

# PRESENTER GUIDELINES

The International Association of Wildland Fire place high importance on integrity, responsibility and reputation and expect members to display high standards of behaviour that are conducive to creating and maintaining diverse and inclusive practices. This includes the manner in which we conduct ourselves in normal business practices and at our conferences.

To better assist conference presenters, panel members, and other participants, we have prepared these guidelines to help improve understanding of our changing social environment, the importance of considering audience perception, and how to prepare to ensure that appropriate language and images are used during presentations at conferences and workshops. In this guide we provide some helpful advice on presentation ethics; oral presentation language in terms of implications to sensitivity, respect, and inclusivity; thoughts on developing presentation visual aids; and identified areas of inappropriate behaviour.

## **IAWF expect all presenters to:**

- Provide opportunities for others to learn and develop in ways that are in keeping with the IAWF commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Refrain from demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behaviour, materials, and speech.
- Refrain from harassment of or any form of discrimination against another participant, staff member, volunteer or others.
- Always fully disclose and resolve any existing or potential conflicts of interest.
- Always keep proprietary information confidential unless the appropriate person authorizes its disclosure.

## **Speaker Portal in PheedLoop:**

All presenters should have access to their speaker portal in PheedLoop. If you do not have the link, please reach out to us. The information added to PheedLoop will feed into our mobile application.

Once you enter the speaker portal, you should:

- Update your profile (add City, State/Province, and Country for Location)
- Review your session title for accuracy.
- Review and update your session description if needed – you may update for typos or grammar, please do not change the intent of your presentation.
- Check your Assigned Tasks – mark complete when finished.
- Add session files, you can add resources that you would like made available to the attendees, just do not mark the Private File box. This is also where you will upload your presentation closer to the conference.

**Register:** All presenters are required to registration and pay for the conference. The deadline for presenters to register is March 15; if you are unable to pay when you register, you can select the “invoice me” option. [Registration](#)

# ORAL PRESENTATIONS

## Presenter Logistics

- Please check the detailed program schedule for exact length of your specific presentation at the conference – presentations can vary in length.
  - Concurrent Oral Presentations are scheduled for 15 minutes (12 minutes for your presentation and 3 minutes for Q&A and transition.)
  - Lightning Talks are 5 minutes, the time will be strictly enforced. These are meant to be fast paced; there is no time allotted for Q&A.
- Practice in advance to ensure you do not go over your allotted time.
- Format your presentation in widescreen (16:9), this is generally the default.

## Audio Visual Equipment

In each presentation room, we will provide:

- PC Laptop Conference
- LCD Projector
- Screen of appropriate size
- Podium
- Microphone
- PPT advancer and laser pointer
- Internet Access
- Audio from computer

**To ensure a smooth transition, all presenters are required to use the provided computer.**

## Presentation Upload

Presentations must be uploaded to your Speaker Portal in PheedLoop. If you cannot find your link to your portal, please let us know.

Presentations must be uploaded no later than 5:00 pm, the day prior to your scheduled presentation.

This will allow you to load your presentation early—no more finding the presentation loading station or waiting in line to get this done at the conference. And it will allow us to ensure the presentations are loaded on to the appropriate computer and working properly. Please be considerate and submit your presentation on time!

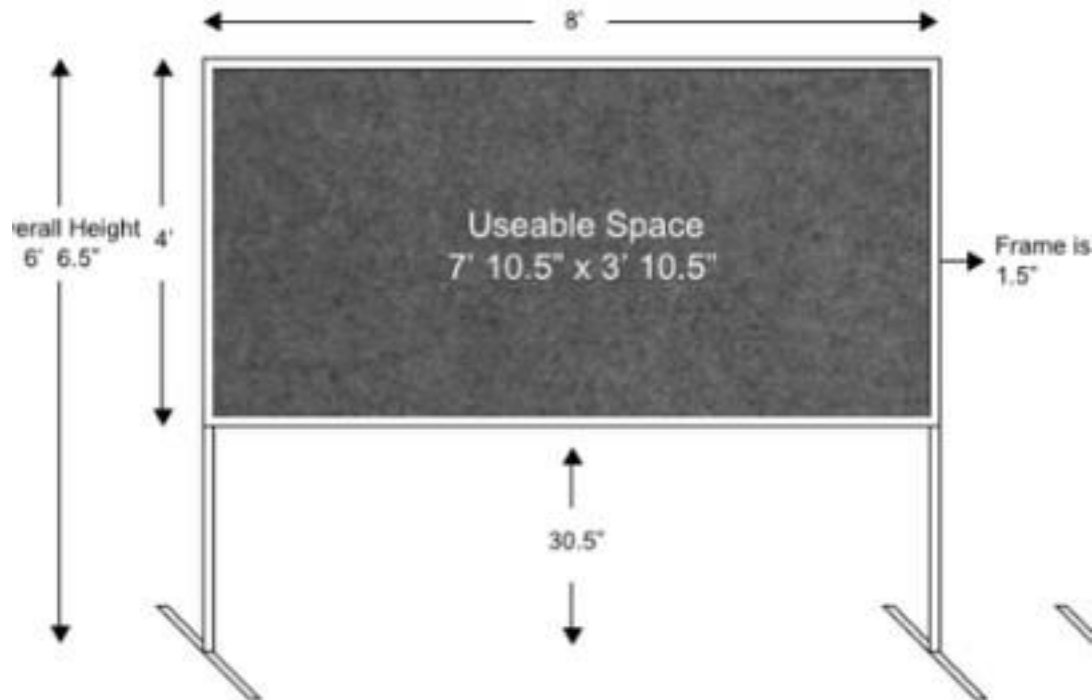
# POSTER PRESENTATIONS

**Schedule & Format:** The poster session is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30 pm. Presenters are expected to be present at their poster to discuss their poster during that period.

**Set up and removal times:** You may set up your poster starting at 12:00 pm on Monday, April 15. Posters should be placed no later than 5:00 pm on Tuesday. Your poster may be left up for the entire conference even though you will only be required to present your poster during the designated session. Please remove your poster by 5:00 pm on Thursday April 18.

**Poster Specifications:** Each presenter will have one 8 x 4 poster board, the usable space is 7' 10.5" x 3' 10.5". We will provide you with pushpins or Velcro to attach your posters to the panel.

Please include a photo of the individual who will be presenting the poster. This will allow conference participants to locate you if they have questions about your poster.



## PRESENTATION ETHICS

(From: <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/publicspeaking/chapter/chapter-3-ethical-speaking/>)

- Be honest, avoid plagiarism, and identify sources.
- Decide when to cite – all information that is not public knowledge should be cited.
- Cite sources properly.
- Understand paraphrasing and direct quotations.
- Use accurate citations.
- Be mindful of potentially sensitive graphics and words
- Provide honest and open communication.

### Principles of Responsible Presentations:

Speakers must balance perceptions, intentions, speaker rights, and responsibility to audiences. Any person participating in IAWF activities is expected to refrain from demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behaviour, materials, and speech.

Ethical communication may not be hard to deliver, but at times can suffer from failure to fully understand effects of aspects of communication. All presentations must strive to:

- Promote diversity,
- Use inclusive language,
- Avoid hate speech, and
- Present clear and respectful visual aids.

**Promote Diversity:**

- Speakers have a responsibility to appreciate differences among individuals and groups.
- Consider both your audience and your speech content.
- Use both sexes in hypothetical examples.
- Use co-cultural groups in hypothetical examples.
- Do not use negative or derogatory comments related to gender, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, religion, age, national origin, socio-economic status, nudity and/or sexual images.
- Avoid stereotypes.
- Always remember, even if it doesn't concern you – it may offend others.
- Look at your slides – try to balance the type of people presented so they are not all the same or in stereotypical roles.

**Use Inclusive Language:**

- Avoid sexist language.
- Inclusive nouns are important for example, instead of fireman, use firefighter or chairperson, instead of chairman.
- Use gender-neutral pronouns. Gender neutral pronouns include they, them and their.
- Gender decoders exist to provide assistance in appropriate word selection: Several of these decoders can be found at the following links:
  - <http://www.writinghelp-central.com/gender-neutral.html>
  - <https://www.niu.edu/writingtutorial/style/bias-free-language.shtml>
  - <https://www.totaljobs.com/insidejob/gender-bias-decoder/>
  - <https://www.tomforth.co.uk/genderbias/>

**Avoid Hate Language:**

- Words are powerful, choose them wisely.
- Avoid using words that convey any expression of intolerance and hatred.

**Present Clear and Respectful Visual Aids:**

- Understand that times and social expectations have changed and cultures are different around the world – what was acceptable in the past may no longer be acceptable now and what may be acceptable or taken as humorous may be offensive in other cultures.

- If you are making a joke, or think it is funny – it may not be to others – remember you don't know their circumstances. Try to understand your audience and prepare accordingly.
- Visual aids should be evaluated in terms of the wording and pictures they use, and analogies they convey.
- Visual aids must value sensitivity, incorporate respect, and be inclusive.
- Be mindful to those who have colour blindness (look into the colours) - <https://usabilla.com/blog/how-to-design-for-color-blindness/>
- If in doubt – don't use it.
- Presentations should be accessible to a broad audience.
- Text must be of a reasonable size (suggest 24 point), in a clear, easily legible font.
- Figures must have legible axis and colour scheme.

**Questions:**

Send any questions to Mikel Robinson at [execdir@iawfonline.org](mailto:execdir@iawfonline.org).