

# IHSAA

# MEDIA POLICY MANUAL

2019-20 School Year

[www.iahsaa.org](http://www.iahsaa.org)



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# INTRODUCTION

The Iowa High School Athletic Association's 2019-20 Media Policy Manual is intended to provide information and insight into policies approved by the Board of Control for the governance of news coverage at sanctioned events.

Media members and interested parties should carefully review the policies within, which include the issuance of credentials, school/student media, professional conduct, state tournament coverage, and more.

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## POLICY TOPICS

1. State Tournament Media Credentials
2. State Tournament School & Student Credentials
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11. Postseason Lead-Up Live Video
12. IHSAA General Information

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## IHSAA STAFF



**Tom Keating**  
Executive Director



**Brett Nanninga**  
Associate Director



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**Chad Elsberry**  
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**Chris Cuellar - Communications Director**

For media policy information, credentialing, interview requests, statistical and historical data, and other inquiries:

[ccuellar@iahsaa.org](mailto:ccuellar@iahsaa.org) - (515) 432-2011



# MEDIA GUIDE

**IHSSN:** The Iowa High School Sports Network is the exclusive rights holder for specific broadcast, marketing, and media rights for the IHSAA. These exclusive rights include, but are not limited to: television, radio, audio, internet, webcasting, video streaming, audio streaming, closed circuit television, pay-per-view, broadband and mobile television. Aftermarket rights include rebroadcast, video-on-demand, digital downloads, DVDs, compact discs, and other formats of delivering and marketing audio and video.

The above exclusive rights have been afforded to the IHSSN for the following IHSAA games/events:

<b>SPORT</b>	<b>TYPE</b>	<b>STATE TOURNAMENT ROUNDS</b>
Football	Games	Semifinals, Championships
Wrestling	Events	Dual Team Tournament, Traditional Tournament
Basketball	Games	Quarterfinals, Semifinals, Consolations, Championships
Track & Field	Event	State Meet
Soccer	Games	Quarterfinals, Semifinals, Championships
Baseball	Games	Quarterfinals, Semifinals, Championships



IHSSN rules, regulations, rights fees, and additional information pertaining to the listed games/events can be accessed at [www.ihssn.com](http://www.ihssn.com). Please click on "Media Resources" provided under each sport on the IHSSN home page.

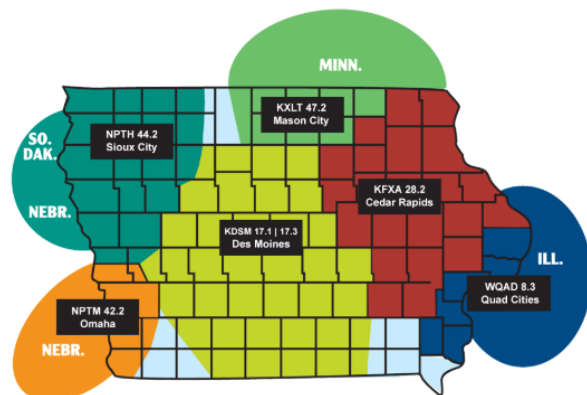
Radio credentials and credentials for web-based companies for games/events listed above are provided by IHSSN. For more information, contact Ken Krogman: [ken@ihssn.com](mailto:ken@ihssn.com).

### 2019-20 IHSSN BROADCAST BREAKDOWN

**ONLINE:** All games and all rounds of IHSSN broadcast events available at [ihssn.com](http://ihssn.com), with exception of early round state traditional wrestling tournament. Check [ihssn.com/live](http://ihssn.com/live) for broadcast times and details. Livestream now available to viewers anywhere on internet-connected devices.

**TELEVISION:** The IHSSN will use six over-the-air broadcast affiliates in 2019-20 to carry state football finals, state wrestling finals, and state basketball finals. Those channels are available via antenna or a digital provider (cable or satellite) that provides access to: KDSM 17.1 or 17.3 from Des Moines, KFXA 28.2 from Cedar Rapids, NPTM 42.2 from Omaha, NPTH 44.2 from Sioux City, KXLT 47.2 from Rochester, and WQAD 8.3 from the Quad Cities.

<b>Channel</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>City</b>
KDSM	17.1/17.3	Des Moines
KFXA	28.2	Cedar Rapids
NPTM	42.2	Omaha
NPTH	44.2	Sioux City
KXLT	47.2	Rochester
WQAD	8.3	Quad Cities



Updated: September 20, 2019

**NOTE:** IHSSN is a privately-held business that is neither owned nor operated by the IHSAA.

#### State Tournament Essentials

List of events requiring 2019-20 IHSAA-IGHSAU credentials, and application or registration before the IHSAA tournament. The 2019-20 pass is teal.

Please do not arrive with past passes and without application as necessary.

<b>SPORT</b>	<b>Credentials</b>	<b>Application</b>
GOLF		
CROSS COUNTRY	X	
FOOTBALL	X	X
SWIMMING	X	
WRESTLING	X	X
BOWLING		
BASKETBALL	X	X
TRACK & FIELD	X	X
GOLF		
TENNIS		
SOCCER	X	X
BASEBALL	X	X

#### Postseason Lead-Up Video

List of events available for media outlets or interested parties to produce live video and/or stream. Applications and fees required.

Host schools receive 50% of access fee. NFHS Network Schools exempt from application and fee.

<b>SPORT</b>	<b>Streaming</b>
GOLF	X
CROSS COUNTRY	
FOOTBALL	X
SWIMMING	X
WRESTLING	X
BOWLING	
BASKETBALL	X
TRACK & FIELD	
GOLF	X
TENNIS	X
SOCCER	X
BASEBALL	X

Media guide subject to change. Updates available at [www.iahsaa.org](http://www.iahsaa.org).

## 1. STATE TOURNAMENT MEDIA CREDENTIALS

The IHSAA issues credentials to bona fide media outlets for entry and access to state tournament events. Credentials must be visible when attending state tournament events. The sale or unauthorized transfer of credentials is strictly prohibited. These credentials are not required to cover IHSAA regular season or postseason lead-up events (See: 4, 5).

**A.** The 2019-20 state tournament credential will be a co-ed credential issued in conjunction with the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union. The teal-colored pass is good for all IHSAA and IGHSAA state tournament events in the 2019-20 athletic year. This includes boys' tournaments, girls' tournaments, and co-ed tournaments in cross country, bowling, and track and field. Passes will be mailed to approved outlets before the first state tournament event. Other outlets requesting credentials or not receiving any for 2019-20 should contact the IHSAA.

**i.** Radio stations will not receive the teal-colored pass in 2019-20 as they will be credentialed by the IHSSN (See: Page 3, Media Guide) for selected key events. For all other IHSAA and all IGHSAA state tournament events, radio outlets should apply through each organization's pre-tournament registration.

**B.** Credentials and/or access will be granted to approved media outlets across various platforms including, but not limited to: daily newspapers, weekly newspapers, other print or web-based publications, and television stations.

**i.** The IHSAA will only credential bona fide media outlets whose organizations display the following criteria prior to a state tournament event: 1. Legitimate and consistent news-gathering; 2. Editorial oversight; 3. Original content production; 4. A record of coverage; 5. The demonstration of service toward community interest.

**ii.** The IHSAA and IGHSAA reserve the right to set policies and regulate the number of credentials issued to approved media outlets at their respective state tournament events.

**iii.** Independent or commercial photographers will NOT be credentialed for IHSAA state tournament events. Photographers and videographers must be affiliated with approved media outlets and news-gathering organizations to receive access.

**iv.** Social media-based services, scouting or recruiting services, college coaches, private club organizations, etc., will NOT receive media credentials for IHSAA state tournament events.

**C.** All credentialed and interested media outlets, including those with teal 2019-20 pass, MUST complete an online registration form before attending state tournament events in: football, basketball, wrestling, soccer, track and field, and baseball. Registration forms will be made available at [www.iahhsaa.org](http://www.iahhsaa.org) before each tournament.

**i.** Applications will be confirmed or denied via email by the IHSAA.

**ii.** Credentialed and/or approved media members, including those with teal 2019-20 pass, will be required to check in upon arrival each day at state tournament events that require registration.

**iii.** Temporary passes, good for one state tournament event, can be issued for individuals from approved media outlets who will be added to state tournament event coverage. These should be added to pre-tournament registration forms whenever possible.

**iv.** Freelance reporters and photographers must have assigning editors/managers submit credential requests on their behalf. Independent media members without approved affiliations will not be credentialed.

**D.** By accepting and using this credential, the bearer and their outlet agrees to abide by IHSAA policies and regulations. This credential may be revoked or removed at any time at the sole discretion of the IHSAA.

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## 2. STATE TOURNAMENT SCHOOL & STUDENT CREDENTIALS

The IHSAA welcomes members of school media organizations to state tournament events. While permanent 2019-20 credentials will not be issued to school media members, a temporary credential and access are available at all state tournament events. School media representatives must abide by policies established within this manual.

**A.** School media organizations include, but are not limited to: newspaper, magazine, yearbook, television station, district publication, or website. Representatives may be reporters, photographers, or videographers.

**B.** School media representatives must present two items at media check-in: 1. A note signed by a school administrator on school letterhead confirming their attendance and coverage; 2. A purchased ticket (\$10).

**i.** Notes will be retained by IHSAA staff upon arrival at each tournament. Only one note is necessary per school media representative.

**ii.** Tickets will be exchanged for credentials, which are good for one day of access.

**iii.** A new ticket will be required for each day the school media representative returns to the tournament.

**iv.** Only schools with finals competitors will be allowed access for the 2020 wrestling state finals.

- C. School media representatives DO NOT need to register as media or apply in advance of tournament attendance.
- D. School media representatives may be students OR an adult working on behalf of school media organizations.
  - i. Students serving as school media representatives are welcome at state tournament events and encouraged to learn in a professional media environment. Varying numbers of credentials can be issued to each school's working students per event, space permitting: cross country ( $\infty$ ), football (3), golf ( $\infty$ ), basketball (2), bowling (2), swimming (2), wrestling (1), soccer ( $\infty$ ), tennis ( $\infty$ ), track and field (3), and baseball (2).
  - ii. If an adult or non-student is the selected school media representative for a state tournament event, only ONE credential will be granted. No additional credentials will be granted for students.
  - iii. The parent/guardian of a participant may NOT serve as school media at any state tournament event.
  - iv. School media organizations seeking to utilize a teacher as a chaperone at state tournament events should contact the IHSAA for credentialing information prior to the tournament.
  - v. Event participants also serving as school media must visit media check-in. Tickets are not required.
- E. School radio or audio outlets should apply through IHSSN where applicable.

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### 3. PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

The expectation of approved and credentialed media is to maintain a professional and productive work environment at all state tournament events, whether on the sidelines, conducting interviews, or in the press box. While enforcement may vary by event or sport, the desire to maintain a courteous atmosphere to cover high school sporting events remains the same.

- A. Cheering and other reactive behavior is unprofessional and NOT permitted in working media areas.
- B. Professional media members should not wear the attire or logo (shirts, hats, etc.) of schools participating in the state tournament event they are covering. School media representatives are exempt from this policy.
- C. Credentials are non-transferrable. Approved media representatives found to have sold or given credentials to unapproved or unauthorized media representatives will have their passes removed.
- D. Seating arrangements may be utilized at select state tournament events. Please respect the space and property of those around you at all state tournament events to maintain a clean and professional work area. Limit the use of bags and equipment on tables and chairs in crowded spaces or press areas.
- E. Children and non-credentialed family members are not permitted in working media areas unless previously authorized by the IHSAA.

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### 4. REGULAR SEASON RECOMMENDATIONS

The Iowa High School Athletic Association oversees and sanctions 11 boys' sports, but member schools determine their own media policies and/or practices for regular season and hosted events.

- A. Professional media organizations should give host schools and administrators notice of their attendance prior to events, whenever possible.
- B. Host schools and administrators may determine their own policies and practices, e.g.: photography shooting zones, media entrances, press box seating, interview locations, etc.
  - i. It is the responsibility of host schools and administrators to coordinate work space for media members and ensure the safety of that work space for media members, participants, and spectators.
- C. It is the policy of the IHSAA that media members may not set up video devices or tripods in bleachers or stands where they may occupy seating and/or block the view of spectators.
- D. Radio, television, and web-based streaming outlets may originate live regular season broadcasts with approval from host schools and administrators. IHSAA approval is NOT required.
- E. The IHSAA is available to answer questions or serve as a mediator for school and media relations.

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### 5. POSTSEASON LEAD-UP COVERAGE

Each IHSAA sport has postseason "lead-up" activities prior to a state tournament event. These include: district and substate games, playoffs, regional events, and state qualifying meets. Host schools and host sites remain responsible for determining policies and/or practices for media at these events.

- A. Professional media organizations should give host schools and administrators notice of their attendance prior to events. The IHSAA provides media sign-in sheets to be used upon entry at postseason activities.

**B.** Media outlets are responsible for confirming work space and/or expenses as determined by a host school or host site for a postseason lead-up event, including, but not limited to: Internet, work tables, production costs, parking, etc.

**C.** Radio, television, and web-based streaming outlets may originate live broadcasts from IHSAA postseason events. Radio outlets producing audio broadcasts are subject to any fees and regulations of a host site and do NOT require IHSAA approval. Television and web-based streaming outlets may provide live video broadcasts by following the IHSAA's policies, fees, and application structure (See more: 11).

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## 6. STATE TOURNAMENT COVERAGE

Once media members arrive at state tournament events, the IHSAA will attempt to serve, direct, and answer any questions that arise. One complimentary program will be given to each credentialed individual, and at select events, detailed tournament information. Guides, manuals, and postseason information can always be found at [www.iahsaa.org](http://www.iahsaa.org).

**A.** Credentials are required to access state tournament venues and work space at all IHSAA events, except for golf (fall and spring) and tennis, which currently utilize free parking and free admission for spectators.

**B.** All credentialed and interested media outlets should complete an online registration form before attending state tournament events in: football, basketball, wrestling, soccer, track and field, and baseball. Daily check-in is required at these events upon entry. Registration forms will be made available at [www.iahsaa.org](http://www.iahsaa.org) before each tournament. (See more: 1c.)

**C.** Press box, work space, and interview space varies by venue and sport. Media members will be advised before each tournament and/or upon arrival of provided arrangements.

**D.** Coverage boundaries vary by venue and sport. Media members are never allowed to provide coverage inside locker rooms at IHSAA state tournament events. Positioning on team benches and inside in-game huddles are also off-limits. A list of boundaries will be updated and provided as thoroughly as possible before each state tournament. The most common areas of concern by sport include, but are not limited to:

**i. Football:** Stay behind dashed media safety lines on sidelines and end zone; stay out of team bench area.

**ii. Wrestling:** Stay out of team warm-up areas; mats provided on floor for photo zones; on-deck seating provided out on competition floor.

**iii. Swimming:** No photographers or media allowed on bulkhead directly behind starting blocks or on turn-around bulkhead between pools.

**iv. Bowling:** Stay out of team seating areas during competition; no photographers allowed out on lanes or on bumpers between lanes.

**v. Basketball:** Stay within provided tape or markers when filming or shooting on baseline.

**vi. Track & Field:** At race starts, do not block line of sight of starter or officials; at race finishes, do not go within boundary lines for Finish Lynx camera system; infield turf available for use, except taped off warm-up section on north end; do not go over stadium fencing to the track at any time; Drake's Fieldhouse is for student-athletes and coaches only.

**vii. Soccer:** Do not set up or photograph near or directly behind goalposts while game is in progress; press box and work space is extremely limited.

**viii. Baseball:** Photographers are allowed in outer equipment dugouts on first and third base lines; no media personnel are allowed in team dugouts.

**E.** To select participants for interviews after state tournament events in football, basketball, and baseball, IHSAA personnel will be available to receive requests in assigned media work spaces. IHSAA personnel may also provide assistance in finding participants for interviews after state tournament events in other sports.

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## 7. STATE TOURNAMENT PHOTOGRAPHY

The IHSAA welcomes photographers from approved media outlets and will make efforts to provide work space and Internet connections for photographers whenever possible at state tournament events.

**A.** Independent or commercial photographers will NOT be credentialed for IHSAA state tournament events. Photographers and videographers must be affiliated with approved media outlets and news-gathering organizations or have those assigning editors apply on their behalf to receive access. (See more: 1b.)

**B.** The use of flash photography equipment is acceptable at state tournament events, provided use does not interfere with the event. The IHSAA reserves the right to prohibit the use of flash equipment if it interferes with any event.

**i.** Other state tournament situations when flash is NOT recommended include, but are not limited to: 1. Swimming: Lead up to and start of any race; 2. Bowling: lead-up and release of participant; 3. Basketball: Immediately before free

throws; 4. Track & Field: Immediately before and during starting gun; 5. Golf: Immediately before and during swing.

**C.** Photographers planning to use mounted lights and/or remote control flash equipment MUST notify IHSAA and state tournament venue personnel before setting up. The IHSAA reserves the right to review each request on a case-by-case basis.

**D.** The IHSAA has an exclusive and contracted photographer for each state tournament event. All other photographers and media members must work around the exclusive photographer and their staff during and immediately after each game or event. Failure to do so, or the interruption of contracted awards photos, may result in the removal of credentials.

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## 8. STATE TOURNAMENT POLICIES

**A.** No alcohol or tobacco products are allowed – sold or consumed – on the grounds of any IHSAA state tournament venue. See: Iowa Code 805.8C(3) and 123.46.

**B.** The unauthorized use or possession of unmanned aircraft or aerial systems (UAS), also known as drones, is prohibited for any purpose by any person at any IHSAA postseason event. The IHSAA does not regulate the use of UAS/drones above host school properties during regular season events.

**C.** No media members are allowed in the locker rooms of participating teams at any IHSAA state tournament event.

**D.** No pets are permitted at state tournament events, however, select individuals may be accompanied by service or assistive animals. See: Iowa Code 216C.

**E.** The IHSAA neither provides nor is responsible for media parking at state tournament venues. If media parking becomes available or is provided by venues, the IHSAA will notify media members.

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## 9. STATE TOURNAMENT VIDEO REGULATIONS

Video regulations at IHSAA state tournament events are determined by state tournament rights contracts for the 2019-20 athletic year.

**A.** The production of unauthorized live video broadcasts or streams of in-competition action is prohibited at IHSAA state tournament events.

**B.** The exclusive broadcast rights for IHSAA state tournament events in 2019-20 belong to the Iowa High School Sports Network (IHSSN) and/or NFHS Network.

**i.** IHSSN events and information can be found in Page 3's Media Guide or at [www.ihssn.com](http://www.ihssn.com).

**ii.** NFHS Network holds exclusive rights for state tournament events in cross country and swimming.

**C.** Media members may take and use video highlights and clips for news-gathering purposes and within the parameters of IHSSN and NFHS Network regulations at the events those entities hold rights to.

**D.** Rules and regulations for the use of state tournament video from IHSSN and NFHS Network are attached below:

**i.** IHSSN Broadcast Rights Disclaimer: [HERE](#)

**ii.** IHSSN Television Rules and Regulations: [HERE](#)

**iii.** IHSSN Newspaper Rules and Regulations: [HERE](#)

**iv.** IHSSN Radio Rules, Regulations, and Rights Fees: [HERE](#)

**v.** IHSSN Internet Rules and Regulations: [HERE](#)

**vi.** NFHS Terms of Use: [HERE](#)

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## 10. STATE TOURNAMENT AUDIO REGULATIONS

Audio regulations at IHSAA state tournament events are determined by state tournament rights contracts for the 2019-20 athletic year.

**A.** The exclusive broadcast rights for IHSAA state tournament events in 2019-20 belong to the Iowa High School Sports Network (IHSSN) and/or NFHS Network.

**i.** IHSSN events and information can be found in Page 3's Media Guide or at [www.ihssn.com](http://www.ihssn.com).

**ii.** IHSSN's Radio Rules, Regulations, and Rights Fees: [HERE](#)

**B.** Radio outlets seeking credentials for state tournament events in cross country, swimming, bowling should contact the IHSAA's communications director before that tournament. The IHSAA can issue temporary credentials.

**ii.** Contact communications director Chris Cuellar: [ccuellar@iahhsaa.org](mailto:ccuellar@iahhsaa.org), 515-432-2011.

**C.** Audio advertisements or promotions associated with alcohol, tobacco, firearms, gambling, performance enhancing substances, or lewd subject matter are strictly prohibited.

**D.** Radio stations will not receive the teal-colored pass in 2019-20 as they will be credentialed by the IHSSN (See: Page 3, Media Guide). For all other IHSAA and all IGHSAA state tournament events, they should apply through each organization's pre-tournament registration.

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## 11. POSTSEASON LEAD-UP LIVE VIDEO

Live video broadcasts of IHSAA postseason lead-up events that are not claimed by NFHS Network – which holds rights and right of first refusal – are eligible for purchase by media outlets and other interested parties. These lead-up events include: district and substate games, playoffs, regional events, and state qualifying meets.

**A.** Media outlets and interested parties must apply to BOTH the IHSAA and the host school or site. Both parties must approve each application. Host schools will receive 50% of each access fee.

**i.** 2019-20 Application: [HERE](#)

**ii.** 2019-20 Fees: [HERE](#)

**B.** Applicants for postseason lead-up live video broadcasts or streams must abide by IHSAA policies. Exclusive rights to an event will not be granted to any applicant.

**i.** 2019-20 Policies: [HERE](#)

**C.** Baseball, basketball, football, and soccer are priced per game. Golf, swimming, tennis, and wrestling are priced per day. Bowling, cross country, and track and field currently hold co-ed events and are not available for postseason broadcast.

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## 12. IHSAA GENERAL INFORMATION

The Iowa High School Athletic Association is a 501(c)(3) organization located in Boone, Iowa for the purpose of promoting, developing, directing, protecting, and regulating amateur interscholastic athletic relationships between member schools and to stimulate fair play, friendly rivalry, and good sportsmanship among contestants, schools, and communities throughout the state.

It is a registered organization with the State of Iowa's Department of Education. The nine-member Board of Control meets regularly in Boone. The 25-member Representative Council meets at least twice annually. Sport and activity Advisory Committees are required to meet at least once a year.

**A.** Approved minutes from Board of Control meetings will be published quarterly in 2019-20 in the IHSAA Bulletin. Decisions and policies deemed newsworthy will be compiled in "Board Meeting Briefs" and posted at [www.iahsaa.org](http://www.iahsaa.org) and released to media members.

**B.** Members of the media who would like to attend Board of Control or Representative Council meetings should notify the IHSAA at least 24 hours before the meeting.

**C.** Information, data requests, and inquiries to the IHSAA should be submitted to communications director, Chris Cuellar: [ccuellar@iahsaa.org](mailto:ccuellar@iahsaa.org), 515-432-2011.

**D.** Bylaws, regulations, and more information can be found on the IHSAA's information page: [HERE](#)

[www.iahsaa.org](http://www.iahsaa.org)