Code of Conduct and Terms & Conditions

Code of Conduct
AVMA is committed to providing a safe, productive, and welcoming environment for all meeting participants and AVMA staff. The AVMA has zero tolerance for any form of discrimination or harassment, including, but not limited to, sexual harassment against attendees or our staff. All participants, including, but not limited to, attendees, speakers, volunteers, exhibitors, AVMA staff members, service providers, and all others are expected to abide by this Code of Conduct, which is incorporated into and made a part of the Terms & Conditions for registration below. By registering for this event, you agree to comply with this Code of Conduct and the Terms & Conditions.

If you experience harassment or hear of any incidents of unacceptable behavior, AVMA asks that you email convention@avma.org, so that we can take the appropriate action.

Unacceptable behavior is defined as:
Harassment, intimidation, or discrimination in any form. Verbal or physical abuse of any attendee, speaker, volunteer, exhibitor, AVMA staff member, service provider, or other meeting guest. Examples of verbal abuse include, but are not limited to, unwelcome or inappropriate verbal comments related to gender, sex, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, religion, national origin, inappropriate use of nudity and/or sexual images in public spaces or in presentations, or threatening or stalking any attendee, speaker, volunteer, exhibitor, AVMA staff member, service provider, or other meeting guest.

Disruption of presentations during sessions, in the exhibit hall, or at other events organized by AVMA throughout the meeting is prohibited. All participants must comply with the instructions of the moderator, presenter, and any AVMA event staff.

The AVMA reserves the right in its sole discretion to take any action deemed necessary and appropriate, including immediate removal from the event without warning or refund, in response to any incident of unacceptable behavior. AVMA reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to prohibit attendance at any future meeting, held virtually or in person, for anyone who violates this Code of Conduct or the Terms & Conditions.

Terms & Conditions
In order to continue, you must agree to the terms and conditions below. If you decline, you will forfeit any current selections you have chosen for this event. If you have any questions, please contact convention@avma.org for more information.

Release of liability
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY – THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A WAIVER OF CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS

Acceptance of policies and registration conditions:
This document sets out the terms and conditions (“Terms & Conditions”) between the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and you when you register for any event or conference organized by AVMA. The term “you” and “your” includes you and any of your guests. By registering for an event or conference organized by AVMA you are agreeing to comply with these terms and conditions. You should read this document carefully. Prior to your registration, you must acknowledge and accept
the Terms & Conditions contained herein. Should you not wish to accept the Terms & Conditions you should not register. Submission of a registration is regarded as affirmation of your acceptance of these Terms & Conditions.

How we will use your information: AVMA is committed to data privacy and protecting your personal information. Information on how AVMA collects, processes, and uses your data is included in the https://www.avma.org/Pages/privacy.aspx which is hereby incorporated into these Terms & Conditions. Additionally, by submitting your email address and/or mobile phone number during the event registration process, you agree that AVMA and its event partners may send you event-related information by email or text message (charges may apply). A valid email address is required for all registrations. AVMA and its event partners may use the personal data you provide in this registration for administering your participation in this event. By registering, you consent to the use of your personal data as set forth herein by AVMA and its event partners. This may include providing you with information about the event’s content, event logistics, payment, updates, and additional information related to the event. AVMA may disclose your personal data to event partners and other third-party service providers engaged by AVMA to assist in providing the event (e.g., housing bureau, mobile application provider). Information you provide when registering for or participating in an event managed or co-sponsored by parties other than or in addition to AVMA may be shared with those parties, and the treatment of such information is further subject to the privacy policies of those parties. Except as described herein, including AVMA’s privacy policy, AVMA will not disclose your personal data to any other third party without your consent except where required to do so by law.

Liability waiver and release

I am aware and understand that the certain optional activities associated with the event, such as yoga, running, or similar physical activity, are potentially dangerous and involve the risk of serious injury, disability, death, and/or property damage. I am also aware of the highly contagious nature of viral diseases, including the 2019 novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) (collectively, the "Disease") and the risk that I may be exposed to or contract the Disease by engaging in the event, which may result in serious illness, personal injury, disability, death, and/or property damage. I acknowledge that these risks may result from or be compounded by the actions, omissions, or negligence of AVMA employees or others, including negligent emergency response or rescue operations of the AVMA. I understand that while the AVMA has implemented measures to reduce the risk of injury from the event and the spread of the Disease, the AVMA cannot guarantee that I will not be injured or become infected with the Disease due to my participation in the event and that engaging in the event may increase my risk of contracting the Disease.

NOTWITHSTANDING THESE RISKS, ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND MY HEIRS, AND IN CONSIDERATION FOR MY ATTENDANCE AT THE EVENT: I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I AM VOLUNTARILY PARTICIPATING IN THE EVENT WITH KNOWLEDGE OF THE DANGERS INVOLVED. TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, I HEREBY AGREE TO ACCEPT AND ASSUME ALL RISKS OF INJURY, ILLNESS, DISABILITY, DEATH, AND/OR PROPERTY DAMAGE ARISING FROM MY PARTICIPATION IN THE EVENT, WHETHER CAUSED BY THE ORDINARY NEGLIGENCE OF THE AVMA OR OTHERWISE. I HEREBY RELEASE, WAIVE AND FOREVER DISCHARGE ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS, AND DEMANDS OF WHATEVER KIND OR NATURE AGAINST THE AVMA AND ITS PARTNERS AND SPONSORS, AND THE VENUE OR SITE OWNERS OF ANY ACTIVITY, INCLUDING IN EACH CASE, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THEIR DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS, AND AGENTS (THE “RELEASED PARTIES”), EITHER IN LAW OR IN
EQUITY, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMISSIBLE BY LAW, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO DAMAGES OR LOSSES CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE, FAULT OR CONDUCT OF ANY KIND ON THE PART OF THE RELEASED PARTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO DEATH, BODILY INJURY, ILLNESS, ECONOMIC LOSS OR OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES, OR LOSS OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, WHICH I, MY HEIRS, ASSIGNEES, NEXT OF KIN AND/OR LEGALLY APPOINTED OR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES, MAY HAVE OR WHICH MAY HEREAFTER ACCRUE ON MY BEHALF, WHICH ARISE OR MAY HEREAFTER ARISE FROM MY PARTICIPATION WITH THE EVENT. BY ATTENDING AND/OR PARTICIPATING IN THE EVENT, I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HEREBY GIVE A FULL RELEASE OF LIABILITY TO THE RELEASED PARTIES TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.

If I am participating in the event in-person, including any optional activities, I confirm that I am: (a) in good health, in proper physical condition, and do not have any medical or other conditions that would impair my ability to participate in any activities in which I choose to participate; and (b) not experiencing symptoms of the Disease (such as cough, shortness of breath, or fever), and do not have a confirmed or suspected case of the Disease. I will comply with all federal, state, and local laws, orders, directives, and guidelines related to the event and the Disease while participating in the event, including, without limitation, providing proof of vaccination if asked (in a manner selected by AVMA), quarantine or self-isolation periods, requirements related to hand sanitation, social distancing, and use of face coverings and safety equipment. I will also follow all instructions, recommendations, and cautions from the AVMA at all times during the event. If at any time I believe conditions to be unsafe, that I am no longer in proper physical condition to participate in the event, or I begin experiencing symptoms of the Disease, I will immediately discontinue further participation in the event and/or not attend the event.

If required by governmental authorities, I agree to provide documentation or attestation to AVMA in a form provided by or acceptable to AVMA confirming a negative test result for COVID-19 in the time immediately preceding my attendance at the event.

Photography, video, and other media at AVMA events:
AVMA imposes certain restrictions on the use of multimedia at its events, such as photography, video recording, audio recording, online posting or streaming, and other media. An attendee is permitted to use hand-held cameras and/or smart phones to take photographs and capture digital images (“Personal Recordings”) strictly for personal, non-commercial use, provided the photography is not disruptive and does not infringe upon the rights of any attendee, speaker, sponsor, third party, or AVMA. Such infringement would include, but is not limited to, defamation, infringement of intellectual property rights, or violation of privacy or publicity rights. In the event an attendee requires a release or permission to protect the rights of a third party, obtaining such a release or permission shall be the sole responsibility of the attendee. Personal Recordings may not be published, sold, reproduced, transmitted, distributed, or posted online for commercial purposes, including without limitation, marketing or political activities of any individual or organization. Photography by attendees during any portion of an educational session is allowable at the discretion of the session speaker(s). Speaker(s) may show a slide or announce verbally if photography is allowed during their session. Attendees who disturb a session (e.g., use flash photography, stand in front of other attendees to take photos) may be asked to leave the session. Audio and video recording of educational sessions is strictly prohibited.

AVMA may hire professional service providers (photo/video/streaming/audio) to document and display the event experience. By attending the event, you acknowledge and agree as follows: (a) AVMA may capture your image, likeness, and voice in photographs, video, audio, live streaming, or other media, and edit and use such photos and recordings for AVMA’s business, marketing and promotional activities,
and for any other lawful purpose in the ordinary course of its business. AVMA may use such photos and recordings for posting to its social media feeds, and may display select submissions from those feeds on monitors throughout the event venue. You also agree that, due to the prevalence of mobile recording devices in today’s world, you shall not hold AVMA responsible for the capture of your image, likeness, or voice, in any multimedia format by AVMA or other attendees at the event.

Recordings of AVMA governance proceedings:
The AVMA restricts the recording of the proceedings of AVMA governance meetings, such as the Board of Directors, House of Delegates (HOD), HOD reference committees, caucus meetings, and any other council, committee, task force, or similar entity. Video and audio recording of AVMA governance meetings is strictly prohibited.

Flyers and leafleting prohibited:
Attendees and guests at AVMA events are prohibited from distributing any flyers, leaflets, or similar materials at any AVMA event unless such materials have been pre-approved by AVMA. Distributing unauthorized materials is prohibited in all AVMA event venues, including meeting rooms, hallways, hotels, convention centers, and private venues hosting AVMA events. Attendees and guests are prohibited from posting or hanging any unauthorized materials (e.g., posters, flyers, leaflets, stickers, banners, etc.) in any venue hosting an AVMA event.

Disclaimer of opinions/positions of speaker, sponsor, attendee, exhibitor, vendor:
The views expressed by any event attendee, speaker, exhibitor, vendor, or sponsor are not necessarily those of AVMA. All attendees, speakers, exhibitors, vendors, and sponsors are solely responsible for the content of all individual or corporation presentations, marketing collateral, and/or advertising.

General:
AVMA reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to: (i) remove any individual from the event and/or revoke the registration of any individual with or without a refund; and (ii) deny registration or admission to any AVMA event at any time.

AVMA reserves the right to change, amend, add, or remove any of the above Terms & Conditions in its sole discretion and without prior notice. If one or more of the conditions outlined in these Terms & Conditions should become invalid, the remaining conditions will continue to be valid and apply. These Terms & Conditions apply to all event participants (attendees, guests, speakers, sponsors, vendors, exhibitors).