

George Mason Athletics Media Policies and Credential Guidelines

George Mason University issues media credentials under the priorities listed below. These priorities are designed to achieve efficient use of limited space available for working members of the media at George Mason University intercollegiate athletic events.

George Mason University Athletics media relations office is responsible for administering this policy. Credential requests must be made by sports editors or sports directors no later than 48 hours prior to an event by faxing to (703) 993-3259 or emailing to mnasser@gmu.edu. For more information, contact Maureen Nasser, Associate Athletics Director, Media Relations, at (703) 993-3263 or at mnasser@gmu.edu.

Priorities

1. Originating radio and television personnel involved in a live television or radio broadcast of a George Mason University intercollegiate athletic competition.
2. Daily newspapers, wire services, and regional and national publications that regularly and substantially report on George Mason University intercollegiate athletics.
3. Non-originating radio and television personnel producing reports on a George Mason University intercollegiate athletic competition. Only local radio stations with a full-time sports director conducting a regular and substantial sports show reporting on George Mason University intercollegiate athletics receive consideration for credentials.
4. Officially recognized George Mason University daily student publications and daily student electronic media outlets that regularly and substantially report on George Mason University intercollegiate athletics.
5. Official websites of Colonial Athletic Association schools, non-conference opponents, and the Colonial Athletic Association office.
6. Non-daily newspapers or publications that regularly and substantially report on George Mason University intercollegiate athletics.
7. Online entities that meet the requirements set out in guideline 7, below.

Guidelines

1. Season media credentials are issued to those organizations that report on George Mason University intercollegiate athletics on a regular and substantial basis, as outlined above. Issuance of season media credentials does not guarantee working space in media work areas.
2. With the exception of team beat reporters reporting on the team on a daily basis and producing daily reports, all passes are approved and issued on a game-by-game basis.
3. Except as otherwise provided for in this policy, all passes and credentials are transferable within the same media outlet for use by those serving an editorial function. Passes used by any

member of a credentialed outlet without specific editorial assignment or by non-working members of the organization are subject to revocation upon University request.

4. Due to limited space and to ensure compliance with NCAA guidelines, credentials will not be issued to "free-lance" writers or photographers without a specific assignment received in writing by the assigning organization.

5. George Mason University and the NCAA prohibit the issuance of credentials to representatives of an organization that regularly publishes gambling information, such as "tout sheets" or "tip sheets." George Mason University will not issue credentials to organizations whose primary function is to deliver news related to the recruitment of student-athletes.

6. No credentials will be issued to individuals under the age of 18. Admission to media facilities are for working media only.

7. Credentials may be issued: a) to online entities that are affiliated with a national or regional media organization; or, b) to online entities that host a website that regularly and substantially reports on George Mason University intercollegiate athletics, and employs for that George Mason University-dedicated website at least one full-time permanent employee who writes a substantial majority of all material posted on the site, and that registers a minimum of 20,000 legitimate unique users per month in each of the past 12 months.

An online entity that meets the requirements of either 7.a) or 7.b) and which sponsors message boards or chat rooms may be credentialed only if the entity enforces its policies regarding abusive or discriminatory material.

8. University personnel may deny or revoke credentials without notice and an individual shall surrender his/her credential upon request for: noncompliance with the priorities or guidelines set out in this policy; noncompliance with health, safety, or security directives issued regarding University athletic events; violations of University, Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, NCAA, or CAA policies; and for conduct for which there are reasonable grounds to believe violate state or federal law, or constitute a breach of professional ethics. Any organization that wishes to contest a denial or revocation shall: a) request the Media Relations Office provide a written rationale for the denial or revocation; b) submit a written response to that rationale to the Associate Athletic Director for Media Relations. After reviewing the response, the Associate Athletic Director for Media Relations, in consultation with appropriate University officials, shall issue a decision to uphold or reverse the denial or revocation. The Associate Athletic Director's decision shall be final.

9. The George Mason University Athletics Media Relations Office reserves the right to change this policy at any time.

Credential Requests

Credential requests must be made by sports editors or sports directors no later than five days prior to an event by faxing to 703 993-3259 or emailing to mnasser@gmu.edu. Passes can be picked up on game day at Media Will Call at the West Entrance of the Patriot Center. All persons picking up credentials will be required to furnish positive identification.

Internet Guidelines

The acceptance of media credentials is an acknowledgement of George Mason University rights to the game and play-by-play coverage and an outlet's agreement to abide by any restrictions the George Mason University may place on real-time play-by-play coverage and use of comprehensive game statistics. Failure to abide by these restrictions implemented by the George Mason University may result in revocation of press credentials. Mason reserves the right to grant approval for distribution of real-time play-by-play, game-related statistics and information through the Internet ("real time" is defined as any online media providing live continual play-by-play coverage, in-game statistics, digital photographs, or audio or video of an event).

In-Season Interviews

All interviews with members of the George Mason Intercollegiate Athletics Department must be arranged through the Mason Athletics Media Relations Office. Players and coaches have been instructed not to participate in interviews unless they have been arranged through the media relations office. Player phone numbers will not be released, and members of the media are asked not to attempt to contact student-athletes or relatives on the telephone, via e-mail or by any other means. We require at least 24 hours notice to facilitate all interview requests.

Basketball Media

Game Day Parking

Media parking is located in Lot L, which is adjacent to the West Entrance of the Patriot Center.

In-Season Interviews

All player interviews must be arranged through Dan Reisig in the Mason media relations office. He can be reached at 703 993-3268 or via e-mail at Dreisig@gmu.edu. No interviews will be permitted on game days until after the conclusion of the game.

Practice Coverage

During the season, the first and last 15 minutes of practices are open to both still photographers and videographers as well as print reporters from credentialed media outlets. Please contact Dan Reisig if you would like to attend a practice.

Postgame Interviews

Head coach Paul Hewitt and selected players will be brought to the Patriot Club Green Coat Society Room on the event floor of the Patriot Center for postgame interviews. The hospitality room is located at the East side of the Patriot Center. Interviews with the visiting team coach and players will be coordinated by the opponent SID staff. The George Mason locker room is closed at all times.