



Prop and Costume Policy at FLPolyCon 2019

FLPolyCon is dedicated to the safety and security of ALL attendees to make sure that everyone may enjoy the convention without concern. Use common sense and remember what seems harmless to you may appear like a threat to someone else. All attendees must adhere to Federal Law, Florida State Law, local municipal codes as well as any policies enacted by the University. If it is illegal outside of the convention, it is illegal inside the convention

Please read this entire policy before attending FLPolyCon. Failure to follow this policy may result in your removal from the convention without refund. FLPolyCon has a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY FOR WEAPONS.

The following items are **NOT ALLOWED** at FLPolyCon:

- **Live firearms:** This includes modern guns, hunting guns, historic guns, airsoft guns, BB guns, cap guns, paintball guns and pellet guns – either functioning or de-commissioned.
- **Realistic replica firearms:** This includes reproduction, fake or toy guns that can be confused for functional firearms – either metal, solid resin/plastic/rubber.
- **Functional projectile weapons:** This includes blow guns, functioning crossbows, functioning longbows, silly string, slingshots, water balloons and water guns. No props or weapons capable of firing any projectile or powder charge of any kind.
- **Sharpened metal-bladed weapons:** This includes axes, daggers, hatchets, knives, kunai, shuriken, swords, sword canes and switchblades.
- **Explosives:** This includes firecrackers and fireworks.
- **Chemical weapons:** This includes mace, aerosol mustard, and pepper spray.
- **Blunt weapons:** This includes brass knuckles, clubs and nunchaku.
- **Hard prop weapons:** This includes props made of metal, fiberglass and glass.
- **No laser pointers.** If you have a laser pointer in your prop or weapon, make sure it cannot function by either removing the batteries, or simply not bringing it.
- **No excessive noise makers.** Items that cause excessive noise levels like vuvuzelas, grenade whistles and grenade horns.
- **Miscellaneous.** No whips. No glitter.

PROP WEAPONS:

Prop weapons are homemade or commercially rendered costume prop weapons that support the overall look of a costume or character, including futuristic prop weapons made to look like phasers, ray guns, lightsabers, etc...

Prop weapons will be allowed provided that they are composed of cardboard, foam, wood or other light materials. Prop firearms are allowed only if they cannot be mistaken for real weapons. The barrel of all prop firearms must be covered with brightly-orange-colored caps. Tips maybe removable for photo-op purposes, however must remain on when not being used for such purposes. Failure to keep tips on when not in use may result in being asked to store your prop in your car, confiscation or expulsion of the event.

Bows and crossbows will only be permitted if they're absolutely prop in nature – no tension on the string beyond what it takes to keep it straight, and arrows should not have any form of tip.

No items can have sharp points, sharp edges, excessive weight or any other features that could be deemed dangerous to others (E.g. we do not allow metal replica samurai swords, "BB guns/air guns" even if they are not loaded).

All prop weapons must be checked at the Prop Check Table, where volunteers will inspect the prop. EVERY prop will be handled on a case-by-case basis. You may be asked to take further measures to make the prop safe before it will be given approval. Be prepared for this contingency.

Any approved prop weapon may be revoked at any time at the discretion of FLPolyCon Event Leaders or by University Security/ Campus Police Department, for reasons including, but not limited to, the item being utilized or brandished in an inappropriate fashion or if complaints are received regarding its improper display.

FLPolyCon reserves the right to refuse entry of any prop/weapon it deems unfit for any reason. Any misuse of a prop/weapon (horseplay, dueling, fighting, running/swinging, firing, etc.) is grounds for removal and/or ejection from convention premises without recourse, up to and including legal action depending on the severity of the offense.

PURCHASED PROPS AND WEAPONS:

Any imitation weapons or replica swords or knives must remain in the original packaging until the attendee is off of the University's property.

If you would like to use the purchased piece as a part of your costume the item must be presented to the prop check desk in its original packaging. If approved it may be used in accordance to the rules stated within the Props and Costume policy.

If the item is denied approval then it must remain in its original packaging or will need to be securely stored in the attendee's hotel room, vehicle or left at the Prop Check Desk until they are leaving the event. Failure to comply will result in being escorted off

premises and banned from the event without refund.

COSTUMES:

It is required that all attendees wear clothing that covers at least the areas normally obscured by standard bathing suits. However, we advise you to keep in mind that this is a student run convention hosted at a local university. Since there will be students, parents, and university staff in attendance, we suggest you wear clothing with a modesty level that would be appropriate at your educational or professional institution.

FLPolycon does not actively discourage cosplay of any character, but we do ask that you demonstrate proper tact in your cosplay. If a character, or the show from which the character comes, seems like it may be in poor taste due to current events, we suggest you retire that cosplay for a while.

PLEASE NOTE that if you violate any of the above rules you CAN and WILL be removed from the convention. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS! If you are asked by a member of Campus Security or Event Volunteers, you are required to comply with their requests or risk removal from the convention. These decisions are based on the discretion of the Events Volunteer or Campus Security you are dealing with at that exact moment. Do not think you are an exception to the rules. Use common sense. If you cannot abide by the rules, please stay home.

FLPolyCon reserves the right to amend or change these rules at anytime for any reason to provide for the safety, security and general well being of attendees and the general public.