

Bonfire and Firework Displays

Cover is extended to provide insurance in respect of a bonfire and firework display on, organised and controlled by an LTA registered Place to Play, subject to compliance with the following conditions:

Requirements

1. A written event Risk Assessment to be carried out by the organiser or appointed firework contractor.
2. The local Fire Service are to be consulted at least 7 days before the event and any recommendations that they may have are to be complied with.
3. The relevant HSE guidance to be followed by the organiser and/or appointed firework contractors.
4. The relevant local authorities have been notified and permission for the event granted, you must also ensure that any requirements from the authorities are fully complied with; and
 - a. All fireworks to be supplied by a reputable manufacturer and will not be modified by the organiser or appointed firework contractor.
 - b. The Firework Safety Code to be followed and all specific instructions for storage and use given by the manufacturer of the fireworks will be complied with in full.
5. All staff/volunteers should receive all appropriate training in line with the risk assessment or recommendations from the local fire service (recorded in writing) and should be briefed on the safety procedures for the event
 - a. Qualified first aid personnel are to be in attendance in line with the risk assessment document and means of summoning emergency assistance to be available.
 - b. Fire extinguishers are to be on hand, and staff/volunteers have been instructed in the safe operation and use of such equipment.
6. The fireworks display and bonfires will be sited at least 100 metres from any buildings or vehicles and there are no roads, railways, overhead cables, woodland, bracken or similar combustible materials in the immediate vicinity.
 - a. The bonfire is kept at least 25 metres away from the firework display area, behind appropriate safety fencing and is not located within 5 metres of any trees fencing or other combustible material; and
 - b. Spectators to be kept at least 25 metres from the display/bonfire and the display area should be clearly roped off.
 - c. No petrol, paraffin or other accelerants will be used for the purpose of lighting any bonfire.
7. An appropriate check is made of the weather conditions prior to the event going live and if appropriate, a check is made with the fire service as to whether to continue with the event
8. At the end of the display a thorough check is undertaken (and a written record kept) of the area to ensure that no potential fire hazards remain – the bonfire area must be doused in water
9. The site will be inspected the next day in daylight to ensure no fireworks have been left.
10. If a subcontractor is operating the display the sub-contractor has public liability insurance in place to a limit no less than your limit shown in the schedule, and you have retained a written record of their insurance details including their policy number and a copy of their policy schedule.

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Recommendations:

Organisers should do all they can to reduce the risk of anyone suffering injury. Sensible precautions include:

- One member of the committee or other body organising the display will be in direct charge of safety matters and not engaged in any duties or activities which would prevent them from exercising general supervision.
- There should be at least one steward in attendance for every 250 attendees.
- There is an adequate drop zone for the fall-out of rockets and debris downwind of spectators of at least 50 metres.
- Fireworks to be kept in a fireproof container and handled by authorised personnel only.
- Smoking should not be allowed anywhere near the fireworks.
- Shooting fireworks, such as rockets or roman candles, will be placed inside a metal-sided box of sufficient size to contain the device should it topple over.
- Any person firing fireworks should retire to a safe distance immediately once the fuse is lit and should never return to fireworks which do not light first time (30 minutes should be allowed to elapse before approaching and carefully dousing with water).
- Light should be provided where possible for pathways used by spectators.
- Spectators should not be allowed to bring fireworks [not even sparklers] to the display.
- There should be dedicated access at the site of the display for emergency services.