

Press release Helsinki 27th of July 2018

Ropecon is organised entirely by volunteers – a quarter of a century of games and gaming!

Ropecon – organised this year for the 25th time – will be held at the Messukeskus Helsinki Expo and Convention Centre from 27th to 29th of July 2018. The three-day gaming festival brings together both gaming enthusiasts and professionals in the field of gaming. Ropecon once again features a diverse and abundant program: in addition to gaming and game tournaments there are also lectures, panel discussions and workshops on topics related to role-playing games. The association behind the convention is Ropecon ry, which aims to promote and develop the role-playing game, card game, board game and miniature wargaming hobbies in Finland.

One of the defining features of Ropecon is how it is organised. It is a non-commercial convention which planned and executed from start to finish by volunteers: from role-playing gamers to role-playing gamers. Approximately 700 volunteers are currently preparing their lectures, workshops and shows, or getting ready for their shifts as security stewards, tech team members and con tutors for new attendees.

Recommendations from the varied programme of Ropecon 2018

Ropecon hosts the Finnish championship tournaments for multiple board games, such as **Catan**, **Pandemic** and **Carcassonne**. Some notable card game tournaments include **Poro GP Team Sealed**, preliminaries for **V:tES European Grand Prix** and **Android: Netrunner Regionals**. There are tournaments going on from Friday to Sunday.

Canadian game designer **Alex Roberts**, Guest of Honour for Ropecon 2018, and other game designers take part in the **Women in Game Design** panel discussion on Saturday (12 noon - 2 pm).

Imaginative and fun program is also an integral part of Ropecon. On Friday there is a lecture held by a vet analysing **the practicalities of keeping a dragon as a pet** (7 pm - 8 pm). On Saturday one can take part in a **hobbyhorse tourney** (2pm - 6pm), show their skills in **the rock-paper-scissors tournament** (3pm - 4pm) or learn about **how one can practice quidditch** – a fantastical sport from the world of Harry Potter - both in Finland as well as abroad (9am - 11am).



For some stage program, this year's Ropecon features specctacular shows such as the **musical** "Vaikeinta on vapaus" (Sun 2 pm) and the joint performance of two geek women's choirs, Riverside Castle and Another Castle (Sat 5pm - 6pm). FCF Wrestling, the only show wrestling organisation in Finland, will also take the stage at Ropecon on Friday (8pm - 9:30pm).

For more information on all of the program of Ropecon 2018, <u>please visit our online program guide (guide.ropecon.fi)</u>.

Two awards are traditionally given out at Ropecon each year for promoting role-playing games as a hobby in Finland: the Golden Dragon award and the Deed of the Year award. Award ceremony is held at the Ropecon Gala on Saturday evening (6 pm).

Welcome to Ropecon!

Press images:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/ropeconmedia/albums/72157662048730757

Ropecon 2018 press page:

https://2018.ropecon.fi/eng/press/

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