

ROBA 2022 National Conference

COVID Protocol

As we are a diverse group from many regions of not only the Lower 48, but also Alaska and Canada, it is our desire that everyone feel as safe as possible regarding the COVID and other airborne diseases. While Tennessee does not have deep restrictions regarding COVID, we do recognize that our attendees want to be assured that we are suggesting the general guidelines currently in place as established by the CDC, while maintaining our freedoms. Our facility is quite large, and there is plenty of room for us to meet and have the option of distancing to the individual personal satisfaction of all attendees. In other words, those that want more distancing will have the space to do so, while those that are more comfortable sitting closer together can also do so.

PROTOCOL

At the door each morning, before entry into the conference room, all attendees will be asked:

- Have you been in contact with someone known to have coronavirus (COVID-19)?
- Do you have a fever (or have you felt feverish)?
- Do you have a new or worsening cough?
- Do you have a runny nose or congestion?
- Do you have new or worse-than-normal shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?
- Do you have fatigue, chills, muscle aches, a headache or a sore throat?
- Have you lost your sense of smell or taste?
- Have you experienced nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea over that last 48 hours?

If the answer to any of the above is **YES**, we will respectfully ask that you self-perform an immediate rapid-test (a supply will be on-hand) at no charge to you.

IF **positive**, we will ask that you wait in your warm vehicle for 30 minutes and then re-test (to alleviate the chances of a false positive).

IF the **second** test is also **positive**, we will ask that you not attend and expose others, and a refund of conference fees will be offered.

MASKING

There will be no “**masking rule.**” Attendees are encouraged to wear masks based upon their own medical situation, vaccination status, and comfort level. If you choose to wear a mask, an N95 mask or equivalent (provided by the attendee) is certainly suggested as this will offer you the highest level of self-protection, according to the science and the CDC.

For information regarding recent masking guidelines, please check out these fairly apolitical articles regarding N95 masking:

<https://www.consumerreports.org/face-coverings/use-a-better-mask-covid-19-a2629884110/>

<https://www.usatoday.com/in-depth/graphics/2022/01/07/omicron-mask-upgrade-guide-how-n-95-and-kn-95-protect-you-better-than-cloth/9129901002/>

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Our conference facility is quite spacious. Tables will be arranged with social distancing consideration so that those wishing to practice social distancing can easily do so, while also allowing small groups to gather if desired. General social distancing guidelines are encouraged, but not required.

Those that desire more table distancing will be allowed to rearrange their own table to a distance they feel most comfortable from others. Again, there is plenty of room for distancing at our conference facility.

VACCINATION

Vaccination status is, in this writer’s opinion, a personal decision. All attendees are encouraged to have the vaccination with the advice of their own healthcare provider and personal interests or concerns. **There will be no “Vax Check” at any time while attending the conference** and no one should ask you to reveal your personal health information at any time during the event.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Conference Coordinator, Jim Enos, by e-mail at james@jamesenos.com or by phone at 865-801-3046.

Looking forward to a safe and great conference with all of you.