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General cosplay and weapon rules at HeroFest 2023

General information and Rules

- Cosplayers have a room to change into their costumes. Sanitary facilities are available.
- There will be opportunities to have your photos taken.

Costume rules

- The costumes must not be too open. The torso, private area and bottom must be properly covered. This rule applies to both sexes. Vulgar actions are also forbidden, regardless if it is in character or not. If in doubt, send an email with pictures attached.
- Violations of these rules may have consequences.

Maximum dimensions of the costumes:

- Clothes can have no more than 2 meters width.
- Tails or dragged material can lie no further than 1 meter away from the carrier's feet.
- Wings can have up to 2 meters of wingspan, and each individual wing can only have a wingspan of 1 meter.
- The height of the costume, including wings and crowns, can not be higher than 2 meters 50 centimeters.
- Make-up and colour applied to the costume cannot "lose colour".
- Historical costumes and images or costumes and images related to real history that have a political or violent aspect must be approved by team members of the organisation. This applies in particular to uniforms and other representations that are linked to politics or violence. Costumes and images related to sensitive periods of history, such as fascist regimes, may be banned.
- Weapons out of metal must be fixed tight to the body, any loose parts will be checked by the weapons check.
- We ask our visitors to refrain from gas masks and Latex full-face masks, helmets and the like in public spaces outside the convention grounds.
- Fursuits and Morphsuits/Zentais are allowed.

If the cosplay exceeds these dimensions please contact us by email.

Accessories

- Horned hand bands and neck bands must be inspected to ensure that the spikes are dull.
- The clothing should have no harsh or sharp edges.
- Everyday objects like walking sticks and umbrellas are allowed.
- Eye lenses are allowed.

Rules for weaponry

General rules:



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- For many cosplays weapons are a must. Yet, it is important to abide by the Swiss law that limits what we can do as event organisers and what you can do as cosplayers. These rules must be understood and followed.
- All visitors take weapons with them at their own risk and are liable for any damages caused.

Allowed weapon replicas:

- Pretend fighting is only allowed on stage during the cosplay contests.
- Excluded from these rules are objects that are obviously fake, and would appear to anyone as children's toys and completely harmless.

Prohibited weapons

Prohibited weapons may not be brought onto the premises. Anyone who tries to do so risks having their ticket confiscated without refund and being banned from the premises immediately, as well as being reported to the authorities. It does not matter whether the owner is in possession of a valid firearms licence, for example, which entitles him/her to carry the weapon.

Prohibited weapons include, for example:

- Real firearms, real ammunition, pyrotechnics and explosive devices (firecrackers, rockets, etc.)
- Functioning soft air and gas pistols (also unloaded)
- Imitation firearms and replicas made of metal, metal/wood, plastic, etc., where there is a risk of confusion with real firearms.
- Real throwing weapons (e.g. throwing stars, throwing arrows, throwing knives).
- Real brass knuckles, deadly bludgeons, steel rods
- Real choking weapons (e.g. nunchucks)
- Cutting and stabbing weapons with sharp metal blades or points (e.g. katanas, swords, sabres, machetes, hatchets, morning stars, knives of all kinds except pocket knives)
- Knives that can be operated with one hand (butterfly, switchblade, etc.)
- Knives with double-edged blade
- Riding crops over 1 m long, hand whips with tape measure over 1.5 m, staff whips with staff over 1 m and tape measure over 1.5 m long
- Arrows of all kinds, regardless of material, except LARP padded arrowhead or soft material without tip.

Permitted weapons

Permitted weapons may be carried at HeroFest for the entire duration. They will be specially marked at the entrance so that they do not have to be checked each time.

Permitted weapons include, for example:

- Cutting and stabbing weapons with blunt metal blades and round points (e.g., katanas, swords, sabers, machetes, hatchets, morning stars, knives of all types except pocket knives) for show fighting purposes and with show fighting standards.



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- Cutting and stabbing weapons with blade substitutes made of wood, plastic, etc. (e.g., katanas, swords, sabers, machetes, hatchets, knives of all kinds except listed in prohibited weapons).
- Imitation weapons made of foam, rubber, cardboard, soft plastic.
- LARP weapons ("Live Action Role Play" - generally foam or latex replicas with stabilizing cores).
- Weapons and staffs made of a combination of wood and/or cardboard/plastic/soft material.
- Sticks that clearly indicate that they are for stabilization only.
- Bows and quivers, but without arrows, except LARP arrows with a cushion arrowhead or soft material without a tip.
- Riding crops, whips (unless mentioned under prohibited weapons).

Requests or can be sent to cosplay@herofest.ch

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