

Dublin 2019, An Irish Worldcon

Weapons Policy

Weapons Policy

Please read this entire policy before attending a Dublin 2019, An Irish Worldcon.

Attendees includes Committee, Staff, Volunteers and Members, and all others trading, exhibiting and otherwise participating.

Venue Staff includes all those directly, or indirectly through subcontracting, employed by The Convention Centre, Dublin; The Point Square Shopping Centre; The Odeon Point Square; The Gibson Hotel; or the Spencer Hotel.

Compliance with the Weapons Policy & Prop Weapon Guidelines is mandatory for all attendees. Dublin 2019 and venue staff reserve the right to consider any weapon or prop to be breaking these rules if deemed to be unsafe or likely to cause danger or undue disruption.

The following items are forbidden:

- Firearms (including, but not limited to, air soft guns, BB guns, cap guns, paintball guns and pellet guns.)
- Offensive Weapons
- Blunt weapons (including, but not limited to, brass knuckles, baseball bats, and clubs).
- Aerosols or compressed air chambers (i.e. paint, silly string). Projectiles of any kind.
- Water pistols, super soakers or anything that squirts or sprays a liquid.
- Heavy items that could be used as weapons (i.e. hammers, spanners, wrenches).
- Protruding nails, barb wire or other sharp items.
- Studs designed to harm. Dublin2019 reserves the right to decide what can and cannot cause harm.

Prop Weapon Guidelines:

- Dublin 2019 and the venue staff reserve the right to inspect any prop weapon at any point during an event to deem whether it is safe or simply to see how awesome it is.
- Whips are permitted but can only be unravelled for photographs, and no cracking is permitted.
- Prop bows are allowed if they are unstrung, and cannot be under tension. In other words, they cannot be capable of firing a projectile. Arrows must not have a sharp point, blade or barb on them, and be secured in a quiver.
- Replica foam, plastic and resin props are allowed, provided they are not sharp. Wooden and metal props of any kind will be subject to inspection.
- Live steel weapons, blunted or not, will not be permitted.
- Live Action Role-playing weapons are permitted as long as they are sheathed and peacebonded.
- At no time is the swinging of props permitted. Action poses are acceptable for photographs.

- Props that are deemed inappropriate will not be allowed into the venue.
- Anyone who brings a large prop or a prop weapon to Dublin2019 is responsible for the conduct of that prop or weapon, even when it is not in your possession.

Legal Definitions

Firearms

The *Firearms and Offensive Weapons Act, 1990*, and the *Firearms Act, 1925*, define a firearm as a lethal firearm or other lethal weapon of any description from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged. The Acts includes air guns, or any other weapon incorporating a barrel from which metal or other slugs can be discharged and has a muzzle velocity of over 1 joule (this includes airsoft weapons and paintball guns); any type of stun gun or other weapon for causing any shock or other disablement to a person by means of electricity or any other kind of energy emission; any weapon of whatever description designed for the discharge of any noxious liquid, noxious gas, or other noxious thing, and also any ammunition (whether for any such weapon as aforesaid or for any other weapon) which contains or is designed or adapted to contain any noxious liquid, noxious gas, or other noxious thing; any crossbow or spear gun. It also includes any article which would be a firearm under any of the foregoing definitions but for the fact that, owing to the lack of a necessary component part or parts, or to any other defect or condition, it is incapable of discharging a shot, bullet or other missile or of causing a shock or other disablement (as the case may be). It does not include antique firearms or non-firing replicas, but it does include deactivated firearms. Recent legislation, however, makes it an offence to possess a realistic imitation firearm in a public place without lawful authority or reasonable excuse.

Offensive Weapons

The *Firearms and Offensive Weapons Act, 1990*, defines offensive weapons as any knife or any other article which has a blade or which is sharply pointed, any flick knife, or any other article whatsoever made or adapted for use for causing injury to or incapacitating a person. The Justice Department FAQ on Firearms and Offensive weapons lists offensive weapons to include, but not limited to, flick-knives, knuckle dusters, swordsticks, sword umbrellas, hand and foot claws, belt buckle knives, push daggers, hollow kubotans, shurikens, butterfly knives, telescopic truncheons, blowpipes, kusarigama, kyoketsu shoge, manrikigusari, sap gloves, and machetes. It also includes katanas or 'samurai swords', as of September 2009, but there are exceptions to the ban designed for collectors and martial artists.

The Act states that it is an offence to have any of the above in a public place unless they have good reason or lawful authority to have them, or, they can prove that they had the article on them for work or recreational purposes.