

APPENDIX X – Media accreditation policy

Media outlets applying for credentials to cover FIG events must be in the business of news gathering as their primary source of revenue, and individuals applying for credentials must be professionally employed full time by newsgathering organisations.

Media credentials are not intended for those who sell photos or images. Credentials will not be issued to those involved in commercial ventures, unless specially approved in advance and with written consent obtained from the FIG.

For consideration for a media credential, a journalist must:

- Have completed the credential through the credential request portion of the FIG online Media Manager before the indicated deadline for media accreditation for the event.
- Be a current working journalist or photographer for a recognised national or international media outlet on assignment for the event.
- Be able to provide proof of his/her experience in covering Gymnastics.

Written confirmation of credential approval from the FIG will be sent via email in due time.

The FIG will not accept a credential application from freelance photographers, writers or internet reporters without the following:

- A completed on-line application.
- An assignment letter on company letterhead detailing the actual assignment from the assigning editor, with his/her name, contact info, signature and company stamp.
- Please note that submission of these materials is not a guarantee of credential application approval.

When issuing credentials, priority will be given to:

- International News / Photo Agencies (AP, AFP, Reuters, etc.)
- International newspapers
- National and local newspapers
- Magazines and weekly newspapers

Websites

Credentials for websites staffed by full time employees who are reporting for news purposes shall be granted pending available space at the venue and meeting the following requirements:

- The site must fulfil the criteria as listed in **Appendix D**.
- The site's editor must fill out and return the signed questionnaire (**Appendix E**).
- The site must demonstrate a record of sustained original news content on Gymnastics.
- The site's own full time staff must write an overwhelming percentage of its content.
- If requested, the site must furnish certifiable traffic numbers of monthly visitors from an established auditing or analytics firm. Hit counters will not fulfil this requirement.
- Websites that will not be credentialed include: personal page publishers, discussion boards/chat rooms, subscription-based sites and Gymnastics club sites.

- Live coverage from events is acceptable via Facebook, Twitter and online; however, it cannot resemble live scoring, which is provided through <http://www.gymnastics.sport>. In addition, if seating is limited at an event, priority seating will be given to recognised newsgathering organisations.
- Each organisation filing to a website or representing a website must sign the Media declaration for E categories (**Appendix B**).

Credential Usage

The FIG reserves the right to revoke credentials for unprofessional behaviour or conduct. All credentialed media must sign the Professional Journalism Policies prior to receiving accreditation.

The FIG uses credentials with a photo. Credentials may not be duplicated or reproduced in any manner. Credentials are not transferable. Credentials must be worn at all times.

Approval Process

Media will receive notification of credential approval via e-mails. Receipt of credentials in prior years does not guarantee credentials for future events. Credentials will not be mailed.

Applications and all requested supplementary documentation must be submitted by the established deadlines. Waiving of deadlines is solely at the FIG's discretion.

Credential Access

Access to media work areas is restricted to credentialed journalists and photographers covering the event. Except for media staff members and event staff, only athletes and coaches participating in news conferences, interviews or media teleconference calls are allowed in media work zones.

Press seating

In some venues, access to press row or media seating may be limited due to space. In that case, a priority system will be used to assign seats in press seating. Journalists writing a "game story" on deadline will be given first priority for workspace in press seating. Media working on their outlet's social media sites and others who are not filing on deadline from the venue may be assigned to the auxiliary press seating area.

Seats in the press section are tabled and have power. Auxiliary press seats consist of seating in the venue near the press tribune with optimal viewing, but no table or power.

Media outlets with more than two journalists may be asked to work from the auxiliary press seating area.

Photographers

Photography will be permissible only in the designated areas provided that such photography does not interfere with the FIG's and the host broadcaster's rights, personnel and the conduct of the event. Photographers are requested to wear dark clothing. Camera bags are not permitted on the arena floor. Monopods are permitted; no tripods. Photographers may file from the press row (space permitting) or the media workroom, but not from the Field of Play.

Television/Video

Local and non-rights-holding news crews must sign the Broadcaster Declaration (**Appendix C**) that governs access to each event. They may be allowed the following access, pending approval of the FIG and the host broadcaster:

- Interviews with athletes, coaches and other event personnel prior to and following competition in designated media areas.
- No live or taped competitive footage may be used without approval.

Any use of competition video without written permission from the FIG is prohibited.

Please contact the FIG TV Operations Officer for broadcast restrictions and approved camera positions within the arena. The FIG reserves the right to restrict access to any video or audio recording devices at any time without notice. Prior approval and notification of presence is required in all cases.

By applying for a credential, you are agreeing to the above policy. Application for credentials does not guarantee approval.

Athlete Interviews

At the end of each competition day, athletes are available in an Olympic-style mixed-zone format. Mixed zone interviews are intended for reporters to gather quick reaction quotes, not for in-depth question-and-answer sessions. Media wishing to conduct in-depth interviews should contact the FIG to discuss options for arranging additional interview opportunities outside of competition week.

Restrictions

No credentialed media may take video footage (including digital) without prior approval, with the exception of accredited local TV affiliates.

No personal video cameras or digital video cameras will be permitted. Flash photography, audio, or video or digital video recording of any kind is not permitted.