



RULES FOR PARTICIPATION

Version 2/15-06-2024

This document contains the rules for participation in the Mister Fetish World contest, and are only applicable to the title organization in 2025 for which the contest will be held during the Darklands festival from Wednesday February 26, 2025 to Sunday March 2, 2025 in Antwerp - Belgium.

a warm welcome by the organizer

I would like to address to you with the following words:

I don't like rules and regulations! I even hate them..... However,

This contest is meant to unite our fetishes and create a nice and safe environment to enjoy your fetish(es). The success of a competition stands with good organization and agreements. In a perfect world this can be done without regulations and rules. Sadly enough we do not live in such a world. In an over regulated world, this competition can only be organized on a well regulated basis where any involved party is well informed. The regulations you are about to read will form this basis. When reading it, you may raise an eyebrow regularly, I know I would, but know that as an organization we cannot work without these rules.

It is important to know that as an organization we aim to provide a fun experience and to give the international fetish community a positive boost. We assume that every candidate has the same objective and we do not need to look at this rules and regulations all the time. But please don't try us. If we detect an attempt to boycott or harm the organization or your fellow contestants of this election, the organization will not hesitate to apply the rules strictly. Only in this way we can offer you a great experience as a contestant in the Mister Fetish World contest. We therefore assume that anyone who does not agree with these regulations will not register as a candidate contestant.

I am looking forward to an amazing trip trough our fetish life, together with you!

Fetish Hugs,
Andy Walgraef

REGULATIONS

article 1. General

- a. Nothing in this text can be used as a reference for future editions. The organization of Mister Fetish World publishes these regulations only for the edition of Mister Fetish World 2025.
- b. all data requested from the contestant will be stored in accordance with European GDPR regulations. After the competition, this data will be kept for a maximum of one month for administrative processing. The data concerning the winner will be kept until the end of the title year.
- c. Any candidate engaging in fraud or attempting to defraud would immediately lose the right to enter the competition without compensation. Contestants agree and undertake not to maintain a personal or sexual relationship of any kind with any member of the Jury thirty days before the start of the competition until the end of the competition. The organization of Mister Fetish World cannot incur any liability towards candidates due to fraud committed. Any damage resulting from this, including damage to the image of the organization of Mister Fetish World or one of its sponsors, will be recovered in full from the person who commits fraud.



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article 2. Purpose

- a. The competition for Mister Fetish World aims to unite different fetishes that have been common at previous editions of the Darklands festival. The committee, called "The Dark Five", will deliberate on each request for exception and can decide at its discretion whether an exception will be granted. Every decision of The Dark Five is irrefutable. In article 3 from these regulations we discuss the role of The Dark Five in detail.
- b. The title holder for Mister Fetish World reflects the diversity and richness of the entire fetish community, embodying safe, healthy and consensual practices, in goodwill, sociability, mutual aid, solidarity, transference, mutual respect, sharing and tolerance.

article 3. The Dark Five

- a. The organization of Mister Fetish World has established a council board as advisors and auditors. This council is called "The Dark Five" and is composed with individuals who excel in their years of work for the international fetish community.
- b. The identity of the Dark Five will remain anonymous at all times to ensure neutrality. In this way we want to make it impossible to influence the council in any way.
- c. Any contestant attempting to discover or disclose the identity of The Dark Five will have to leave the contest immediately without any right to compensation.
- d. if the identity of any member of The Dark Five becomes known, they will be replaced immediately. A replacement is provided for each member of The Dark Five.
- e. The members of The Dark Five will be present for the entire duration of the contest. They all play a role in the organization or will be present in the audience. In this way they succeed in seeing the contestants for their real selves.
- f. Be aware of the fact that any person with who you have contact can be one of them. If you treat every member of the organization with respect, you can't go wrong.
- g. The Dark Five can make discretionary decisions about everything. these decisions are non-negotiable. They will communicate their decisions via the jury, the presenter or the Emcee to the contestants, audience or, if necessary, to an individual contestant.

article 4. Contestants

- a. To subscribe you need to be 21 years or older, male or transman. You need to be a citizen of planet earth, although we can make exceptions to this last one.
- b. You need to be available during Darklands from Wednesday 26/2/2025 until Sunday 2/3/2025. If you have any delay (flight/transport/other) contact the organizer as soon as possible. In the event of negligence, the organization may assume that you no longer wish to participate in the contest. In this case you cannot claim any compensation and you will not receive your participation medal.
- c. You don't need to be a former titleholder to become a candidate contestant. So this could be the first contest you enter.
- d. To enter the contest you cannot hold an **active** fetish related title, or participate in an ongoing contest to become a fetish related titleholder. You commit yourself to not participate in any other fetish contest from the moment your subscription is accepted. In violation of this rule you will no longer be a contestant for the current edition. If you become titleholder for Mr.FetishWorld, you will be able to participate in any other contest at the earliest when the title Mister Fetish World ends. Violation of this rule will result in the title being canceled and the organization will reclaim the sash, prize pool and already used travel budget.
- e. All applications are processed by The Dark Five. Each application will be carefully read by them. Each candidate will be screened for his intentions and added value towards the fetish community. If the registration contains inaccuracies or if the candidate lies, the application will be rejected. (see article 1.c.).
- f. In case we receive a very high number of registrations for the same fetish, The Dark Five will make a selection. This will be done by preliminary judging based on the submitted items of your registration. The intention is to have a well-balanced mixed result in fetishes and regions (see article 3.g).





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- g. Contestants who have taken part in or are part of activities, associations or spread or support ideas in any way that go against the values that are current and acceptable within the international fetish community or lgbtqia + community are excluded from participating in this competition. Only the council of The Dark Five can decide on this
- h. Confirmed contestants pay a participation fee of 75€. this participation fee cannot be reclaimed in any way and for any reason. Upon arrival, each participant receives a badge with his contestant number and a wristband which provide access to all public events during Darklands. This doesn't include free entry to workshops, and masterclasses, and doesn't give any right to the free use of the Horeca department.
- i. Each contestant will receive a medal of participation at the beginning of the contest.
- j. Registration takes place via a link on the web page of Mister Fetish World. When registering it is clearly stated what the candidate contestant must submit, upon what date and in what way. The order of registration is also the order of the contestants during the competition. Incomplete entries will be rejected and the prospective entrant will be notified. Only when the registration has been fully received and approved by The Dark Five and after payment of the contestant fee has been made by bank transfer the contestant will receive the final confirmation with further guidelines. a request to pay the contestant fee by bank transfer will be send to the candidate after approval by The Dark Five.

article 5. Judges/Scoring

- a. The judges for the Mister Fetish World election have been selected for their experience and knowledge of the fetish community. They do not necessarily have to be an (ex)-title holder, but rather have a neutral yet professional view of the broad and worldwide fetish community. The selected judges receive no compensation for this performance and there are no commercial interests or incentives. Any attempt to influence the jury will be reported to The Dark Five. who have the right to expel the candidate from the competition without any right for compensation.
- b. All rounds are public. There are no interviews behind closed doors. The audience will witness the jury's work. The scoring is done in different ways. There is also a public voting to select the audience favorite. In the penultimate round, The Dark 5 can use one golden ticket to re-enter a candidate who was previously eliminated. In the deciding round we will end with five contestants. In this round, only the judges and The Dark Five will effectively award points. The result of this is the winner.
- c. After final approval, each contestant receives information about the various rounds with a time schedule. The method of scoring will be clearly explained there.

article 6. practical issues

- a. each contestant may be accompanied by one person. the goal is to get help with outfit changes, manage your gear that you're not currently using, and provide you with moral support. External facilitators keep in the background and are not part of the competition. the purpose of their presence is to assist their contestant. if this helper causes problems, delays or makes the competition difficult in any way, the organization can ban him from the contestant's holding room.
- b. The organization will provide handlers. The contestants who do not bring their own helper have priority over assistance from these persons. These persons do this without compensation and to help the contest. Contestants who treat these persons with disrespect will no longer be able to make use of their assistance.
- c. On arrival, each contestant will be registered upon presentation of a valid photo ID. The organizer gives the contestant a lanyard with badge. This badge has the contestant order number. During the contest, each contestant will wear the badge with the number clearly visible.
- d. All contestants will receive a clear time schedule before the contest. This time schedule states clearly where and when you need to be. The contest doesn't wait for you. If you don't show up on time, you will not be scored for that specific round. Too late is too late, there is no such thing as a second chance if you've missed your time slot.
- e. At the end of the contest, or when the contestant decides to leave the contest, he promises to return the badge and the lanyard in good condition. PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR BADGE!





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- f. Before the contest starts we open a whatsapp group for contestants, the contest guide, the hosts and First Handler. Keep in mind that due to different time zones the organization will not immediately respond to every Whatsapp message. You will always receive an answer to both an e-mail and a whatsapp message. But please be patient.

article 7. The New Titleholder For Mister Fetish World

- a. the winner of the Mister Fetish World election will represent the title for one year, or at least until the next edition of the Darklands festival. During this period, the title holder is not allowed to exploit his title commercially or to enrich himself in any way personally. Every request for participation or cooperation in a non-fetish or commercial related event is done in consultation with the organization of Mister Fetish World. Any abuse will be submitted to The Dark Five and may be subject to sanctions.
- b. The winner of the Mister Fetish World contest, when identified or identifiable in this capacity, undertake to adopt an attitude consistent with the values and expectations of the international fetish community. In case of doubt, The Dark Five will rule on this. Title holders cannot make comments that are racist, discriminatory, contrary to the interests and objectives of the international fetish community, or that imply that they encourage or have engaged in non-consensual sexual practices or practices that endanger sexual health encouraged.
- c. The organization of the Mister Fetish World election reserves the right, if necessary, to initiate disciplinary proceedings which may lead to a sanction following a contradictory procedure. The possible sanctions are as follows: 1 the non-public warning. 2. the suspension of the candidate or winner for a certain period. 3. the exclusion from the competition or the forfeiture of the title.
- d. In any case, the decisions of the organization of Mister Fetish World, advised by the council of The Dark Five, the holder of the Mister Fetish World brand and the rights related to it, are sovereign and cannot be appealed. They don't have to be motivated.
- e. In case of resignation of the title holder, there is no replacement. the organization of Mister Fetish World will evaluate in consultation with The Dark Five whether the title will be carried by a another representative for the remaining time or will be without a representative.

article 8. Legal

- a. the organization will in no way share the date obtained contestant information, address and personal data of the contestants. The judges only get the necessary information about the candidate's fetish, stage name and the country of origin. The only exception is the introductory film which may be used during the competition and in the run-up to the competition. Also, each candidate contestant will have to formulate a sentence that will be used by the emcee to introduce the candidate contestant to the audience. The emcee may interpret this sentence and use its own wording without substantive changes. by signing these regulations, each candidate participant agrees to them without any restriction.
- b. Voluntary participation - Right to the image. From the moment of application, each candidate undertakes to voluntarily participate in services of a promotional or charitable nature directly or indirectly related to the Mister Fetish World Competition. Contestants authorize the Mister Fetish World organization to use their stagenam and image on all occasions related to the competition or Mister Fetish World's functions, even after Mister Fetish World's election without limitation of duration, provided that the organization will only provide and use photographs of which they will own all reproduction and exploitation rights by any means and on any media. Candidates, and therefore the winner, are informed that their image, voice, surname, first name may be the subject of visual and/or sound recordings (press, radio, television, social networks, internet, video on the internet, etc.) and exploitation in various international media worldwide. Said exploitation is not subject to any remuneration or compensation of any kind. The winner of the Mister Fetish World title authorizes the organization of the Mister Fetish World contest to technically use, reuse, publish, edit, copy, reproduce, modify their image free of charge, as long as it is identifiable or identified as Mister Fetish World either because he wears the scarf and/or medal, or in any other way. This image may be the subject of joint exploitation with other materials, including, without this list being exhaustive, text, data, information or slogans, other images, photographs, drawings, illustrations, animations, graphics, video or





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audio segments of any nature, by any means, methods or techniques currently known or coming to be. Contestants and winners of the Mister Fetish World contest acknowledge that they cannot claim any rights with regard to the products on which their name and/or image will be reproduced, nor that they can exercise any right of control with regard to their development, manufacture, production or distribution. They understand and agree to be exposed in the media as representatives of the LGBTQI fetish community and cannot hold the organization of Mister Fetish World responsible for the consequences resulting for them from such an exhibition.

Conduct of Candidates, Winners and Sanctions

Amendments and submission of this regulation

The rules apply to **any contestant** entering the Mister Fetish World Contest.

the organization of Mister Fetish World reserves the right to amend this regulation if necessary, to take any decisions it deems useful in the application and interpretation of the regulation without notice or obligation to justify its decision and without incurring any liability can be taken as a result. The amendment to the rules will be published on the Mister Fetish World website and take effect immediately. The version with the latest date will be the one that is valid.

The organization of Mister Fetish World reserves the right to suspend, extend, shorten, modify or cancel the Competition at any time, without prior notice and without having to justify it. In this case, the organization of Mister Fetish World cannot be held liable in any way for this fact and candidates cannot claim any compensation.

IMPORTANT

If you have any questions, ask the organization!

The other contestants may not have the answers that apply to your situation. We like to rule out mistakes in this regard. We would like to see everyone arriving well-informed to the contest, so ask your questions via email to the right person.

By checking the box I confirm and sign these regulations that I have read and understand the contents. I agree to the content of the Mister Fetish World contest rules and promise to comply with them. I acknowledge that in the event of a dispute, only Belgian law applies. As a result, I cannot invoke laws from another country.

