

## Common risks and solutions

The following are some risks commonly encountered in NZ larping, and some common solutions to them.

Risk	Applies to	Why it is a risk	What you can do
Alcohol	Long events	Intoxicated participants may display poor judgement when confronted with other safety problems. Legal risk (e.g. underage supply) Next-day fatigue	Assuming the venue permits alcohol (many don't), and you are willing to permit it: Have an alcohol policy ( <a href="#">example</a> ) saying whether alcohol can be consumed, and if so, where and when. Ensure participants do not provide alcohol to those who are not of legal age to drink. Ensure participants drink responsibly. Ensure participants do not engage in larp combat while under the influence of alcohol. Be prepared to tighten policy if required. Alternatively, if you don't want to deal with it: ban drinking at event.
Allergies	Food Long Events Outdoor events	Risk of illness or even death from allergens Participants may not eat if food is unsafe.	Ensure signup form includes a space for participants to inform you of relevant allergies. Ask venue about these if required. Ensure catering form collects information on allergies as well as food preferences. Ensure that appropriate food is available for all participants, and is labelled clearly. Inform participants of any known outdoor allergen sources (e.g. wasp nests) Ask participants to inform first-aiders of any serious allergy problems.
Archery	Live-combat events	Risk of physical injury	Limit pull of bows (the usual NZ restriction is 30lbs) Require archers to understand basic bow safety (arrow-checking, avoidance of headshots and short-range shots) Use "point-blank" rule to limit short-range shots Ensure participants do not use bows while impaired (e.g.

			sleep-deprivation, alcohol, side-effects of medication)
Bad weather	Outdoor events	Discomfort, exposure, post event illness In extreme cases, risk of physical injury	Be aware of expected weather conditions Consider shifting event indoors Schedule outdoor activities around weather In extreme cases (e.g. tropical cyclone), be aware of local risks (e.g. flooding, falling trees). In extreme cases, consider event cancellation.
Bullying / harassment	All events	Risk of emotional harm	Have a code of conduct banning bullying and harassment and ensure all participants are aware of it Ensure that participants can complain to event organisers and that complaints will be acted upon promptly If necessary, remove those responsible for bullying or harassment from event, and prohibit attendance at future events. If necessary, prohibit known bullies or harassers from attending event
Live combat	Live-combat events	Risk of physical injury	Ensure weapons are safe. If necessary, check all weapons. Ensure participants are aware of basic weapon safety (pulling blows, avoiding headshots, situational awareness) Ensure participants are aware of safety calls (e.g. caution, time-out, man down) Encourage participants to look out for each other in combat and warn each other of unsafe situations Ensure participants do not fight while impaired (e.g. sleep-deprivation, alcohol, side-effects of medication)
Unsafe terrain	Live-combat events Outdoor events	Risk of physical injury	Ensure participants are aware of unsafe areas, and that they should avoid or exercise caution as necessary Ensure live combat or running does not happen in unsafe areas Schedule outdoor activities away from unsafe areas.