

# MarsCon 2027 Fan Table Information & Guidelines



Fan Tables provide an opportunity for fan organizations, clubs, conventions, non-profit groups, and similar organizations to promote their activities, recruit new members, and engage with convention attendees.

Fan Tables are provided at no cost but are limited in number and must be reserved in advance.

Please review the following information carefully before applying.

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## Requesting a Fan Table

- Fan Tables are available free of charge to eligible groups wishing to promote their organization, increase membership and contribute to the atmosphere of Mars Con through demonstrations, fellowship or service.
  - Applications are reviewed holistically, not in the order received.
  - Table placement and approval are at the sole discretion of MarsCon.
  - MarsCon reserves the right to approve or deny any Fan Table application at the discretion of the Convention Chair, Senior Staff, Board of Directors, or their designees.
  - Applications will begin being reviewed on June 1.
  - Acceptance notifications will begin being sent on July 1.
  - Applications may continue to be accepted after July 1 if space becomes available due to cancellations.
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## 1. Fan Table Memberships

Each approved Fan Table includes:

- Two (2) complimentary Mars Con memberships.

Up to five (5) additional group memberships may be purchased via the FanTable Coordinator (Square Invoice) for:

- \$35 per membership through December 1.

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- After December 1, weekend membership(s) must be purchased at the regular at-the-door rate of \$65.

## Important Notes

- Fan Tables are expected to be actively staffed throughout the convention. If a table is not staffed during the event, MarsCon reserves the right to charge the difference between the discounted membership rate and the current at-the-door membership rate for any discounted memberships purchased.
- Groups that reserve a Fan Table but fail to attend or staff their table may be denied Fan Table space at future MarsCon events.

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## 2. Programming, Demonstrations, and Convention Services

Groups may earn additional complimentary memberships by providing approved programming, demonstrations, workshops, or activities during the convention.

### Complimentary Membership Schedule

#### Approved Programming Hours Additional Complimentary Memberships

2 Hours	1 Membership
3 Hours	2 Memberships
4+ Hours	Up to 5 Memberships

All programming proposals must:

- Be submitted to [programming@marscon.net](mailto:programming@marscon.net) no later than **August 15**.
- Be reviewed and approved by the Director of Programming.

Only approved programming qualifies for complimentary memberships.

### Other Services to the Convention

Groups wishing to provide other services or support to MarsCon may be considered for additional benefits on a case-by-case basis. Such arrangements must be approved by the Convention Chairperson, Board of Directors, or their designee.

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Questions regarding convention services or Fan Table participation may be directed to:

**Fan Table Coordinator:** [Fantables@marscon.net](mailto:Fantables@marscon.net)

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## 3. Fan Table Staffing Requirements

Fan Tables are expected to be actively staffed throughout the convention to help create an engaging and welcoming convention atmosphere.

### Minimum Staffing Expectations

- Fan Tables must be staffed for a minimum of six (6) hours per day across at least two convention days.
- At least one registered group member must be present at the table for it to be considered staffed.
- Anyone working at or occupying the table area must have a valid MarsCon membership badge.

### Example Staffing Schedule

A typical staffing schedule might include:

- Friday: 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- Saturday: 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
- Sunday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Groups are welcome to staff their tables for additional hours. MarsCon understands that attendance at panels and programming may occasionally require brief periods when the table is unattended.

### Table Area Expectations

- Single tables should have no more than three (3) people behind the table at one time.
- Double tables should have no more than six (6) people behind the table at one time.
- Please be considerate of neighboring tables and shared convention space.

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## Prohibited Activities

To maintain a comfortable environment for all attendees:

- Do not play loud music to attract attention.
- Do not conduct weapons displays at Fan Tables.
- Adult-oriented flyers or promotional materials may only be distributed while a staff member is present and must only be provided to age-appropriate attendees.
- Promotional materials may not be left unattended on tables.
- Fan Tables may not be left unattended for the entire convention with only flyers or advertisements displayed.

## Security

MarsCon is not responsible for any personal property, merchandise, displays, or equipment left at Fan Tables. Fan Table areas are located in public spaces and are not secured.

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## 4. Sales and Fundraising at Fan Tables

Fan Tables are intended primarily for promotion and outreach rather than retail sales.

### Permitted Activities

Groups may:

- Sell memberships to their organization or convention.
- Sell club- or organization-related promotional merchandise.
- Accept donations.

### Prohibited Activities

The following are not permitted at Fan Tables:

- General retail merchandise sales.
- Sales of merchandise unrelated to the represented organization.

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- Sales of third-party artwork, badges, apparel, or other products, even if proceeds benefit a charitable organization.
- Charging attendees for services or activities.
- Soliciting tips for services.
- Conducting paid raffles, lotteries, or games of chance.
- Selling food, beverages, or food-related products.

Groups may distribute complimentary items such as:

- Candy
- Pens
- Stickers
- Other small promotional giveaways

Organizations wishing to sell merchandise beyond these limitations should apply for space in the MarsCon Dealers' Room or Exhibitor Area.

## **Charitable Donations**

Groups collecting donations for charitable organizations must be able to demonstrate that funds were provided to the stated charity if requested by MarsCon.

MarsCon reserves the right to verify charitable affiliations and donation activities.

## **Merchandise Approval**

The determination of whether an item qualifies as organization-related merchandise or general retail merchandise rests solely with MarsCon and its representatives.

Groups are encouraged to contact the Fan Table Coordinator before the convention if clarification is needed.

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## **5. Table Placement and Space Requirements**

Fan Table placement is determined solely by MarsCon.

### **Table Sizes**

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Table size cannot be guaranteed. Tables may be either:

- 6 feet x 18 inches
- 6 feet x 30 inches

Table size is determined by venue availability and convention needs.

While specific placement requests cannot be guaranteed, MarsCon will make reasonable efforts to accommodate operational needs whenever possible.

## **Power Requirements**

If your table requires electrical access:

- Indicate your needs on the application.
- Specify the number of outlets required.
- Electrical access is limited and cannot be guaranteed.

Groups should bring:

- Extension cords
- Power strips
- Splitters

A limited number may be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

## **Space and Cleanliness**

Groups are expected to:

- Remain within their assigned table space.
- Keep aisles, doorways, and walkways clear.
- Maintain a clean and professional appearance at their table.
- Store belongings neatly beneath or behind the table.

Large amounts of personal belongings, oversized coolers, and luggage should not be stored behind tables during the convention on Friday and Saturday. Luggage on Sunday is

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acceptable as attendees prepare to depart, provided it is stored neatly and does not obstruct walkways.

## **Solicitation and Advertising**

Groups may promote their organization within approximately ten (10) feet of their assigned table.

Advertising materials may only be:

- Displayed at your assigned Fan Table.
- Displayed at approved flyer distribution locations.
- Displayed at another table with the table holder's permission.

Advertisements may not be posted throughout the convention space without prior approval from MarsCon Staff.

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## **Fan Table Application**

Submission of an application does not guarantee acceptance.

Fan Tables are assigned based on available space, application review, and convention needs. MarsCon reserves the right to approve or deny any application.

By submitting an application, applicants acknowledge that they have read, understood, and agree to comply with all Fan Table policies and guidelines.

### **Apply Online:**

<http://www.marscon.net/wp/index.php/fan-group-tables/>