

### **Cosplay Guidelines**

Whether it's a fully customised project you've designed yourself or partially store-bought, we're fully on board with giving cosplayers a way to express their talents with their craft and/or performance as their favourite characters!

However, we do need to consider the comfort and safety of all who attend ME FCC and as a result we ask that all attendees adhere to the following guidelines:

#### **BEHAVIOUR**

ME FCC wants everyone to have a great time at our family friendly festival and consequently these guidelines on behaviour for ALL attendees are very important to us. Any violation of the following policies will result in you being asked to leave the event:

- Be considerate towards fellow attendees
- We know that attendees love to have photos taken with cosplayers, and we love to see photos taken at our ME FCC, but please be considerate about the locations you pose for/take photographs in.
- Avoid the central aisles where exhibitors and artists have their stands/tables
- Avoid entrances and areas where people need to pass through or queue
- ALWAYS ask before taking a photograph of a Cosplayer
- Act responsibly with your cosplay props
- If you are found to be acting inappropriately with a prop (whether it belongs to you or not) you will be asked to leave the event

#### **INDECENCY**

- If your cosplay is deemed to be offensive or culturally insensitive, it will not be allowed inside the show
- Many members of the public find weapons offensive – When traveling to and from the venue or simply relaxing outside, be mindful that not everyone knows about cosplay. Realistic props could cause worry or concern for the safety of the public. Please keep ALL props covered and stowed away at these times, this is also for your own benefit as it could stop unnecessary interaction with security.

- This also applies to offensive behaviour once inside the event. This includes but is not limited to:  
Touching other attendees (and their costumes) without consent  
Aggressive behaviour towards other attendees  
Aggressive behaviour towards crew  
Inappropriate gestures and poses  
Inappropriate comments  
Profanity

**VIOLENCE**

- Any violence, threats of violence or intimidation towards any attendee or staff will result in immediate removal from the event
- This also includes simulated violence / staged fights both with and without props

**NUDITY**

- We have zero tolerance for nudity
- Costumes which give the illusion of nudity are also not permitted

**WEAPONS AND PROPS**

We know that your props are an integral part of your cosplay but we ask that you refer to the rules below before bringing your prop or weapon to an event.

Not Allowed

- Firearms
- Realistic Replica Firearms
- Props or weapons with sharp edges
- Functional bows or crossbows
- Darts
- Slingshots
- Unsecured whips
- Pyrotechnics/explosives (including glitter and smoke bombs)
- Sharp Arrows

Allowed

- Nonrealistic weapons

- Replica firearms with a red/orange tip (The tip must be clear and visible from a distance)
- Blunt metal weapons in a sheath
- Unstrung or loosely strung bow
- Coiled and secured whips
- Plastic / wood / LARP weapons
- Tools
- Props longer than 6ft accompanied by an experienced spotter

All props will be checked at the door before you enter the venue and any items that do not adhere to the rules above will not be allowed into the event. Staff cannot store any banned props.

Coloured tips should be suitable and proportionate enough to identify the weapon as a prop from a distance.

#### **COSTUME SIZE AND CONSTRUCTION**

- We welcome and encourage any costume that falls within the rules outlined above, but ask you to be aware of the following:
- You must be able to get through a standard size door unaided
- For any costumes over 6ft 5in or wider than 6ft you must be accompanied by an experienced spotter at all times
- We have no restrictions on tails or trains, but ask you to be aware in busy areas to avoid becoming a trip or slip hazard
- No hard and sharp pointy bits

If you do have any questions or have a query not covered in these guidelines feel free to email us at [cosplay@mefcc.com](mailto:cosplay@mefcc.com)