

K-POP DANCE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP by COMICON K-POP DANCE FIGHT FEST: RULES AND REGULATIONS

1 Definitions & Organization

The COMICON International Exhibition takes place every year between late April and early May at the Mostra d'Oltremare in Naples. COMICON is organized by the company Visiona scarl (VAT No. 06336071219). Among many scheduled events (musical, artistic, spectacular, cultural, seminar and others), during COMICON the "K-pop crew Battle Festival" is held every year, and since the year 2023 the festival has hosted the K-Pop Dance Fight Fest - National Finals. Since 2023, the European K-Pop Dance Fight Fest has been organized, in cooperation between Comicon and K-ble Jungle (organizers) and Etna Comics (festival hosting the European finals).

2 - Subject and circuit festival

The "K-Pop Dance Fight Fest" is a dance competition on Korean pop music aimed at rewarding the best performance. This annual contest will see a competition of the crews (teams) representing the nations whose festivals have joined, with a maximum of one festival per nation. It is aimed at electing the champion team of Europe, through selections to be made during contests at major European events and an international final. The points that the jury will give the participants may be given for the ability to interact with the audience, costumes, theatricality of the performance, makeup and other qualities, which will however be secondary to the dance.

The finals will be organized by Comicon and hosted by Etna Comics in Catania on June 8th, with support from K-ble Jungle.

The festivals that have joined the circuit are:

- 1. Yunicon Vienna (Austria)
- 2. Comicon Naples (Italy)
- 3. Magnificon Krakow (Poland)
- 4. Manga Barcelona (Spain)
- 5. Animefest Brno (Czech Republic, Slovakia)
- 6. Unicon Riga (Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania)
- 7. Paris Manga & Sci-Fi Show (France)
- 8. to be confirmed

3 – Requirements for participation

The specific requirements for the finals at Etna Comics, provided by the KDFF organization, are as follows: only K-Pop DANCE crews that have passed the national selections of the partner festivals may participate in the selection for the **European K-Pop Dance Championship**.

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The crew participating in the European finals must be composed of at least 50 percent members who participated in the national finals, excluding any minors who are not eligible for the European finals but can participate in the national finals. The participating members of the crew shall hold the passport (or a valid residency permit) from the country as for the list on point 2 of these rules.

4 – Registration for the final

Winning crews from each circuit should send an email by June 1 to info@kpop-contest.eu, with a copy to silvio@comicon.it., confirming their participation:

• Group name

- First name, last name, age of each member (age of majority is required)
- name of leader (or contact person)
- leader's cell phone number and e-mail
- song performed and original artist
- video reference of the song
- video/music base in MP3 format
- photo of reference costume, if the costume mirrors the artist's original costume, or two lines of explanation on concept if it is an original costume (in JPG format and max size 2Mb)
- Release for use of images and videos recorded during the performance and/or at any time within the festival
- date and place of the festival where they were selected

On-site confirmation of participation: each pre-registered participant must show up **on the morning of the finals** at the K-ble Jungle booth in the **Asian Wave** area of Etna Comics with the release form and ID.

5 - Technical Issues/Manner of Conduct.

Song:

It is possible to submit a different song than the one you won the national selection with. The competition is limited to original pieces by artists that fall under the K-pop sphere and therefore songs that have been submitted in Korean Shows for the market.

Number of participants in a crew:

The maximum limit for this edition is 7 members per group. It is not necessary to respect the number of members of the group whose dance cover is being done, it is sufficient to respect the original steps of the choreography. Therefore, it is also possible to dance the steps of the stage dancers. The choreography can be readjusted according to the number of members.

It is possible to change the lineup that showed up at the regional selections, but at least half of the crew must be made up of the same members from the selections.

Crews may not exceed the maximum number of members of the group chosen to be represented (e.g., TXT are five, there will show up in 6), but may be less.

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Order and schedule:

Before the competition, the order number of the lineup will be assigned, and this will be communicated on the morning of the competition when the registration is confirmed. On the morning of the finals it will be possible to have the stage available for a few minutes for a short technical rehearsal, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. unless notice is given that this time is modified.

Participants should be near the stage at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start time of the competition. Access to the stage will be regulated by the organization staff who will invite participants to enter the stage respecting the order of call.

Performance

A maximum of 6 minutes will be given to each participants. In case the song has more than one choreography, the group must choose only one and not mix them; otherwise they will be disqualified. It is possible to include an intro to the song, to make the performance more interesting to the audience, but the jury will not take this into account in the evaluation score.

It is possible to perform with props that are allowed by the rules.

If the performance extends beyond the stipulated time limit, with obvious harm to other participants, the performance will be brought to an abrupt end so as to continue with the competition. Should those in charge of monitoring the proper conduct of the competition deem it appropriate, such non-compliance will be punished by exclusion from the competition.

Getting on and off stage

Participants will be assembled in a prearranged area near the back-stage side entrance and then conveyed in the direction of the stage entrance by the attendants in charge, so as to create a continuous flow of performances on the stage; participants will be called to perform by the presenters and only then will they be allowed access to the front of the stage. At the end of the call, participants will be given a few moments to introduce themselves, but at the hosts' discretion.

6 – Restrictions and Obligations

• Choreography or performances containing obscene and vulgar acts, turpiloquy or similar behavior are not allowed; if there is only one step deemed 'vulgar', disqualification will not be applied. If you have any doubts please send us a message/email and specify whether the song is suitable or not.

• No real weapons, explosives or accessories with flames, water and liquid jets, foams or foaming substances, smoke bombs, firecrackers, throwing of heavy and/or blunt objects are allowed.

• Acts referable to the crime of blasphemy or racial hatred and otherwise offending the common sense of decency are not permitted.





Any performance in poor taste, against any applicable law, or failure to follow the rules will result in immediate disqualification from the contest and termination of the performance itself (unless further action is taken by the organization to protect itself and the contest).

7 – Competition Categories and Prize

The top three positions will be announced.

Napoli Comicon will exclusively award the National Champion crew with:

- trip including room and board, up to a maximum of 1,500 euros, to a European partner event where the crew will have the opportunity to perform as special guests on the main stage, with at least two K-Pop songs of their choice. Winners will be accompanied by a representative of the Napoli Comicon Festival. Other supporters and friends, and other participating teams, may join the trip at their own expense.
- Promotion of the Champion through all social/web channels of Comicon, K-bleJungle, and media partners (the <u>www.cultura-coreana.it</u> website)

All participants in the finals will receive:

- Merchandising offered by K-ble Jungle and the participating festivals
- A photo shoot to be done on the day of the contest at Etna Comics
- Accommodation for two night in Catania, from 7 to 9 June 2024.

8 – Award Methodology:

At the end of the competition, the jury will retire to choose the winner.

The jurors will evaluate each contestant based on the following characteristics (in order of importance): coordination, technique, energy, fluidity of movement; difficulty of choreography; stage presence and relationship with the audience; and stage costumes and make up. The jury's decisions are final. The jury will be at your disposal

until the end of the show for any clarification. Each juror must take into account the parameters mentioned at point 10 of this document; the sum of these characteristics will form the basis for selecting the winning K-Pop Dance Fight Fest winning crew.

9 – The jury

The Jury of the "Kpop Dance Fight Fest, European Finals" is composed, at the sole discretion of the organization, of experts chosen in the following categories: dance, fashion/cosplay, stage entertainment and K-pop. The jury will be officially presented at least one week before the national finals.

In the event of unforeseen unavailability to attend the event of one or more jurors and their substitutes, and it is not possible to assign the task to alternative jurors, the organization reserves the right to appoint one or more ex-officio jurors chosen from among the heads of the KDFF or festival organization or other qualified persons.

10 - Criteria and description of parameters

As specified in the section above, the jurors will have to assign values to each K-Pop Dance that will perform on the competition day, these values must be assigned with precise criteria.

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TECHNIQUE (neatness and quality of movements, rhythm, difficulty of the song) 1 to 10 points

This judging criterion is intended to highlight the dance skills of each crew. The grade will be an average between the most competent dancer and the one with the least solid technique. Simple choreography will receive fewer points, while the jury will place more importance on fast-paced choreography with lots of positional changes and athletic movements.

PERFORMANCE (coordination in space and time, and style) 1 to 5 points

Some score is awarded for coordination and style in group movements. A crew that, although it has dancers who are excellent in technique, is loosely coupled will earn fewer points in this category.

SCENIC PRESENCE (energy, lipsync, audience involvement) 1 to 5 points

With this evaluation criterion, the intention is to reward the crew that has been able, regardless of dance ability, to demonstrate the ability to manage their stage presence. Greetings to the audience and the exchange of a few jokes with the hosts, and the charismatic ability to make the audience feel that they are not afraid of the stage but can master it, will give additional points to the final result.

COSTUMES (resemblance/originality, costume difficulty, and hair and makeup) 1 to 5 points

Jurors may take into account in scoring both the similarity to the original costume and the originality of the costume. The costume must be themed with the original artist or the mood of the song: colorful outfits for an upbeat song, for example. Cosplays, therefore, will be judged on both the execution and how well they return the original concept of the song. Makeup, hair and other details will entitle to additional points but their absence will not be penalized.

11 – Partners and Sponsors

Comicon announces that K-ble Jungle is an official media partner of the KDFF championship. The language school Istituto II Mulino in Legnaro (PD) is a language partner. Etna Comics is the hosting partner for 2024. Comicon may make other media partners and sponsors official at the proposal of the organizing committee, and their logos must be present in all communications of the regional selections.

12 – Privacy

By viewing and accepting these rules and regulations, as well as through participation in the "K-pop Dance Fight Fest" each participant unconditionally releases (to the organizers of the circuit) his or her consent to the processing of all data, sensitive and non-sensitive, which will be provided at the time of online registration and / or confirmation of attendance on site, as well as the use and exploitation of images (in any form and in any medium and medium) related to the competition and throughout the event area.

13 - Liability

Participants in the competition accept these regulations in their entirety; the organization reserves the right at its sole discretion, and at any time, to remove or exclude, even without prior notice, those who do not comply with these regulations. Participants who will be held responsible for any damage done to the stage and equipment present, if caught in flagrante delicto or with ascertained photo-video testimonial evidence, will be held liable for damages. Participants who violate the laws, including for what was stated in Article 6 above, will be held accountable for their responsibilities in the appropriate venues. By viewing and accepting these regulations, which happens when registering for the competition, each participant declares that he/she has read all the articles covered herein and also declares, irrevocably, that he/she releases from any and all liability regarding the "Kpop Dance Fight Fest " the Visiona scarl organizer of the COMICON Show.



14 – Addendum

The organization reserves the right to update (at one or more times) these regulations until the day before the date of the contest. We would also like to remind you that acceptance of the conditions of participation in the Festival is taken for granted for participation in all contests.

