Paul Longhurst Magician

Risk Statement

Overview:

Performing close-up magic involves direct interaction with guests in a variety of environments, such as private events, corporate gatherings, or social venues. This risk statement outlines the potential hazards and mitigating measures to ensure a safe, enjoyable, and professional experience for both Paul Longhurst and the audience.

Key Risks and Mitigation Measures:

1. **Risk: Personal Injury (Self and Guests)**
    - **Hazards**: Possible risks include accidental injury from props, tripping hazards, or personal discomfort from overly crowded spaces.
    - **Mitigation**:
        - Avoid using sharp, heavy, or hazardous props.
        - Perform in areas with adequate space, and avoid obstructing pathways.
        - Ensure tables and performance areas are clutter-free and clear of spills or obstacles.
2. **Risk: Infection and Hygiene Concerns**
    - **Hazards**: Direct handling of props or audience interaction may pose hygiene risks, especially in close proximity.
    - **Mitigation**:
        - Regularly sanitize hands, especially before and after guest interaction.
        - Sanitize props frequently or bring multiple sets of items.
        - Avoid close contact with guests who appear unwell and respect personal space.

3. **Risk: Audience Sensitivity and Discomfort**
    - **Hazards**: Audience members may be uncomfortable with certain effects, particularly involving personal items, card selection, or "mind reading."
    - **Mitigation**:
        - Gauge audience comfort before engaging in any interactive routines.
        - Offer alternative effects if guests are hesitant or appear uncomfortable.
        - Keep routines lighthearted and family-friendly to suit diverse audience types.
4. **Risk: Property Damage**
    - **Hazards**: Moving between tables or handling items near food, drinks, and decorations can lead to accidental spills or breakages.
    - **Mitigation**:
        - Be mindful of surroundings, keeping a safe distance from food, drink, or fragile items.
        - Use portable props that are unlikely to cause damage and refrain from using liquids, open flames, or messy items.
5. **Risk: Disruption of Event Flow or Noise**
    - **Hazards**: Close-up magic may become disruptive if not adapted to the setting or if performed during key event moments.
    - **Mitigation**:
        - Coordinate with event organizers to schedule performances during appropriate times.
        - Adjust voice level and performance style to suit the venue, ensuring the performance doesn’t interfere with other activities.

Conclusion:

Through careful planning and consideration of these potential risks, a close-up magician can create an enjoyable, interactive experience that is both safe and respectful of guests, venue, and event requirements.