

# **2020-21 REQUIREMENTS AND CONDITIONS FOR MEDIA AT OSSAA PLAYOFF EVENTS**

## **(SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME)**

**Please see the Media Guidelines for each sports state tournament**

### **Media Playoff Passes**

Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association (OSSAA) issues media playoff passes only to individuals employed **full-time** by recognized media outlets in their sports department. The media playoff pass is good for admission to all OSSAA playoff events during the 2020-21 school year, but may only be used by the pass holder when attending an event in a working capacity as an employee of a media outlet. The playoff pass will allow access to all areas designated for the working media, such as sidelines, press boxes and media tables. The pass holder will not be allowed in any areas designated for the working media without an OSSAA media playoff pass. An attempt to use a media playoff pass when the pass holder is not attending the event in a working capacity as a member of the media may result in revocation or cancellation of the pass.

### **Application Process for Media Playoff Passes**

The link for media outlets to apply for playoff passes can be found on the OSSAA website under the MEDIA tab. Only sports directors or sports editors may apply for OSSAA media passes for their employees. Each pass requested will require a picture of that employee to be uploaded so it can be printed on the pass. After receiving a request, the OSSAA will process the request within seven business days. A request for a pass for use at a specific event will not be considered if the request was received fewer than 48 hours prior to that event. Playoff passes are to only be used by the person whose name and pictures is on the pass. OSSAA has the right to refuse or revoke the OSSAA media playoff pass if the applicant has falsified information on their request form or for improper conduct such as using the pass to attend a contest as a fan. Every effort will be made to honor all requests; however, OSSAA reserves the right to evaluate each request individually and limit the total number of passes to be issued. Requests must be made via the website link, and requests made by telephone and/or e-mail will not be granted. Pass requests for spouses, friends or children will not be granted. Replacement passes for lost, stolen, misplaced or misspelled passes can be purchased for \$20 per pass.

By completing and submitting an application for an OSSAA media playoff pass, you acknowledge the risk and danger of physical injury, serious harm, loss, and damages incidental to the performance of the pass holder's duties and to attending a competitive athletic event, including the risk of loss of or damage to property brought to such an event. You agree to assume all such risk incidental to attendance at OSSAA playoff events, and to release OSSAA, and its employees, agents, and representatives, from any and all liability for such injuries, loss, damage, or harm. You agree that the pass holder is not acting for OSSAA in any manner whatsoever and is not an employee or agent of OSSAA. You further agree to indemnify, defend and hold OSSAA, and its employees, agents, and representatives,

harmless from and against any and all expenses, lawsuits, damages, costs and liabilities (including reasonable attorney fees and expenses) associated with: (a) any injuries resulting from acts or omissions by the pass holder, or some third party to whom the pass holder directly or indirectly distributed news and editorial content or photographs/electronic images; or (b) the use of any cameras, wires, cables, computers, telephones or any other equipment brought to the event site by the pass holder.

### **Media Entrance**

The majority of OSSAA playoff event sites will have an OSSAA pass gate where pass holders may gain admittance. In all other situations, pass holders will be directed to the main gate and will be granted admission by showing their 2020-21 OSSAA media playoff pass. In some instances an additional pass may be required to gain access to the field of play and/or press box. In those instances, an OSSAA staff member or event director will be available on site to provide the additional required pass.

### **Site-specific Requests**

Media members are responsible for contacting the host site directly at least 72 hours prior to the contest with any site-specific requests.

### **Radio Broadcasting**

Radio stations interested in broadcasting OSSAA basketball playoff events must gain approval from the Oklahoma Association of Broadcasters (OAB) by calling (405) 848-0771 or e-mailing Nancy Struby at [struby@oabok.org](mailto:struby@oabok.org). Radio stations are also responsible for contacting the host site at least 72 hours prior to the event to make sure the site will be able to accommodate all of the station's requests for phone lines, internet, seating, etc. Radio stations interested in broadcasting OSSAA playoff events other than basketball must just gain approval from the host site at least 72 hours prior to the event to make sure they can be accommodated.

### **Video-recording for Use in TV Sportscasts or Electronic Media**

Only media members with approved OSSAA playoff passes will be allowed to video record any portions of state playoff events for use in televised sportscasts or on-line sports news services. Media outlets are not permitted to broadcast or display more than three minutes of their recorded video from any playoff event. Areas at playoff events for video-recording by the media will be clearly designated.

### **Live Television or Video Live Streaming**

The NFHS Network owns the video rights to all OSSAA playoff events. If the NFHS Network is video live streaming an event, no other video broadcast or video live stream will be allowed. If the NFHS Network is not video live streaming an event, all outlets interested in broadcasting or video live streaming that event must gain approval by filling out the appropriate form and submitting it to the OSSAA four (4) business days prior to the event. This form can be found on the OSSAA website under the MEDIA tab. No video live streaming by anyone other than the NFHS Network on websites, social media or other platforms will be allowed without prior approval. Failure to submit a form for approval will result in paying the full amount plus \$100 the first time, the full amount + \$200 the second time, the full amount plus \$300 the third time, etc.

### **Photography**

Any photos taken by the media will be used for the sole purpose of print, broadcast, or electronic news coverage. No unauthorized duplication or sale of OSSAA playoff event pictures will be allowed.

### **Post-Game Interviews**

Due to the limitations of some tournament sites, post-game interviews may be held adjacent to the contest field or venue. Media members should not attempt to interview participants or coaches in team bench areas, nor should they interrupt or interfere with official post-game ceremonies or any post-game team meetings. Team locker rooms are absolutely off limits to all media members before, during and/or after games. If a media member enters a locker room for any reason, their OSSAA media playoff pass will be revoked and they will be asked to leave.

### **Post-Game Reporting Facilities**

OSSAA recognizes the importance of prompt and timely reporting from state playoff events, and attempts to select event sites with adequate facilities for reporters to complete and send their work to their media outlets. If you will need additional time to complete and send your report, please make sure that the site director is aware of this 48 hours prior to the event starting so plans can be made to accommodate your needs.

### **OSSAA Board Policy**

1. Approved DOT-COM media may purchase passes for \$50 per pass. (Social media and apps do not qualify)
2. Passes are not valid for students in grades K-12.
3. Approved recruiting services registering with the OSSAA may purchase no more than two passes for \$50 per pass.