

August 2-4, 2024

Portland Jigsaw Masters

Frequently Asked Questions



Portland Jigsaw Masters

Where and when is it located?

Portland, Oregon at the [Melody Event Center](#) from August 2nd - 4th, 2024.

Is there a discounted hotel rate?

Yes, there are limited rooms available at \$XXX/night. Information and a link is shared in the confirmation email once you have registered for either a contest or the convention pass.

I'm having issues with registration. What should I do?

Email us at contact@portlandjigsawmasters.org for assistance.

Do I have to buy the convention pass to participate?

The convention pass is entirely optional. It's a great option for people planning to attend for much of the weekend and both competitive and non-competitive puzzlers would benefit by purchasing a pass to take advantage of many other activities being planned for the event like meals on site, a large cooperative puzzle, sprints, puzzle chess contest, workshops, puzzle swap and social.

Will there be a virtual component to this competition?

No, it is an on-site only competition. It's difficult to ensure that all rules are followed and that no one has completed the puzzle prior to competition if we add a remote division. The weekend is also intended as a way to bring puzzlers together and connect (no pun intended) for socializing and cooperative puzzling.

I can't make it this year. Will this be a regular event?

We plan to continue offering a national championship event, but have not chosen dates for the next one yet. We may also be switching the location to another American city.

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Do I need to compete in this event in order to attend the World Jigsaw Puzzle Championship?

No. Signing up for the World Jigsaw Puzzle Championship is separate and handled through the World Jigsaw Puzzle Federation website. Registration for the 2024 WJPC event is not open yet. Plans are to open registration on January 1, 2024.

Can I register in Pairs or Teams if I don't yet know who my puzzling team will be?

Yes, but we prefer when you register that you have that information. However, if that isn't possible and you do not know your partner/teammates you can enter TBD in those spots for registration. Once you have secured a partner/teammates please email us at contact@portlandjigsawmasters.org and we will update your registrations.

Does everyone on a team or in a pair need to register?

No. Only one person from each team/pair needs to sign up and pay the registration fee. However, the convention pass for the additional weekend activities is \$130 per individual so if someone you are puzzling with wants to take part in those things, they will need to register and pay for a convention pass.

Is there a minimum age required to participate?

Yes, for the individual competition the competitor must be at least 16 years old to participate. For the pair and team event there is no age requirement. We are following World Jigsaw Puzzle Championship standards in this regard.

Do I have to buy Convention Passes for my kids or family members?

Anyone 10 and older must have a convention pass to take part in the weekend's extra activities and have access to the social puzzling space. Kids 9 and under can attend for free with their parents that have passes. Spectators will be allowed at the contests without having to purchase a pass, but will not have access to the convention spaces.

What are the prizes for the contest winners?

Cash and trophies! We're still figuring out the details, but typically offer a cash prize as well as trophies or medals and sometimes additional puzzle prizes.

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Can I compete if I live outside the United States?

No. Because we are considering this a national championship event, we are limiting participation to U.S. residents. This means that all individuals, pairs, and team members must be U.S. residents. However, anyone can attend the event and/or register for a Convention Pass.

I'm a foreigner living in the U.S. Can I compete?

Yes, this competition is open to EVERYONE.

Do I have to be a member of the USA Jigsaw Puzzle Association to participate in US Jigsaw Nationals?

No, it is not necessary. However, members will receive a \$20 voucher.

How do I pay the registration fees?

Go to the registration link on our website and start the registration process. At the end you'll pay using either a credit card or PayPal to pay the registration fees.

I registered but now cannot attend. Can I get a refund and who do I contact?

If you cancel before June 1st you will get a full refund. Please email us at contact@portlandjigsawmasters.org to cancel. Because there may be a waiting list, it is preferred that people cancel as far in advance as possible to free up space for other puzzlers.

Is there a registration closing date?

No. We're planning to leave registration open until we fill up all of the divisions.

What is the size of the tables we'll be using?

Tables are 6' long and 30" wide. Space will vary in each category. In the team contest, each team will have their own table. In the pairs contest, tables will be split with two pairs sharing a table. In the individual contest, tables will be split for two individuals per table.

Are tools allowed?

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The only tools allowed are box top holders and trays for sorting puzzle pieces. The box can also be used for sorting purposes. Specifics on size limitations can be found in the [official rules](#) for each division.

Magnifying glasses, using a phone camera, spatulas, or other potential tools are not allowed.

Can I change my pair or team partners?

You can make changes in the makeup of your pair or team right up until the competition. Only the person that has registered the pair or team can change its members. Identifying info for pairs and teams will be confirmed the day of the event to ensure our results include everyone.

Do I need to check in before each contest?

There will be no check-in for each competition. You just need to go to the registration desk to get your badges sometime before your event. You only need to do this once. Once we get closer to the event we will notify you of which preliminary heat you are in and what table number. A few minutes before each competition we will open the doors and allow competitors to enter and sit at their assigned table, so please plan on arriving prior to the time designated for the announcements. If a table is empty at the beginning of the announcements, we will assume that they are not competing and try to fill the table.

Is it possible to sub in other people during the team competition?

No. Teams will be made up of 4 people and only those four people can participate. If someone needs a break to go to the bathroom or eat or drink something, they'll just have to hurry!

Can we eat and drink outside food during the contests?

Not if you want to win, but you do you.

Anything I should know about the venue - Melody Event Center?

It is located in the Central Eastside Downtown with many restaurants and shopping areas nearby. Our partnered hotels are very close and will be offering a shuttle service with many other excellent local stay options close. Limited Parking is available per day

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and should be free, but cost depending on a street meter. There are public transportation options nearby as well as the usual Uber and Lyft.

Can anyone come and watch the competition?

Yes, spectators are welcome but space for watching the competition is limited and we don't allow people to enter the competition area in order to minimize distractions for puzzlers.

Jigsaw puzzle enthusiasts that are not interested in competing are welcome to purchase a convention pass for the weekend. They can enjoy the casual/social gathering space, some free meals and be eligible for numerous prize giveaways during the weekend in addition to many more benefits being planned for participants!

Is video recording and photography allowed at the competition?

Yes - we'll be asking participants to sign a photo/video release and anyone wanting to take photos for professional use will need to make a formal request to the PJM at the event.

What happens with the results of this contest?

Individual times will contribute to a [JPAR ranking](#) for PJM members. We'll also be displaying final times on our website. We can also guarantee spots in the World Jigsaw Puzzle Competition taking place in September of 2024 to finalists in the US Nationals divisions.

Will this event be live-streamed or recorded?

There will be filming and photography at our event. Please visit our [Notice of Filming and Photography](#).

We're working on plans to live stream the event on [our YouTube channel](#) and then it would appear after the event as a recording.

I am interested in being a sponsor and/or vendor at the event. Where can I get more information on sponsorship?

Visit our site [HERE](#) and fill out our form to register. Or, please email us at contact@portlandjigsawmasters.org and we will send you more information.

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What is the COVID protocol for the event?

We will comply with local regulations and the policies of the hotel venue. Masks are strongly encouraged as we will be in a space with many people and close quarters, especially for competitors. If you test positive for COVID-19 before the event, please do not attend.

I have more questions. Who can I contact?

Please email us at contact@portlandjigsawmasters.org.

Link to [Terms and Conditions](#).