



These guidelines govern media access to Minor League ballparks for the 2021 Championship Season, subject to change:

1. MEDIA ENTRY: All approved media members will be subject to club discretion and its standards and policies that will govern entry, which are described in Minor League Baseball's 2021 Operations Manual. Clubs may begin to allow media into the ballpark no more than four hours prior to first pitch. Media must leave the ballpark no later than 90 minutes following the conclusion of postgame interviews.

2. LIMITED NUMBER OF APPROVED MEDIA: Because the total number of people allowed in a facility is subject to local laws and orders, the Clubs reserve the right to make approvals of media applications based on the applicable local guidance and the ability to safely physically distance all media, including by, if necessary, prohibiting media access on any given day (even for those who hold otherwise valid credentials).

3. FOLLOWING HEALTH AND SAFETY RULES: By receiving a media credential, a media member agrees to observe all MLB, MiLB and Club rules; any applicable government orders in a local market; and other precautionary steps that are in place to preserve health and safety. Media members must wear face coverings at all times, covering their nose and mouth, and practice physical distancing while present at a Club facility (whether indoors or outdoors). Media members should bring their own face coverings to the ballpark, but Clubs are permitted to provide face coverings to media upon request. Clubs are permitted to require a media member to use a Club-provided face covering if the Club determines that the media member's personal face covering is inappropriate for any reason. Failure to comply with any health and safety initiatives will result in a loss of access to the ballpark.

4. RESTRICTED AREAS: Approved media members will not be permitted in Restricted Areas or in close proximity to players, coaches and field staff. The Restricted Areas include clubhouses, locker rooms, playing fields, dugouts, training rooms, weight rooms, interview rooms and any route inside the ballpark/facility utilized by players, coaches and field staff.

5. CREDENTIALING: A limited number of media members (including photographers) may receive credentials and access to certain Non-Restricted Areas.

A) All media must apply for a daily credential with the home Club's Media Relations/Communications Department at least 24 hours before a game. **Advance notice is vital in order to plan for physically distanced seating.**

B) Media members who plan to travel for road games of the primary team they cover must communicate their plans to the Club's Communications/Media Relations Department prior to each road trip.

6. WORKSPACE: Media members are limited to the workspace provided for them and must not enter other areas of the facility. Physically distanced media workspace(s) within the ballpark, with a roof overhead, will be provided for credentialed media members. The media workspace may be outside of the press box, due to health and safety considerations. Clubs should also establish a physically distanced area outside of the ballpark to accommodate TV requests for live shots or news stories.

A) Members of the media will work only from their assigned working area.

B) The media workspace must be cleaned and disinfected after every use.

C) Elevators should only be used by media members who are unable to use stairs, and limits should be placed on the number of occupants permitted in a single elevator.

7. VIRTUAL INTERVIEWS: All pregame and postgame interviews must take place by video conference or telephone call and shall be coordinated by Club Media Relations/Communications personnel.

A) No media will have direct access to players, the manager or other baseball operations personnel.

B) This policy is subject to ongoing review by Major League Baseball and its Clubs, based on the advice of medical experts and the applicable local guidance in the host city to determine when and if it would be feasible to introduce in-person, physically distanced interviews or press conferences.

- 8. EXPECTED MEDIA AVAILABILITY:** Interviews via video conference or telephone shall include:
- A) Managers** should be available postgame. Postgame interviews with managers should begin approximately 10 minutes after the final out of the game. Pregame interviews of the manager will need to be arranged through the Club's designated PR contact.
 - B) Players Most Relevant to a Game's Outcome** should be made available postgame, soon after the completion of the manager's media availability.
 - C) Special Requests** should be accommodated when possible, particularly when circumstances warrant (milestones, homecomings, injuries, etc.).
- 9. PHOTOGRAPHY:** Clubs may credential still photographers from outside media outlets. Still photographers will shoot the game from portions of the seating area and must maintain a safe, physically distanced space between them. **The photographers may move around portions of the seating bowl during games; however, they must maintain a six-foot "buffer zone" between themselves and the playing field at all times.** Photographers may work from the on-field camera wells with Club approval provided that there is plexiglass installed properly between the wells and dugout or player areas, which can be an acceptable replacement for a buffer zone. Photographers may only enter the camera wells through the seating bowl and are strictly prohibited from entering the playing field to gain access to the camera wells. Clubs will detail for photographers which portions of the seating bowl they may access. Photographers may also shoot from any of the off-field photo locations throughout the ballpark with Club approval. At no point should a photographer enter the playing field, clubhouse, interview room or other Restricted Area.
- 10. MEALS:** If Clubs provide food service to media, the food must be in individually packaged containers or bags, in takeout form. Media members are permitted to bring outside food into the ballpark, subject to Club approval and screening upon entry.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- 11.** Media credentials are not transferable.
- 12.** The Commissioner's Office reserves the right to revoke inappropriately issued credentials.
- 13.** Under no circumstances shall any club discriminate in any fashion against an accredited member of the media based upon race, creed, sex or national origin.
- 14.** MLB's Code of Conduct must be posted prominently at each ballpark, including in clubhouses and media areas. **Harassment, physical abuse or threats directed to members of the media (and/or official scorers) by baseball personnel will not be tolerated.** Disciplinary action, including fines and suspensions, will be considered in any cases that arise.
- 15.** Any club whose personnel violate these regulations will be disciplined. Any member of the media who violates these regulations will lose his or her accreditation.