship. The participant walks onto the stage, poses at center stage showing various angles of their costume and character portrayal, and then exits the opposite side of stage. Background music is permitted and should be supplied by the contestant.

Microphones will **not** be provided for the entrants. It is strongly recommended that participants provide pre-recorded material on audio CD. **No other audio playback means will be provided.** This audio CD should be playable in any ordinary CD player (DO NOT provide MP3s and DO NOT use rewritable CD-RW disks [normal write-once CD-Rs are fine]). To avoid confusion, it is highly recommended to only have one track on the CD and to make sure it plays well before handing it over at the registration table.

The maximum of participants per entry is limited to twelve (12). We will not accept groups larger than this size.

**There is a LIMIT of 40 entry slots TOTAL for the Masquerade.**  
**No EXCEPTIONS will be made, so register early!**

1. Use of open flame, fire, flash powder or flash paper is not allowed. No laser pointers allowed. Sealed electronic flashes are permitted. If you are using a strobe effect, please note it on your form so the MC may warn the audience.
2. No messy substances on stage. If in doubt, ask the Masquerade Director. The stage must be in as good a condition when you leave as when you entered. If you are leaving something on stage, it must be easily retrievable by the stage crew, or you will be expected to bring your own ninja for that purpose.
3. No flagrant nudity. This presentation follows PG movie rating guidelines: "Parental Guidance Suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children. This signifies that the film rated may contain some material parents might not like to expose to their young children - material that will clearly need to be examined or inquired about before children are allowed to attend the film. Explicit sex scenes and scenes of drug use are absent; horror and violence do not exceed moderate levels."  
([www.filmrating.com](http://www.filmrating.com))
4. No real firearms, no realistic copies, and no projectile weapons are allowed. No metal blades are allowed, regardless if they are dull or live. If your costume requires a bow, it must be unstrung when you are not on stage. All weapons must follow the Convention's Weapons Policy. **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.**

5. Each person may participate in only ONE entry during the Masquerade. Individuals may enter several costumes into competition, but they can only wear one of them and the others must be worn by other Masquerade contestants.
6. Contestants must report to the Masquerade Green Room **on time**. Report times will be supplied at the convention at the Masquerade Registration Desk. **Failure to appear or to be ready to go on stage may result in disqualification.** Note that Acts of God may, to an extent, mitigate this.
7. The Masquerade Directors reserve the right to remove anyone from competition based on taste, danger to the audience or other contestants, or for any other reason deemed sufficient.
8. This is an amateur competition. Professional costumers are ineligible for awards, but may still present their work during the show in the Out-of-Competition category.
9. Commissioned costumes are allowed only if the **designer** of the costume has filled out and signed the registration sheet. While the designer does not have to walk on stage, his/her presence in the Green Room is obligatory. Costumes bought online will NOT accepted. Wigs and small accessories/jewel are exempt of this rule.
10. The decisions of the judges are final. Other than categories, types of awards will be determined at the discretion of the judges and Masquerade Director.