

Halo World Championship 2022 – Cosplay Contest – Official Rules

1. SPONSOR

These Official Rules (“Rules”) govern the operation of the Halo World Championship 2022 – Cosplay Contest taking place between October 20th and October 23rd, 2022, at the Seattle Convention Center in Seattle, Washington (the “Contest” or “Event”). Microsoft’s 343 Industries (“343i”), One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington, 98052 is the Contest Sponsor (“Sponsor”). Esports Engine (“EE”) is the Contest Administrator (“Administrator”).

2. DEFINITIONS

In these Rules, “Microsoft”, “343 Industries”, “343i”, “we”, “our”, and “us”, refer to Sponsor and “you” and “yourself” refers to a Contest participant, or the parent/legal guardian of any Contest entrant who has not reached the age of majority to contractually obligate themselves in their legal place of residence. By entering you (your parent/legal guardian if you are not the age of majority in your legal place of residence) agree to be bound by these Rules.

3. ENTRY PERIOD

The Contest will operate during regular event hours from October 20, 2022 to October 23, 2022 (“Entry Period”).

4. ELIGIBILITY

Open to any registered Event attendee 18 years of age or older who is a legal resident of the 50 United States (including the District of Columbia). If you are 18 years of age or older but have not reached the age of majority in your legal place of residence, then you must have consent of a parent/legal guardian.

Employees and directors of Microsoft Corporation, 343i, Esports Engine, and its subsidiaries, affiliates, advertising agencies, and Contest Parties are not eligible, nor are persons involved in the execution or administration of this promotion, or the family members of each above (parents, children, siblings, spouse/domestic partners, or individuals residing in the same household). Void where prohibited.

5. HOW TO ENTER

To enter, participants will be asked to dress up as their favorite Halo Franchise character or original creation that is rooted in Halo lore and visit the ticketing registration desk to complete an official entry form or register online here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScUa0WriFzf_x_DTels2PT1TmjHaSnvQx3bP9My_KaeO1Rrxw/viewform?usp=sharing

Costume Weapon and Prop Stipulations:

1. Only simulated costume weapons and props are allowed in the Contest, and subject to prior inspection and approval by the Administration and Seattle police. Ultimately, the Administration and Seattle police will decide what simulated weapons and props are permitted. However, the following general guidelines will apply.
2. Live firearms including airsoft, either functioning or de-commissioned, are not permitted.

3. Replica firearms made from metal, solid resin/plastic/rubber are not permitted.
4. All firearm costume props and weapons must be rendered inoperable and are required to have an orange safety tip at all times.
5. Any bow-type weapons must be unstrung or strung with a low-tensile thread. All prop arrows must have soft, non-metal, blunted tips made out of foam or cardboard only.
6. Metal or wooden baseball bats or clubs of any kind are not permitted
7. Metal swords, knives and spears are not permitted. Any sharp implements are likewise not permitted (to include needles, syringes, or ceramic blades).
8. Any simulated weapon or prop that produces flames will not be permitted.
9. Stilts and costumes which include stilts may be prohibited from certain venues. Be aware that you may be asked to remove them.
10. If your simulated weapon or prop is not approved for entry into the Contest, you will be allowed to leave it in the venue's 24-hour security office (at your own risk) and retrieve it when you leave the venue. Otherwise, you will be asked to take the simulated weapon or prop back to your vehicle or hotel room.

There is a limit of one (1) entry per person.

Any attempt by you to obtain more than the stated number of entries by using multiple/different accounts, identities, registrations, logins, or any other methods will void your entries and you may be disqualified. Use of any automated system to participate is prohibited.

We are not responsible for excess, lost, late, or incomplete entries. If disputed, entries will be deemed submitted by the "authorized account holder" of the email address, social media account, or other method used to enter. The "authorized account holder" is the natural person assigned to an email address by an internet or online service provider, or other organization responsible for assigning email addresses.

6. ELIGIBLE ENTRY

To be eligible, an entry must meet the following content/technical requirements:

- Your entry must be your own original work; **and**
- You must have obtained all consents, approvals, or licenses required for you to submit your entry; **and**
- To the extent that entry requires the submission of user-generated content such as software, photos, videos, music, artwork, essays, etc., entrants warrant that their entry is their original work, has not been copied from others without permission or apparent rights, and does not violate the privacy, intellectual property rights, or other rights of any other person or entity. You may include Microsoft trademarks, logos, and designs, for which Microsoft grants you a limited license to use for the sole purposes of submitting an entry into this Contest; **and**
- Your entry may NOT contain, as determined by us in our sole and absolute discretion, any content that is obscene or offensive, violent, defamatory, disparaging or illegal, or that promotes alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco or a particular political agenda, or that communicates messages that may reflect negatively on the goodwill of Microsoft.

7. USE OF ENTRIES

We are not claiming ownership rights to your Submission. However, by submitting an entry, you grant us an irrevocable, royalty-free, worldwide right and license to use, review, assess, test and otherwise

analyze your entry and all its content in connection with this Contest and use your entry in any media whatsoever now known or later invented for any non-commercial or commercial purpose, including, but not limited to, the marketing, sale or promotion of Microsoft products or services, without further permission from you. You will not receive any compensation or credit for use of your entry, other than what is described in these Official Rules.

By entering you acknowledge that we may have developed or commissioned materials similar or identical to your entry and you waive any claims resulting from any similarities to your entry. Further you understand that we will not restrict work assignments of representatives who have had access to your entry and you agree that use of information in our representatives' unaided memories in the development or deployment of our products or services does not create liability for us under this agreement or copyright or trade secret law.

Your entry may be posted on a public website. We are not responsible for any unauthorized use of your entry by visitors to this website. We are not obligated to use your entry for any purpose, even if it has been selected as a winning entry.

8. WINNER SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION

Judging will take place in multiple rounds as follows:

Round 1 - Preliminary Judging: The Administration, in its sole discretion, will pre-judge the initial thirty-two (32) Participants. The pre-judging will result in eight (8) Participants being eliminated from the Contest. The remaining twenty-four (24) Participants will advance to the Initial Judging Round. Judges will use the following criteria to determine advancements and eliminations from this phase of the Contest:

25% - Execution: How well the costume is constructed

25% - Creativity: Design choices, use of unused materials, personalized embellishments

25% - Complexity: The range of skills and techniques used for construction of the costume

25% - Accuracy: How close the costume is to the source material

Round 2: Initial Judging Round: The Initial Judging Round will consist of the remaining twenty-four (24) Participants from the Preliminary Judging Round. Participants will be divided into two heats of twelve (12) each. Each heat will be given its own time slot, the scheduled time and date for each heat will be publicized to Participants prior to the scheduled date/time. Each Participant will have a total of three (3) minutes of stage time to display their costume to the Judges. The Administration reserves the right to ask the Participant questions on stage during their allotted time. The top three (3) Participants overall, irrespective of heat, will advance to the Final Judging Round. Judges will use the following criteria to determine advancements and eliminations from this phase of the Contest:

25% - Execution: How well the costume is constructed

25% - Creativity: Design choices, use of unused materials, personalized embellishments

25% - Complexity: The range of skills and techniques used for construction of the costume

25% - Accuracy: How close the costume is to the source material

Round 3: Final Judging Round: The Final Judging Round will consist of the top three (3) Participants from the Initial Judging Round. Each Participant will have a total of three (3) minutes of stage time to display their costume to the Judges. The Administration reserves the right to ask the Participant

questions on stage during their allotted time. The three (3) Participants will be ranked from #1 - #3 by the Judges. These ranks will be used for prizing purposes. The Participant ranked #1 will be considered the Contest winner. Judges will use the following criteria to determine advancements and eliminations from this phase of the Contest:

25% - Execution: How well the costume is constructed

25% - Creativity: Design choices, use of unused materials, personalized embellishments

25% - Complexity: The range of skills and techniques used for construction of the costume

25% - Accuracy: How close the costume is to the source material

In the event of a tie between any eligible entries, an additional judge will break the tie based on the judging criteria described above. The decisions of the judges are final and binding. If we do not receive enough entries meeting the entry requirements, we may, at our discretion, select fewer winners than the number of Contest Prizes described below. If public vote determines winners, it is prohibited for any person to obtain votes by any fraudulent or inappropriate means, including offering prizes or other inducements in exchange for votes, automated programs or fraudulent i.d.'s. Microsoft will void any questionable votes.

Winners will be notified instantly at the event and may be required to complete a prize claim and tax form ("Forms"). If a selected winner cannot be contacted, is ineligible, fails to claim a prize or fails to return any Forms, the selected winner will forfeit their prize and an alternate winner will be selected time allowing. Only three alternate winners will be selected, after which unclaimed prizes will remain unawarded.

9. PRIZES

The total prize pool for the Contest is \$5,000 USD. The prize pool will be divided amongst Participants according to the following distribution.

1st Place - \$3,000 USD

2nd Place - \$1,500 USD

3rd Place - \$500 USD

Prizes will be awarded as a check made payable to the winner. We will only award one (1) prize per person. No more than the stated number of prizes will be awarded. No substitution, transfer, or assignment of prize permitted, except that Microsoft reserves the right to substitute a prize of equal or greater value in the event the offered prize is unavailable. Prize winners may be required to complete and return prize claim and / or tax forms ("Forms") within the deadline stated in the winner notification. Taxes on the prize, if any, are the sole responsibility of the winner, who is advised to seek independent counsel regarding the tax implications of accepting a prize. By accepting a prize, you agree that Microsoft may use your entry, name, image and hometown online and in print, or in any other media, in connection with this Contest without payment or compensation to you, except where prohibited by law.

10. ODDS

The odds of winning are based on the number and quality of eligible entries received.

11. GENERAL CONDITIONS AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

To the extent allowed by law, by entering you agree to release and hold harmless Microsoft and its respective parents, partners, subsidiaries, affiliates, employees, and agents from any and all liability or any injury, loss, or damage of any kind arising in connection with this Contest or any prize won. All local laws apply. The decisions of Microsoft are final and binding.

We reserve the right to cancel, change, or suspend this Contest for any reason, including cheating, technology failure, catastrophe, war, or any other unforeseen or unexpected event that affects the integrity of this Contest, whether human or mechanical. If the integrity of the Contest cannot be restored, we may select winners from among all eligible entries received before we had to cancel, change or suspend the Contest.

If you attempt or we have strong reason to believe that you have compromised the integrity or the legitimate operation of this Contest by cheating, hacking, creating a bot or other automated program, or by committing fraud in any way, we may seek damages from you to the full extent of the law and you may be banned from participation in future Microsoft promotions.

12. GOVERNING LAW

This Contest will be governed by the laws of the State of Washington, and you consent to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the courts of the State of Washington for any disputes arising out of this Contest.

13. WINNERS LIST

Send an email to tashi@343industries.com with the subject line "HALOWC 2022 COSPLAY CONTEST WINNERS" within 30 days of OCTOBER 22 2023 to receive a list of winners that received a prize worth \$25.00 or more

14. PRIVACY

Your privacy is important to us. Microsoft uses the personal data you provide **to notify you of important information about our products, upgrades and enhancements, and to send you information about other Microsoft products and services.** We share your personal data with your consent or as necessary to complete any transaction or provide any service you have requested. We also share data with Microsoft-controlled affiliates and subsidiaries; with vendors working on our behalf; when required by law or to respond to legal process; to protect our customers; to protect lives; to maintain the security of our services; and to protect the rights or property of Microsoft. Microsoft is committed to protecting the security of your personal data. We use a variety of security technologies and procedures to help protect your personal information from unauthorized access, use, or disclosure. Your personal data is never shared outside the company without your permission, except under the conditions explained above. For more information about Microsoft's Privacy Practices, see <https://aka.ms/privacy>.

If you believe that Microsoft has not adhered to this statement, please contact us at <https://aka.ms/privacyresponse>. We will respond to questions within 30 days.