



OUR STUDENTS, OUR TEAMS . . . OUR FUTURE.

## Media Procedures

### **1.1 REGULAR SEASON**

1.1.1 Rights for radio broadcast, telecast, cablecast and internet broadcast for regular season events and contests in all sports and activities are held by the home/host school. Outlets wishing to broadcast, telecast, cablecast or webcast a regular season event or contest should contact the principal, athletic director or athletic department designee of the home/host school to secure rights and make arrangements.

1.1.2 Member schools may refuse an outlet's request to radio broadcast, telecast, cablecast or internet broadcast of a regular season event or contest.

### **1.2 POSTSEASON CONTESTS AND ACTIVITIES (EVENTS)**

1.2.1 An outlet that broadcasts a postseason event shall agree to hold the Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) and its member schools harmless due any injury to person or property on the premises. The outlet shall further agree to assume all responsibility for any damages which are a direct result of the activities of the broadcast. The outlet shall also agree to defend all claims made against the AIA or its member schools for damages caused by the outlet of any nature.

1.2.2 Authorized working personnel employed by an outlet which has been approved to broadcast an AIA postseason event will be admitted to the facility without charge upon presentation of proper identification and AIA approved media rights. Host school/sites must notify the AIA seven days before the start of postseason play if they have banned any broadcasting outlets from their campus or venue.

1.2.3 An outlet wishing to broadcast an AIA postseason event must request and be granted rights by the AIA prior to originating or accepting feed of such a radio broadcast, telecast, cablecast or internet broadcast.

1.2.3.1 The AIA postseason begins with sectional tournaments in sports identified by Divisions, and the first round listed on a "State Championship" bracket in sports identified by Conferences. Region tournaments and Conference play-in tournaments are considered part of the regular season and are subject to the terms listed in Article 1.1.

1.2.3.2 The AIA reserves the right to grant exclusive rights to broadcasts for AIA postseason events to NFHS Network providers.



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1.2.4 Media outlets must follow all procedures and protocols listed on the “AIA Media Rights Agreement” located online at [www.aiaonline.org/news/press-center](http://www.aiaonline.org/news/press-center).

1.2.5 For postseason contests and activities (events), the host school/site should cooperate with news media representatives in providing access to a work area following the event to aid in filing reports. The head coach of each competing team is encouraged to cooperate with the news media by participating in interviews as quickly as possible following the conclusion of the event and providing statistics/results if available. Participation by athletes in interviews is voluntary and at the discretion of the head coach.

1.2.5.1 At neutral site/postseason events operated by the AIA, areas for interviews will be provided by AIA staff. Statistics/results will be provided by the AIA, if applicable.

1.2.5.2 News media representatives must not enter the area of competition and no interviews may take place during the awards ceremony or any other official presentation following a state championship event. These media accommodations shall be established in the agreement between the AIA and the host organization.

### **1.3 CREDENTIALS**

1.3.1 An outlet must make sure all members of the crew are properly credentialed by the AIA, or at least included on the AIA’s master list of approved media individuals located online at <http://aiaonline.org/news/press-center>.

1.3.1.1 Schools/host sites have the right to deny any non-credentialed media entity for a regular season event or contest and are required to deny any non-credentialed media entity for a postseason event.

1.3.1.2 The AIA recommends schools/host sites allow entry to any properly credentialed media entity for a regular season event or contest and are required to allow entry to any properly credentialed media entity for a postseason event.

1.3.2 A media outlet granted the opportunity to request credentials for its staff members, freelancers and stringers must assure all said individuals are lawful to work in the state of Arizona and in close proximity of schools and students. Failure to make this assurance will result in the immediate revocation of the outlet’s credentials. Additionally, failure to take appropriate action when outlet’s staff members, freelancers or stringers lose this privilege will also result in the immediate revocation of the outlet’s credentials.

**1.4 ACCESS TO COMPETITION AREA**

1.4.1 Media representatives are not permitted in the competition area (i.e., within the field of play, on the playing court, etc.) at any time during an AIA event until the competition has concluded and a winner has been determined.

**1.5 ACCESS TO LOCKER/DRESSING ROOMS/WARMUP AREAS**

1.5.1 The AIA operates under a closed locker room policy at all events. At no time will media representatives be granted this access. Team boxes, team benches, team huddles, dugouts and warmup areas (et al.) are considered extensions of locker/dressing rooms.

**1.6 ACCESS TO OFFICIALS**

1.6.1 Media representatives are not permitted to contact contest officials at any time during an AIA event. This includes locker room/dressing areas, within the area of competition, or in any area in which the official must pass. Access to contest officials is only granted after approval by the AIA and may not take place during an event.