



**s n a k e s a l i v e**  
interactive reptile experience

## **Risk Assessment**

Reviewed January 2018

We (snakes alive limited) can confirm that we have read through and reviewed the Risks associated with the key areas of business to the general public and outlined these below.

We can confirm that all staff (“Keepers”) are aware of the Risks and their responsibilities to reduce these and these are clearly highlighted in the office manual.

By taking part with snakes alive ltd. You (“Participants” or “Guests”) are agreeing to your responsibilities, outlined below, to reduce the risks to other people and animals.

You are aware that the term “Participants” and/or “Guests” does not include children under the age of 18 years old and that as such they remain the responsibility of a parent/carer who is over 18 years old to ensure their safety and adhere to the Risk Assessment below at all times.

signed

**snakes alive team**

Potential hazard	People at risk	Control measures	Preventative measures	Responsibilities	Action to be taken	Notes
Bites and scratches	Participants and keepers that handle the animals, they do so at their own risk.	Participant receives close supervision from the keeper who will provide verbal instructions to guide the person.	Only use animals that are considered appropriate for the participant and event, considering crowds and ages.	The keeper to be vigilant and engaged with the participant and make appropriate decisions to safeguard people and animals.  Participants should follow the advice of the keeper and be respectful of the animals.	A First Aid kit should be available for use and incidents should be logged in the Accident record book.  A Duty First Aider may be called upon if required.	Bites and scratches would be deemed superficial and should not require medical attention. No animals are venomous.
Allergens - from fine animal hair or secretions	Anyone that handles the animals with allergies or sensitive skin.	Participants should be aware that they handle animals at their own risk.  Keepers should be notified in advance of any known allergies to animals.	Latex gloves can be used to minimise contact with potentially irritable secretions.  Handwashing should be encouraged and facilities either provided or pointed out.	Participants, or their parents/ carers over the age of 18, are responsible for making sure they notify keepers of any potential risk or allergies and making sure they thoroughly wash their hands after contact.  Keepers should remind participants about hand washing and display signs where appropriate.	If an allergic reaction occurs then it is advised that the skin affected is thoroughly rinsed with clean water and appropriate medical action is sought.  Keepers should be aware if a First Aider is on hand but it is not their responsibility to perform this.	We only anticipate mild irritation caused from the fine hair of tarantulas on skin. This risk may become greater if the hairs enter the eyes.  Secretions from other invertebrates or amphibians may cause some mild irritation but no animals are deemed harmful to humans.

Potential hazard	People at risk	Control measures	Preventative measures	Responsibilities	Action to be taken	Notes
Allergens - Latex gloves	Anyone with a latex allergy may be at risk.	Keepers should be notified in advance of any known allergies to latex.	Latex-free gloves should be available upon request, if notified in advance.	Participants, or their parents/ carers over the age of 18, are responsible for making sure they notify keepers of any potential risk or allergies and making sure they thoroughly wash their hands after contact.  Keepers should inform participants if gloves contain latex.	If an allergic reaction occurs then it is advised that the skin affected is thoroughly rinsed with clean water and appropriate medical action is sought.  Keepers should be aware if a First Aider is on hand but it is not their responsibility to perform this.	
Anxiety due to phobias (particularly surrounding spiders and snakes)	Anyone with close proximity to the animals with a phobia of them.	Snakes alive should be clearly sign posted in order for people to be aware of our presence.  Animals should be kept within close proximity to our designated area so that participants are not caught off guard and may feel safe outside of the snakes alive area.	Keepers will be sensitive to the anxieties of participants and will not force or pressure anyone who chooses to keep their distance.  Keepers will not allow participants to cause distress to others.	Keepers will follow the control and preventative measures in place.  Participants will also need to be sensitive to other people in the surrounding area.	Make sure animals are supervised at all times.  Display signage where possible.  Keep animals within a suitable boundary to the designated area.  Ask participants that are causing distress to others to leave.	

Potential hazard	People at risk	Control measures	Preventative measures	Responsibilities	Action to be taken	Notes
Zootonic diseases	Anyone that handles the animals.	<p>Handwashing signage should be displayed and verbal instruction should be given.</p> <p>Animals should be periodically checked for whether they carry salmonella.</p>	<p>Keepers should display signage and/or verbally remind participants to thoroughly wash their hands after contact and especially before consuming food.</p> <p>Food should not be consumed with the vicinity of animals.</p>	<p>Keepers are responsible to display signage about hand washing and signposting participants to the nearest facilities.</p> <p>Participants are responsible for washing their hands, except for children who remain the responsibility of their parents.</p>	<p>If illness occurs after handling any of our animals please seek appropriate medical advice.</p> <p>You may wish to advise doctors that in some cases reptiles can carry salmonella.</p>	We have not known anyone to have been affected by zootonic diseases.
Escaped animals	<p>Anyone that suffers from phobias.</p> <p>We deem very little physical injury to most people.</p>	Animals are not to be left unattended and an appropriate number of staff should be available.	Enclosures should be fitted with secure fastenings.	<p>It is the responsibility of the keeper to ensure the security of enclosures.</p> <p>Participants and/or guests should refrain from touching enclosures.</p>	<p>If an animal is thought to have escaped then the room, if applicable, should be closed and thoroughly searched.</p> <p>More about the escaped animal procedures can be found in our office manual.</p>	If a large snake has escaped then the risk to very young children and small animals may be increased slightly and people will be made aware of the risk.

Potential hazard	People at risk	Control measures	Preventative measures	Responsibilities	Action to be taken	Notes
Bug Eating	Consumers of the prepared edible insects	Signage should be displayed highlighting that participants take part at their own risk and advised of the disclaimer (found below)	The signage reminds people that they take part at their own risk and to avoid if they suffer from an allergies that may be triggered from participating.	The keeper must make sure that insects are safe for consumption, i.e. they are in- date, from a reputable source and are approved for human consumption.	If illness occurs after consuming the insects please seek appropriate medical advice.	No known risk is associated with consuming these edible insects.
Bug Challenge	Participants of the challenge	Signage should be displayed outlining that participants take part at their own risk and advised of the disclaimer (found below)	The signage reminds people that they take part at their own risk and to avoid if they suffer from an allergies that may be triggered from participating.	The keeper must make sure that insects are safe for the purpose and only low impact invertebrates will be used, such as crickets, locusts, mealworms or cockroaches.	If bites, scratches or irritation occur as a result of this challenge then the appropriate medical action should be sought.	Sometimes known as the 'Creepy Dip', this is a low risk game with no known injuries yet to occur.

### **Bug Eating Challenge Disclaimer**

In taking part you are agreeing to have read this risk assessment, disclaimer and agree to the terms and conditions laid out:

1. I am over 18 years old, or am the parents/ carer of someone under 18 years old that I consent to taking part
2. I suffer from no dietary needs or requirements that may be affected by my participation.
3. I suffer from no know allergies that may be affected by my participation
4. I take part at my own risk and snakes alive ltd hold no responsibility for my actions
5. I am aware these bugs are dead and have been deemed safe to eat by the manufacturers

### **Creepy Dip (Bug Challenge) Disclaimer**

In taking part you are agreeing to have read this risk assessment, disclaimer and agree to the terms and conditions laid out:

1. I am over 18 years old, or am the parents/ carer of someone under 18 years old that I consent to taking part
2. I suffer from no skin conditions that may be affected by my participation.
3. I suffer from no know allergies that may be affected by my participation
4. I take part at my own risk and snakes alive ltd hold no responsibility for my actions
5. I am aware these bugs have been deemed safe for participation by snakes alive.
6. I am aware these bugs are alive and will treat them with care and not intentionally cause any risk to their safety.

Produced and written by snakes alive ltd.