



Star of the North Meeting Update
“Navigating” to a Virtual Show – Coming in July!

In mid-March, the Minnesota Dental Association decided to postpone the 2020 Star of the North Meeting to July 30 - August 1 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The belief was in that four-month period, conditions would improve, and we could move forward with our conference as planned. The rescheduled Star of the North Meeting is two months away, but social-distancing guidelines currently in place would make it impossible to hold the meeting. In addition, it is unclear what limits on large gatherings will be in place in two months. It is also uncertain how many attendees & exhibitors will feel comfortable visiting a large convention and interacting with thousands of other people.

We believe our best option is to “navigate” to a virtual show and offer on-demand content from our 2020 speakers to our attendees. Sessions will be offered as pre-recorded presentations and include test questions to verify participation and CE certificates will be issued for each session. In addition, we will be working with our exhibiting companies to offer a “Virtual Trade Show” with show specials, new product demos, company spotlights and much more! Attendees can earn points for participating in certain Virtual Show events and prizes will be awarded to those with the highest points.

Our team, like many of you, has been eagerly anticipating and preparing for the Star of the North Meeting. We remained hopeful that the rescheduled dates would work out, but we must put the health and safety of our attendees, exhibitors, staff, and partners first as well as adhere to all state mandates. We will come back even stronger with a great “in-person” show for 2021!

Virtual Show Transition:

Registration/Continuing Education Events

All registered attendees as of May 31 will be transitioned over to a full Virtual Meeting Package. Registration categories that are eligible for CE credits will have access to 20+ speakers and approximately 50 lectures – an incredible value of CE content! CE presentations will be launched starting on July 30 and will be available on-demand thru the end of 2020. All CE credits will be recorded on your Star of the North CE transcript and can be viewed anytime. Refunds will automatically be issued for any hands-on workshop fees. You will also have access to our Virtual Trade Show – including exhibitor listings, product demos, show specials and more!

If you do not wish to receive the Virtual Meeting Package and want to cancel your registration, please email mda@prereg.net and provide your name and badge number. You will receive a full refund if requested by October 1. If you have questions regarding registration options, please contact Eleventh & Gather at **866-301-0750** or email mda@prereg.net. If you wish to contact the MDA directly, our number is **612-767-4265**. Please note, MDA staff are working remotely so you will need to leave a voicemail message, and someone will return your call.

Hotel Reservations

If you made a hotel reservation using our housing service, your reservation will be automatically canceled. If you booked your own hotel, you will need to cancel the reservation yourself. If you have questions about your hotel reservation, please call Eleventh & Gather at **866-301-0750** or email them at mda@prereg.net.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen McDonnell, MDA President
Dr. Jerry Wimmer, 2020 Chair, Scientific Session Committee