

Costume Props & Weapons Policy

Cosmos Events is Auckland's new upcoming entertainment event, organized by the community, for the community. Our events include animation, comics, games and multimedia activities for the whole family. Our vision is to provide a fun day out for everyone to enjoy, in a safe and inclusive environment.

Attending a Cosmos event means that you agree to all rules and policies for the safety of all attendees, including this weapons policy. You further understand and agree that for your own safety and the safety of all attendees at a Cosmos event, Cosmos Con staff and representatives have the right to inspect costumes, prop weapons, and other items you bring to the event. Because the safety of each participant is paramount, we may temporarily or permanently remove any participant who violates this weapons policy at any time.

When traveling to and from the event, please ensure that you transport your prop weapons safely to avoid causing concern to the public or local law enforcement.

With no exceptions, are you permitted to bring actual weapons to any Cosmos affiliated event.

All items you bring to an event must be legal to carry in public. Please see the Criminal Code Act 1961 for details of legal items. However, for added safety and security, there are a few more items that will not be welcome at any of our events if they pose a health or safety concern for Cosmos, their staff, personnel, affiliates or attendees.

These following examples of items will not be permitted entry to Cosmos Con under any circumstances:

- Firearms of any kind, e.g. Rifles, shotguns, hand guns, blowguns.
- Tasers, laser devices etc. Laser pointers
- Explosives or any other incendiary devices
- Metal weapons - includes knives, swords, daggers, switchblades, axes, polearms, metal pole-arms, ninja stars, etc.
- Impact weapons/sports equipment, e.g. nunchucks, knuckles, whips.
- Homemade stilts
- Roller skates, skateboards, hoverboards, heelys, scooters.
- Drones or other powered or remote controlled objects.
- E-cigarettes and other vaping devices
- Lighters, matches and other flammable items

Prop weapons are only permitted onsite if they have been checked by Cosmos staff when entering the event

All prop weapons must undergo a prop check when entering a Cosmos event. Cosmos employees and their representatives reserve the right to approve prop weapons. Prop checks will take place at the ticket counter for each Cosmos event. Once a prop is inspected, staff will place a bright sticker on a piece of prop to allow other staff and visitors to identify it as an approved weapon on the spot. We may, at our sole discretion, revoke permission to bring a prop into our event at any time if the item is being misused in any way.

Wearing Props at CosmosCon

Do not brandish or pose with prop weapons in any way that may be perceived as dangerous or threatening. Do not carry long props over the shoulder as they may stick out and injure those behind you. Brandishing or posing with prop weapons is permitted as long as a reasonable person would not interpret this as anything other than a pose intended for dramatic effect. Event staff or management may prohibit waving poses at their sole discretion.

To be eligible into any Cosmos event, props must meet the following criteria:

- Prop weapons are nonfunctional weapons that support the overall look of the costume and character.
- Prop weapons must be no more than 2 meters in length and weigh no more than 5 kilograms.
- Prop weapons must be made from convention-appropriate material such as foam, plastic, rubber, light wood and fabric.
- Metal Armor is acceptable if attached to the costume as long as there are no exposed sharp edges; example, chainmail, bolts or hinges, small screws or nails, jewels, goblets and cups.
- Loose metal chain accessories must not exceed 30 centimetres in length.
- All prop bows must be unstrung or have low-tension strings and prop arrows must have blunt, non-metal tips.

Lightsabers with a metal handles are permitted at any Cosmos event as long as the total weight of the entire item is less than 1kg

In light of terrorist activities all real life and imitation military clothing of any kind will not be permitted under any circumstances.

Individual pieces of common camo clothing, such as pants and tops, are permitted, but full camo outfits or imitation military uniforms are not permitted. This also applies to SWAT style uniforms. Imitation Military uniforms from before 1900 are permitted.

Additionally, imitation firearms of any kind, whether homemade or toy, are not permitted. Any item that appears to function as a firearm, even if it does not function as a firearm, is classified as an imitation firearm. Imitation guns are not permitted at our event as they may cause public unrest. Weapons from science fiction or fantasy series are permitted, as are brightly colored toy weapons that do not obviously resemble functioning firearms. Toy guns are generally multicolored and have brightly colored ends on the barrels, making them clearly identifiable as toy guns.

Example: Nerf guns and water shooting toy weapons: are permitted at our event as long as they are not loaded and the person bringing them during the event do not have ammunition. Under no circumstances will event attendees be allowed to bring any real or decommissioned firearms to the event.

E.g. Airsoft, BB guns, Paintball guns, Sporting guns, etc.

These changes are important to ensure the safety of event attendees and the public outside the show, and to prevent police being called due to public alarm. Check out the photos below for more details.

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Examples of imitation and replica firearms that are not permitted.



Examples of prop and toy firearms that are permitted.



Examples of imitation SWAT and military uniforms that are not permitted.





Metal blades/blunt objects

Metal weapons as props are strictly prohibited on the premises. This includes, but is not limited to, knives, swords, daggers, switchblades, butterfly knives, axes, hatchets, metal bars, shuriken, etc. These items have the potential to cause serious personal injury and property damage.

Items with metal parts may be brought inside the costume. However, please be considerate of other attendees if you bring them to the event. Any metal parts protruding from the props must be covered to prevent them from being caught by other attendees. Impact weapons, e.g. baseball bats, rods, sticks, clubs, shields, etc. Impact weapons made from metal or aluminum are prohibited due to their potential for bodily harm, however impact weapons weighing less than 5kg are permitted if made from nonmetallic materials such as balsa wood, polystyrene, pine wood, MDF, dowels, etc.

Household items and tools, e.g. power tools, kitchen utensils, etc.

Some items can be brought in with your costume. However, please be considerate of other participants when carrying them during the event. Power tools, e.g. B. The use of chainsaws, axes, and drills is prohibited at the event. If cosplay-related, please use safe alternative materials.

If you have any questions about items not included in this list or our policy regarding firearms, feel free to contact us on our Instagram page or at cosmoseventtsnz@gmail.com.

If you purchase a weapon at Cosmos Con

All exhibitors adhere to a strict R16 firearms policy for their customers and also include an informational pamphlet outlining their firearms policy with every purchase. If you purchase a prop or other weapon from an exhibitor at a Cosmos event, it must remain sealed in secure packaging for the duration of the event. If any prop weapon purchased at the event does not comply with the weapons policy, it may not be openly carried at the event.

Banned Props	Appropriate Substitutions
Firearms e.g. Rifles, handguns, BB guns, airsoft guns, shotguns, paintball guns, blowguns etc.	Plastic/ Toy gun with orange/ red cap (Please refer below to Firearms and Projectile Weapons section)
Explosives of any incendiary devices	Plastic replica
Metal Weapons e.g. swords, knives, blades, daggers, switchblades, butterfly knives, throwing stars etc.	Plastic replica, balsa, polystyrene, pine, MDF, dowel
Blunt Metal Weapons e.g. brass knuckles, shields, metal pole-arms, clubs etc.	Plastic replica, balsa, polystyrene, pine, MDF, dowel
Loose Metal Chain	Less than 30cm in length
Household items/ tools e.g. axes, hatchets, power tools etc.	Plastic/ Toy replica, polystyrene
Wooden weapons e.g. bats, paddles, clubs, baseball bats etc.	Under 5kg. Otherwise banned
Hunting weapons e.g. bows, loose arrows, darts, etc.	Unstrung wooden bows less than 5kg, arrows must be fixed onto quiver. Costume. Plastic/ Toy replica
Other props e.g. pepper spray/ mace etc.	Plastic/ Toy replica
Weapons with protruding nails or screw ends.	Plastic or foam replica

Explicit Clothing and Merchandise (Ahegao Clothing and Merchandise)

Clothing that contains sexually explicit or sexually suggestive images or patterns.

Example: B. Ahegao clothing may not be worn under any circumstances. Patrons arriving dressed in such clothing will not be allowed entry to the venue until they have changed. If you wear such clothing as an exhibitor, you will be asked to change into appropriate clothing or removed from the venue until you are able to change into appropriate clothing. Cosmos staff reserves the absolute right to refuse entry to the event to anyone it deems, in its sole discretion, to be inappropriately dressed.

Sexually explicit merchandise is not permitted at the event and will be removed from any person, including vendors, if found to be in possession of said items. However, sexually suggestive merchandise is permitted and available for trade/ purchase but not permitted on stall display - the display product, if any, must be heavily censored. Upon sale, the piece of work is to be wrapped, folded or rolled so the suggestive work cannot be seen in plain sight.

If you have any questions about any items not included in this list or about our general policy regarding cosplay props/weapons, feel free to contact us on our Instagram page or at cosmoseventsnz@gmail.com.