

PrairieCon 2017 GM FAQ

Q. How do I become a PrairieCon GM?

A. Send an email to games@prairiecon.com Or post on our Facebook page. Or contact any member of the PrairieCon committee.

Then the Games Team will contact you to work out the details.

Q. What are these details you refer to?

A. Consult the Games Submission Requirements sheet.

Q. What are these slots you refer to?

A. Games are organised into what we call slots. A slot is a space at a specific table or room at the certain start time for 2 hours. Some GMs will need more time and for them we will arrange double slots (4 hours) or even triples. Slots keep the convention organised and keep people moving and gaming.

Q. Why do I need to tell you about my table configuration?

A. The Venue Team spends a lot of time between slots rearranging table because GMs move tables to match their needs. We would like to reduce this by giving GMs table space already in their preferred configuration. This will help maintain sanity in the Venue Team. The Shadows over PrairieCon have done them much damage.

Q. What is the schedule?

A. See the attached schedule pdf.

Q. Will GMs and Volunteers be recognized for the work that they do?

A. Absolutely! Our GMs and Volunteers are the best people on Earth. See the attached recognition and incentive pdf.

New Q. I want to run a tournament. Can I do that?

New A. Maybe. We want to make sure that all tournaments have suitable prizes. So talk to use early and often and we'll try. But seriously, no guarantees.

Q. When should I show up for my games?

A. Depends on setup time. For something like Ticket to Ride, get there before the slot starts and you'll be golden. For Twilight Imperium, arrive very early. Be ready to start at the beginning of your slot and all is well.

Q. Is it true that my players might be prizes?

A. We try. With the help of our sponsors we try to provide prizes for our players. Nothing is guaranteed but we have an awesome Sponsorship Team and they do wonders.

Q. These prizes suck compared to last year or UberCon! What happened?

A. We do what we can. Most of our prizes are donated and we make do as best we can. Unless we drastically increase our fees or the games companies start sending boxes and boxes of loot, some may be disappointed. We do the best we can.

Q. This prize doesn't match the game!

A. We try to match prizes to the games. But sometimes, especially if the game is very new or old, we can't match well.

Q. Do the GMs have to find prizes?

A. No, our excellent Sponsorship Team finds the prizes.

Q. Can GMs help find prizes?

A. Yes! Yes, yes, yes! If you have a contact, please do use it. But let us know. We don't want to harass people who are helping us already. Co-ordinate with us and all will be well.

Q. May GMs keep the prizes?

A. No. The prizes are for the players. GMs receive their own incentives.

Q. I want a private room for my game. May I get one?

A. Maybe. We have a limited number of private rooms. Priority is based on the type of game and the date by which you have submitted all of your information. Games that require stillness and atmosphere, like Horror or Storytelling RPGs have priority. If we can, we will give you a private room. But sometimes, we can't. Ask and we will try. Don't assume that that will know you want a private room, even if you have had private rooms before. Each con is a new con.

Q. What if something happens and I can't make my game?

A. It happens. Tell us as soon as you know. If we have enough notice, sometimes we can find an alternative GM and save the game. If you know someone who can GM the game, let us know. If not, or if the game is a custom game, we may have to cancel :(But we will try to find someone to fill the slot.

Q. I want my game to be full. Can I promote my game?

A. Yes! Tell your friends. Say nice things on Facebook. Don't run down other games but do promote your own. Work your networks and fill your seats!

Q. I want my games to be full. I want it guaranteed that my game will be full.

A. Seriously? No, we can't guarantee that. We do what we can, but we can't guarantee. Sorry!

Q. Why did you slot my game at a time that I can't make?

A. Probably because you didn't tell us that you couldn't make that slot. If you can't make a certain slot, tell us. As long as we know well in advance, we can probably accommodate you. If we find out Friday afternoon, it gets trickier.

Q. I like the BU gym/the church/the hotel/the Taj Mahal better. Why can't we have PrairieCon there?

A. Because it's too expensive/small/expensive/it's-in-Agra. ACC is the only space in Brandon we have been able to find that is large enough to fit the convention at the that time of year without drastically raising our rates.

Q. Why don't you run <my favourite game>?

A. Because we are saving it for you to run :) Contact us and we'll set it up!