

# Mascot Risk Assessment

## Private Events

Activity: Mascot appearances at private events (e.g. children's birthday parties, weddings, family celebrations)

Location: Private homes, hired halls, community centres, wedding venues

Date: Ongoing

Assessment Conducted By: Matt Morton

### 1. Hazard: Heat Stress / Overheating

**Risk:**  
Prolonged wearing of mascot costumes in indoor or enclosed environments may lead to heat stress, dehydration, or fatigue.

**Who is at Risk:**  
Mascot performers.

**Control Measures:**

- Mascot performers will take regular breaks (minimum every 30 minutes, or more frequently depending on temperature).
- A cool, well-ventilated rest area will be identified prior to the visit.
- Water and hydration will be available at all times.
- Performers will be monitored for signs of overheating or fatigue.
- Appearances may be shortened or paused if conditions are unsuitable.

Residual Risk Rating: Low (with controls)

### 2. Hazard: Visibility and Restricted Movement

**Risk:**  
Limited vision and restricted movement could result in trips, falls, or collisions with guests or furniture.

**Who is at Risk:**  
Mascot performers and event attendees.

**Control Measures:**

- Mascots will be accompanied by a handler or supervising adult at all times.
- Performers will familiarise themselves with the venue layout on arrival.
- Furniture, toys, and trip hazards will be identified and avoided where possible.
- Movement will be slow and controlled at all times.

Residual Risk Rating: Low (with controls)



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# Mascot Risk Assessment

## Public Events

### 3. Hazard: Interaction with Children and Guests

**Risk:**

Excitable behaviour, close contact, or overcrowding could result in accidental injury.

**Who is at Risk:**

Mascot performers and event attendees, particularly children.

**Control Measures:**

- Mascots will avoid lifting children or engaging in rough play.
- Physical interaction will be limited to high-fives, waves, and photos.
- Clear boundaries will be set by the handler or host if children become over-excited.
- Parents or guardians remain responsible for supervising children at all times.

Residual Risk Rating: Low (with controls)

### 4. Hazard: Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults

**Risk:**

Safeguarding concerns may arise during private events where children or vulnerable adults are present.

**Who is at Risk:**

Children and vulnerable adults.

**Control Measures:**

- The majority of Blue Duo Events staff hold enhanced DBS checks.
- Any staff member without an enhanced DBS check will always be accompanied by a DBS-checked staff member.
- Non-DBS-checked staff are trusted individuals personally known to the business and are never left unsupervised.
- Mascots will not engage in private or unsupervised interactions.
- If a disclosure is made to a mascot, the mascot will raise a hand to alert the supervising Blue Duo staff member.
- Any safeguarding concerns will be passed to the event host and, where appropriate, children's services or relevant authorities.

Residual Risk Rating: Low (with controls)



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# Mascot Risk Assessment

## Public Events

### 5. Hazard: Slips, Trips, and Falls

**Risk:**

Uneven flooring, toys, cables, or decorations may cause trips or falls.

**Who is at Risk:**

Mascot performers and guests.

**Control Measures:**

- A visual check of the performance area will be carried out on arrival.
- Mascots will wear appropriate non-slip footwear inside the costume.
- Handlers will guide mascots around potential hazards.
- Performances will avoid stairs unless assessed as safe.

Residual Risk Rating: Low (with controls)

### 6. Hazard: Manual Handling (Costume and Equipment)

**Risk:**

Lifting or carrying mascot costumes may cause strain or injury.

**Who is at Risk:**

Mascot performers and assistants.

**Control Measures:**

- Costumes transported in manageable sections where possible.
- Safe manual handling techniques used at all times.
- Assistance requested if items are heavy or awkward.

Residual Risk Rating: Low (with controls)

### 7. Hazard: Fire Safety and Heat Sources

**Risk:**

Mascot costumes may present a fire risk if exposed to naked flames or heat sources.

**Who is at Risk:**

Mascot performers and guests.

**Control Measures:**

- Mascots kept away from candles, open flames, fireworks, sparklers, BBQs, or heat sources.
- Fire exits identified on arrival at the venue.
- In the event of an emergency, the mascot head will be removed immediately to allow clear vision and safe evacuation.

Residual Risk Rating: Low (with controls)



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# Mascot Risk Assessment

## Public Events

### 8. Hazard: Behavioural Issues or Distress

**Risk:**

Some children may be frightened or overwhelmed by mascots.

**Who is at Risk:**

Children and mascot performers.

**Control Measures:**

- Mascots will approach children calmly and slowly.
- Interaction will stop immediately if a child shows signs of distress.
- Parents or guardians will be consulted before continued interaction.

Residual Risk Rating: Low (with controls)

### 9. Hazard: Travel to and from Private Events

**Risk:**

Risks associated with transport of staff and equipment.

**Who is at Risk:**

Mascot performers and assistants.

**Control Measures:**

- Vehicles used are roadworthy and insured.
- Costumes transported safely and securely.
- Staff follow standard road safety procedures.

Residual Risk Rating: Low (with controls)

### Review

This risk assessment will be reviewed annually or following any incident, change in working practices, or safeguarding guidance.

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