

3 Rules, 3 Skills, 3 Reminders for Mascots

3 RULES

- I) Always Have a Spotter
 - A) Spotters make you aware of situations difficult to notice from inside the costume.
 - 1) Can't hear someone making announcement
 - 2) Child trying to shake your hand
 - B) Spotters help you escape unnecessary situations.
 - 1) Children being inappropriate with tail or crotch shots etc.
 - 2) Being your voice and talking to Parents, fans, or admins
 - 3) Getting away or avoiding unruly opposing fans
- II) Keep Identity a Secret
 - A) While in the costume you are a famous character, not just a person.
 - 1) Avoid talking while suited up
 - 2) Make the Lion's eyes look at fans, not your own
 - 3) Fans interact differently with people they do / not know.
 - 4) A child's perception of reality and imagination are influenced by your performance
 - B) Use safe location to be "out of character"
 - 1) Use a locked room to sit down, take off the head, or change
 - 2) Never take photos partially costumed (even for private use)
- III) Be Larger than Life
 - A) Mascot costumes hide small movements
 - 1) Exaggerate everything - walk, handshake, high 'five', emotions etc
 - 2) You are the center of attention, the alpha, a leader, so act like it
 - B) Everyone wants to see everything you do

3 SKILLS

- I) Stay Involved
 - A) You reflect the environment
 - 1) Show people how they should act
 - 2) Always be a "class act"

- B) Know how to express emotion
 - 1) Practice happy, sad, confused, upset, excited, etc.
 - 2) Use props to help
- II) Entertain the Fans
 - A) Make your entrance an event
 - 1) Enter during lull to no action
 - 2) Create a disruption / noise to get attention
 - B) Have a trick ready to "up" the energy
 - 1) Crowd participation: slow clap, wave, "We Are"
 - 2) Entertainment: dance, pictures, skit, etc.
- III) Befriend Everyone
 - A) Acknowledge everyone in the room
 - 1) Offer High Fives, Hand Shakes, and Head Nods
 - 2) Be creative, always have a "Go To"
 - B) Work your way around the crowd
 - 1) Make an appearance in every area of the event
 - 2) Point to your watch and leave when ready

3 REMINDERS

- I) Give Respect to Get Respect
 - A) Lead by example
 - 1) Avoid mocking-you are not a clown
 - 2) Leave your area clean when gone
- II) Stay Hydrated / Rested
 - A) Drink water or sports drinks
 - 1) Before, during, and after events
 - 2) Be aware of temp / humidity for length of breaks
 - B) Rest as needed
- III) Take Care of the Costume
 - A) Hang up the costume when not in use
 - B) Sanitize the mask/helmet each time
 - C) Dry clean the costume once a month

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