

Hello my name is Femme Daddy and I participated in the 2022 round of Sci-Fi Con, a fund raising event for ACS.

I also manage and run and participate in many other events in SL. I manage The Fifty + Fifty Linden Friday with my partner, and participate in events like Anthem/Equal10/Access/N21. The level of professionalism I expect when participating is quite high, though I understand that not every event can run perfectly, or smoothly for that matter - I was highly disappointed in the team running Sci-Fi Con.

I was invited to Sci-Fi Con 2022 by the owners of DRD - they found my store and thought I would make a perfect fit since my store specializes in scifi/fantasy/normie items. A blend of all of these themes was my goal for my item at Sci-Fi Con.

I was excited to be doing something for charity too. It's not very often that you get to participate in something for the benefit of someone else or for a great cause.

While DRD invited me to participate - they showed me how to sign up, where to pay and how to pick my spot. I originally thought that the whole thing was being run by DRD themselves to be honest. As they gave me the invite and helped me get all things squared away months in advance.

I found out later that while they were not running the whole event, they were sponsoring a sim. I decided to plot my spot on the sim that they were sponsoring because it felt right to me. Luckily I did that because I probably would have never known what was going on.

The month the event started I became worried. I hadn't heard anything from the actual event organizers, had not been invited to an update/builders group or a discord. These are essential when communicating with a lot of components. The organizers of Sci-Fi Con had happily taken my money and placed my logo on a map to indicate that I was participating but never gave me information as to what I needed to provide, when or how. I contacted Jaimy and Eowyn of DRD when it was coming down to the wire. They tp'd me to their pre-build sim where they were setting up the layout and asked me to choose a prefab build. They gave me a kit so I could start laying out my vendors so that dropping it down on the build day would be easy.

At some point I was able to find the discord server that many other vendors and participants had been invited to. It took a little coercion in order to get added to the correct channels because they had no idea I was participating? I was finally in the correct channels finding the information I had been looking for.

Come the day for building I was asking for access to the sim. I was told that access was on but I couldn't enter. I had not been added to the in-world group and someone finally invited me to that. I learned at this point that DRD had planned on an entire themed build for the sim - and then someone else was actually taking care of this and parceling out the sections for designers to place their items. This is something I had never seen in an event I ran or participated in. Usually everyone on the team is under one group and everyone places their stuff down. I was

told to purchase my parcel and set it under my own group (ok fine) and then do what I needed to do.

My store specializes in skins, cosmetics etc. I chose to make a gender neutral item - something for many types of bodies to use in their Sci-Fi RP. However I was allowed to place previous released items. One of my items was a fantasy skin line. My advertisements are nude and show nipples but no other sex organs. This is something that is allowed on M rated sims as long as it is not sexual in nature. My ads are very clearly one person standing in a neutral pose to show off the item as best as possible, so needless to say my ad should have been fine. I even took a snapshot of the ads and put them in the discord asking for approval. I was given the OK by a mod in the discord.

When it came to the day before opening. I went back to the sim to check and make sure everything was working. I noticed that there were several builds on the sim that were allowed to use an excessive amount of scripts. I had been sandwiched between two of these builds in a cloud of lag. People walked past my booth because they wanted to get out of the lag. I had customers from my store complain that they couldn't load the sim my booth was in. Some said it took them upwards of an hour to be able to view my booth. There was no regulation on booth setup to provide a smooth experience for people viewing the event.

Two days after the event had opened, the lead manager of the event "Kirk" messaged me saying that I needed to remove my vendors for the fantasy skin. I argued with him about how I took every avenue to make sure that this ad was approved and sent him the information on what is allowed in M rated Sims directly from Linden Labs. He said he would need to take a moment to confirm this. Got back to me a day later saying everything checks out.

Overall I felt like the only connection to Sci-Fi Con I had was through DRD. They were the only ones who supported me throughout the whole process. I have gained a great friendship with their team because of this and have since been working with them on other things for my other events.

I felt like the Sci-Fi Con staff really didn't care to help anyone participating other than dictate a few things here and there. More like a manager instead of a leader. Leadership is a verb. You do what you can for the entirety of the team so that everyone succeeds. A manager delegates and dictates. I will never be participating in Sci-Fi Con as long as the same people are running it.