



2026 Pennsylvania State High School Hockey Championships

Media, Photography & Videography Policy

The PA State Championships is a credentialed event with strictly limited media access. All media activity is subject to approval by the PA State Championship Executive Committee. Media coverage is welcomed only when conducted in a professional, controlled, and safety-first manner that protects players, officials, and the integrity of the event.

Media credentials are not a substitute for general admission and will not be issued to individuals seeking entry to the event for personal or spectating purposes.

Credentialing Requirements

- All photographers, videographers, and media personnel must be credentialed specifically for the 2026 PA State Championships.
- Media credentials issued by any other league, organization, tournament, or governing body — including Flyers Cup — are **NOT** valid for PA State Championship games. All media must apply separately regardless of any prior credentialing.
- Media credentials are issued at the sole discretion of the PA State Championship Executive Committee.
- Applications must be submitted no later than 24 hours prior to the event. Day-of or same-day requests will not be accepted under any circumstances. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.
- Applicants must be affiliated with a recognized media outlet, publication, school media program, or organization. Unaffiliated or freelance applicants must provide a verifiable

portfolio or body of published work. Applicants without verifiable credentials or published work may be denied.

- Approved individuals will receive written confirmation via email.
- Credentials are:
 - Non-transferable
 - Issued to individuals, not organizations
 - Required to be worn visibly at all times
- The Executive Committee reserves the right to limit the number of credentialed media per game, team, or outlet.
- The Executive Committee reserves the right to deny any application without explanation.

Team Media Allocation

Each participating team is limited to a maximum of three (3) media credentials. This includes any combination of photographers, videographers, and media personnel requesting credentials on behalf of or at the direction of that team. Any organization seeking additional credentials beyond this limit must contact the PA State Championship Executive Committee directly for approval. Additional requests are not guaranteed and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Independent media outlets and journalists are not subject to the team credential limit but must still be approved.

Media Check-In & Credential Verification

All credentialed media must check in at the designated media entry point upon arrival. Check-in requires presentation of a valid government-issued photo ID matching the name on the credential. Credentials will not be released without completed check-in and ID verification. No exceptions. Media personnel who fail to check in or cannot provide matching identification will be denied entry and their credential will be revoked.

Access Restrictions & Media Zones

No media personnel will be permitted access to any media zone, designated area, or Champions Zone without first completing check-in and credential verification at the designated entry point.

On-Ice Access

No on-ice access is permitted at any time for any reason, including:

- Warm-ups
- Gameplay
- Intermissions
- Post-game handshakes or celebrations

No exceptions will be granted. This applies to all games including the Class A, Class AA, and Class AAA State Championship finals.

Designated Media Areas

Media coverage is restricted to rink ends only. Rink staff, tournament staff, and on-ice officials have full authority to relocate or remove media at any time if safety or operations require it.

Champions Zone — Post-Game Access

Credentialed media will be permitted to enter the Champions Zone, located in the Goal Line Pub Lobby Area, following the conclusion of each game to access players and coaches for interviews and post-game coverage. Media must remain within the Champions Zone boundaries and may not follow players or coaches beyond this area. All Champions Zone access is subject to the direction of tournament staff and may be revoked at any time.

Restricted Areas

The following areas are strictly off-limits to all credentialed media:

- Scorer's boxes
- Penalty boxes
- Team benches
- Locker rooms
- Player tunnels
- Officials' rooms
- Medical or athletic training areas

No exceptions. Media personnel found in restricted areas will be immediately removed and their credential revoked.

Safety, Conduct & Professional Standards

- Media personnel must follow all instructions immediately from tournament staff, rink staff, game officials, and security personnel. Failure to comply with any directive will result in immediate removal.
- Equipment must not obstruct walkways or exits, interfere with team operations, or create trip hazards.
- Flash photography is strictly prohibited at all times.
- Media must not photograph or record:
 - Injured players
 - Medical treatment
 - Altercations or disciplinary actions
 - Emotional moments intended to remain private
- **Any behavior deemed unprofessional, unsafe, or disruptive will result in immediate removal and revocation of credentials.**

Content Ownership & Usage

- Media captured at PA State Championship events may be used only for editorial, school, or team-related purposes.
- Commercial use, paid licensing, sponsorship activation, or promotional resale is prohibited without prior written authorization from the PA State Championship Executive Committee.
- The PA State Championship Executive Committee retains the right to request removal of content and may restrict or revoke future access based on usage violations.
- Content that misrepresents, sensationalizes, or negatively portrays the event or its participants will not be permitted.

Student Media

- Student photographers and videographers representing a participating school must apply individually and list a faculty advisor or coach as a supervising contact.
- Student media are held to the same standards and restrictions as professional media.
- Student credentials are subject to the same check-in and ID verification requirements.

Liability Disclaimer

- Media personnel assume all risk associated with their presence in the venue.
- The PA State Championships, Flyers Cup, host rinks, and participating schools assume no responsibility for personal injury, equipment damage, or lost/stolen property.

Enforcement & Revocation

Violations of this policy will result in immediate and cumulative penalties, including but not limited to:

- Immediate removal from the venue
- Revocation of current credentials
- Denial of future PA State Championship and/or Flyers Cup credentials
- Notification of affiliated schools, leagues, or organizations

All enforcement decisions by the PA State Championship Executive Committee are final and not subject to appeal.