

LAURENS ATHLETICS

MEDIA POLICY

Laurens High School understands how important media coverage is to our athletic programs, student-athletes, and coaches. We want to provide media access in a fair, consistent, and professional manner. Media members should not contact coaches or student-athletes directly to arrange access. All media access must go through the process outlined below.

Media Credential Process

1. Accepted Credentials

The following media credentials will be accepted at the gate:

- Local or national newspaper/media outlets
- Local or national television news outlets
- Local or national photographers working with an approved newspaper or television outlet
- Local or national radio outlets
- Laurens County School District 55 media personnel

2. Credential Applications

All other media outlets—including social media influencers, bloggers, independent photographers, and digital content creators—must submit a media request at least 48 hours before the game or match they want to cover. This deadline applies to all requests in these categories.

Submitting a request does not guarantee that the request will be approved or that the media member will be admitted, in addition it does not imply free admission to the game.

If a request is approved, the media member will receive an email the morning of the event with instructions.

Laurens Athletics Media Application: [\[Media Credential Request\]](#)

3. Priority for Media Requests

When there are more requests than available media credentials or space, Laurens Athletics may give priority to media outlets in the following order:

1. Local newspaper, radio, and television outlets
2. Laurens County School District 55 media personnel
3. Approved online .com media outlets, with preference given to sites that regularly cover a specific sport
4. Social media photographers

4. Credential Duration

A media credential is valid only for the specific game or event for which it was approved. If the game is cancelled and rescheduled, the credential will be valid for the rescheduled date.

5. Student Media

A. Laurens High School students enrolled in Broadcast Journalism or Yearbook classes who are assigned to cover Laurens athletic programs may attend Laurens athletic events for media purposes. Students must request a sideline pass from the Athletic Office at least 48 hours before the event.

B. All other students seeking a media credential must be affiliated with an approved media outlet listed in Section 1 and must have a working role with that outlet.

6. Requirements and Limitations for Credentialed Media

A. Credentialed media members, including student media representatives, are expected to act professionally and follow accepted journalism standards and ethics. This includes appropriate behavior, conduct, and dress.

B. Credentialed media members must follow this policy, all applicable rules and policies of Laurens High School and Laurens County School District 55, venue-specific rules, and all applicable local, state, and federal laws. Failure to follow these requirements may result in the loss of media credentials.

C. Media outlets are responsible for the conduct of their representatives and may be responsible for damage caused by negligent, reckless, or intentional actions of their representatives.

7. Risks

By applying for a media credential, media outlets and their representatives understand and accept the normal risks associated with attending sporting events. These risks may include being struck or injured by athletes, balls, bats, or other sports equipment.

8. Access, Approval, and Revocation

Laurens High School reserves the right to approve, deny, or revoke a media credential at any time.

Receiving a credential does not guarantee a particular location, amount of space, viewing area, telephone access, internet access, or other media accommodations. Access to locker rooms is prohibited.