

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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October 2019

To: Media and Football Playoff Press Box Managers

From: Tim Stried, OHSAA Director of Communications, tstried@ohsaa.org

Re: Seating Assignments in Football Press Boxes

During the OHSAA football playoffs, the following priority scale shall be used by game managers and media coordinators when allocating seats in the press box. The athletic directors of the participating schools should be consulted to identify which media fit into the following priority groups.

Credentials are not approved on a first-come, first-served basis. The scale below shall be used for requests received as of 3 p.m. on Tuesday and site managers shall notify media of their status. Credential requests received after 3 p.m. on Tuesday shall be considered only if space permits.

Seats must be allocated for working media before non-working persons. Credentials shall not be issued to recruiting or scouting services. College coaches must purchase a ticket and their placement shall be determined by the game manager.

- *Number of seats allocated for some categories below depends on press box size.*
- *Press box should be open 90 minutes before game and 60 minutes after the game. Media needing longer than 60 minutes should speak with the tournament manager for alternate locations or a time extension. A work area for photographers for use at halftime and postgame is encouraged.*

Top Priority (for requests received as of 3 p.m. Tuesday)

1. 2 Seats (or more if facility can accommodate): Spectrum, OHSAA's Official TV Partner
2. 2 Seats (or more if facility can accommodate): Primary audio broadcast designated by the home team
3. 2 Seats (or more if facility can accommodate): Primary audio broadcast designated by the visiting team
4. Primary newspaper of the home team (number of seats depends on press box size)
5. Primary newspaper of the visiting team (number of seats depends on press box size)
6. Ohio's major metro daily newspapers (number of seats depends on press box size. Newspapers include Akron Beacon Journal, Canton Repository, Cincinnati Enquirer, Cleveland Plain Dealer/Cleveland.com, Columbus Dispatch, Dayton Daily News, Toledo Blade and Youngstown Vindicator)
7. 1 Seat: OHSAA state office representative or officials observer assigned by the OHSAA

Secondary Priority (depends on press box size)

1. * Local TV station tape-delay telecast if Spectrum is not televising the game (home team first priority, visiting team second priority)
2. Additional audio broadcasts that have followed one of the participating teams (home team first priority, visiting team second)
3. Other newspapers that have followed one of the participating teams (home team first priority, visiting team second)
4. Additional OHSAA state office representative or officials observer assigned by the OHSAA
5. Media that have covered events in that city or stadium
6. Delayed video play-by-play webcasts
7. Non-broadcast websites, specialty publications, etc. (higher priority if designated by a team)
8. Radio station personnel covering the game only to report score updates or provide reports

* Note: If Spectrum is not televising the game, local TV stations may provide tape-delay telecasts, but the telecasts cannot be shown until Friday beginning at 11 PM. Contact Tim Stried at the OHSAA for more information.

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